

Unit1 Nice to meet you!

Can-do

Can-do 1 You can greet.

Can-do 2 You can introduce yourself. (name, university, field of study, etc.)

Grammar

wa desu.

1. N1 は N2 です。 (“N” means a noun.)

The most basic meaning of this structure is : “N1 is N2.” ‘は(*wa*)’ is a particle which indicates the preceding noun is a topic or subject of the sentence.

Note that は here is read “wa” and not “ha”.

Example

Watashi-wa gakusei:-desu.

わたしは がくせいです。(I’m a student.)

wa desu-ka.

2. N1 は N2 ですか。

Add a question-marker particle ‘か(*ka*)’ to the end of a statement to make it into an interrogative sentence.

Example

Anata-wa Mario-san-desu-ka.

あなたは マリオさんですか。(Are you Mario ?)

Hai, Mario desu.

はい、マリオ です。(Yes, I’m Mario.)

‘はい(*Hai*)’ is used at the beginning of affirmative replies to questions.

Example

Hai, (watashi-wa) gakusei:-desu.

はい、(わたしは) がくせいです。(Yes, I’m a student.)

Hai, so:desu.

‘はい、そうです’ is also used as replies to questions . It can mean “Yes, it is.”, “Yes, I am.” etc. depending on the context.

Iie, desu

いいえ、N3 です。

‘いいえ(*Iie*)’ is used at the beginning of negative replies to questions.

mo desu.

3. N1 も N2 です

To repeat the same verb phrase in the following sentence as that of the preceding sentence, the particle *wa* changes to *mo* in the following sentence.

Example

A-san wa gakusei:-desu. (A is a student.)

A さんはがくせいです。

B-san mo gakusei:-desu. (B is a student too.)

B さんもがくせいです。

no

4. N1 の N2

N1 modifies the following noun N2. ‘の’ indicates various relationship between N1 and N2 such as belonging, nationality, possessor and language.

Namae to mo:shimasu

5. (なまえ) ともうします。

This is a polite way to tell your name to a person. However, you cannot use this expression when the person already knows your name.

Ex.) *Arifu to mo:simasu.* (My name is Arif.)

アリフともうします。