

今日は特に気温が低いわけでもないのに熱のせいかな寒くて仕方がない。

The temperature is not particularly low today, but, perhaps because of my fever, I'm feeling incredibly cold.

一日三食ちゃんと食べているのにおなかがすいて仕方がない。

Although I have been eating the normal three meals a day, I'm always famished.

Lesson 11 Here and there

Exercise conversations

1

Hashimoto Yesterday I bumped into Yoshino at the Ginza 4-chōme crossroads.

Kimura Oh really? I haven't seen her for ages. How was she?

Hashimoto Well, as usual. You know; she never changes.

2

Maeda I recently saw someone in a department store who was the spitting image of Hugh Grant.

Akashi Who's that then?

Maeda What! Don't you know Hugh Grant? Don't you know that he's an English actor who has recently become famous?

Akashi I've never heard of anyone of that name.

3

Akiko Do you remember the man who started a conversation when we went to see the film together the other day?

Haruko Of course. The American, you mean?

Akiko Yes. But it seems he was actually English.

Haruko Oh, really! So what about him?

Akiko Yesterday I went to the British Embassy on business and there he was again.

Haruko What a coincidence! Did you talk to him?

Akiko Yes, he remembered us very well and suggested that the three of us might go for a meal sometime.

Haruko Well, wasn't that him just being polite?

Akiko I think it was more than that. He got out his diary and wanted to fix it for next Monday or Wednesday evening.

Haruko So what did you say?

Akiko I said that I would talk to you first and then give him a ring.

4

Hara Hello
 Kimura Ah, Mr Hara. I do apologize for having left in the middle of the meeting.
 Hara That's all right. Because nothing important came up after you left.
 Kimura I'm relieved to hear it.

5

Ōtani I met someone called Fleming the other day at a party at the British Embassy.
 Mizuno Has he been working there long?
 Ōtani No, he said he had only just taken up his post last month.
 Mizuno What's his field?
 Ōtani He didn't really say, so I don't know, but I think it's got something to do with the military because when I told him I knew someone in the Defence Agency he said he'd really like to meet him.
 Mizuno Wasn't he just making polite conversation?
 Ōtani No, I think it was more than just that because he did ask me things like what was his job in the Defence Agency or whether he was a specialist in Russo-Japanese affairs.

6

Old man No matter how much I tell your generation about the war, you have never experienced it and so you won't really understand. It all happened before you were born.
 Student We, I suppose you're right. But mother has told me a lot about that time. She's always saying to me 'no matter what, things have got better compared to those days'.

7

Akashi According to the information in from the London Embassy, there are as usual a lot of applications for student visas, so they have told us that it will probably take three months.
 Nick Bureaucracy takes time, doesn't it?
 Akashi The other day I happened to meet a friend who lives in Paris and asked her how things were over there. It seems as though it's just as much trouble to get a visa there.

8

Matsudaira I'd like to have a few words with you about that Niigata project.
 Ōsawa Ah, yes sir. I had something to discuss with you about that as well.
 Matsudaira Oh good. Katō came to see me yesterday and told me he really wanted to be released from the project. I wondered whether or not there might be some problem so I tried to delve further but he didn't really come up with any sensible response. Has he said anything to you that might help to explain it?

- Ōsawa Well, that's the first time I have heard of anything of the sort. I'll make sure I'll talk to him about it as soon as possible.
- Matsudaira Do that for me, would you? At the pre-start meeting he was really keen, so there must be some reason that he is reluctant to divulge.
- Ōsawa At that stage I don't think that anyone realized that the work would involve us being in Niigata almost all the time.
- Matsudaira Oh, I see. Now what was it that you wanted to talk to me about?
- Ōsawa Well, actually I had been wondering whether you might not release me from that project as well.
- Matsudaira What did you say? What kind of excuse have you got?
- Ōsawa It's a bit difficult to explain really.
- Matsudaira All you can say is that you want to be let off this project without giving me any good reason – where on earth do you think you could get away with that?
- Ōsawa Well, I take your point.....But still.....
- Matsudaira I did think that you had bit more sense than that.
- Ōsawa I'm terribly sorry.

Lesson 12 What! Grammar again?

- Tadashi Tomorrow is Marie's birthday. Do you remember we all went to Kamakura last year?
- John Oh yes. I'd completely forgotten. It was tomorrow, wasn't it?
- Tadashi She seems terribly busy recently, so she's probably forgotten herself.
- John Yes, I know. Do you think she's all right, working so hard?
- Tadashi She seems OK. My mates at the hospital said they were going hill walking last weekend, so I asked her along.
- John Is she a good hill walker?
- Tadashi She's pretty good. The others wanted to rest but she said 'Let's carry on. We've only been walking for two hours', and by the end she was leading them all.
- John Really? Appearances are deceptive.
- Tadashi Oh. The telephone. Excuse me.
- On the phone
- Tadashi Mother's out shopping at the moment.
- Tadashi I think she should be back by six.
- Tadashi Thank you. Goodbye.