



Lesson 3: This Please

これ下さい

LESSON NOTES

In Japanese, "Please" is "Kudasai." The most rudimentary way of using "Kudasai" is pointing at something while saying it. But let's try and build this up a bit, shall we? Let's start with the expression, "This please" which in Japanese is "Kore kudasai." In English, "this" comes before "please." In Japanese, the word order is the same. In Japanese, the word for "this", "kore," precedes "kudasai."

Looking at the word for "this", warrants a look at the word for "that" which is "sore." The phrase "That please." would be "Sore kudasai." So if you're at a store, you can simply point to the items you want to buy and say, "Kore kudasai." If you point to something but they get the wrong product, you can say, "Chigaimasu" which means, "You're wrong," or in this context, "You got the wrong one." And proceed to point to the one you need.

PHRASES

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
これ下さい。	これください。	Kore kudasai.	Please give me this.
それ下さい。	それください。	Sore kudasai.	Please give me that.
お願いします。	おねがいします。	Onegai shimasu.	Please take care of this. Please take this on. (polite form)
お願い。	おねがい。	Onegai.	Please! (casual form)
違います。	ちがいます。	Chigaimasu.	It's wrong.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
下さい	ください	kudasai	please, please give me
これ	これ	kore	this
それ	それ	sore	that
切符	きっぷ	kippu	ticket
地図	ちず	chizu	map

QUICK TIP

Tokyo has a great variety of restaurants to choose from, so I highly recommend eating out! But what do you do if you can't order your food eloquently in Japanese? Don't worry! Most restaurants in Japan offer menus with pictures, so you can simply point at the pictures of foods and beverages you want to order. Or you can point at the numbers on the menu. I actually do that myself! It avoids confusion when there are dishes that look or sound similar. And the pictures are so delicious-looking, I just can't help myself!

QUICK TIP 2

Another word used to describe the feeling for "Please" is "Onegai" (casual form) or "Onegai shimasu" (polite form). Children often use the word "Onegai!!" when begging their parents to buy them something or let them do something. Adults use this word as well but only amongst close friends. It's very casual. The phrase "Onegai shimasu" is also often used in business settings to mean, "Please take this on," or "Please take care of it."

Let's also go over some key vocabulary you will be using during your trip to Japan. Public transportation is very convenient and essential to getting around metropolitan Japan, so you'll probably need to get tickets, which in Japanese is "kippu." Maps will come in handy too, so remember the word "chizu." To ask for these objects, simply replace the word "kore" and "sore" with the item you need. Let's practice, shall we? "Please give me a ticket" would be "Kippu o kudasai." "Please give me a map" would be "Chizu o kudasai." The "o" in the middle is an object-marking particle. (There should be an "o" in "kore kudasai," but it's often ignored in spoken Japanese.) And regardless of how many tickets or maps you want, the noun does not change between single and plural form. It's always "chizu" and "kippu."

We'll go over how to buy bus tickets and train tickets in upcoming lessons, so be sure to tune in!