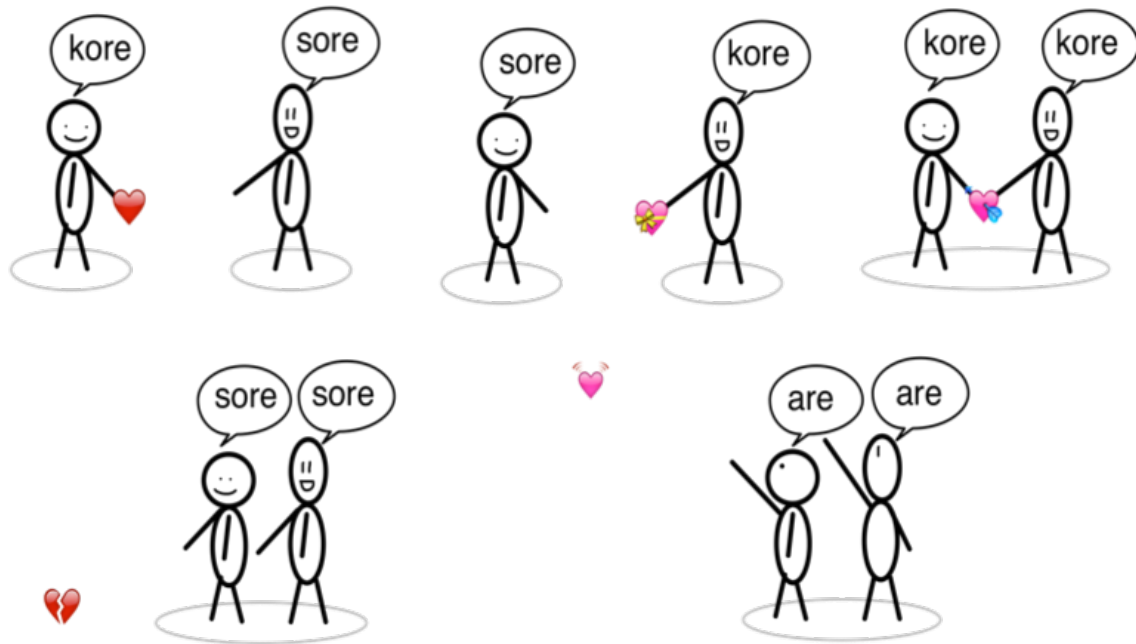


Lesson 2

Grammar - Identifying a Thing -

§1 **kore wa hon desu.** (This is a book.)

'**kore**' shows a thing close to the speaker, '**sore**' shows a thing close to the listener and '**are**' shows a thing away from both the speaker and the listener. '**kore**', '**sore**' and '**are**' are equivalent to "this" and "that" in English respectively. (See the pictures below.)



Examples:

1 **sore wa kaban desu.** (That is a bag.)

2 **sore wa tokei desu.** (That is a clock.)

3 Q: **kore wa enpitsu desu ka?** (Is this a pencil?)

A1: **hai, [sore wa] enpitsu desu.** (Yes, it is a pencil.)

hai, sou desu. (Yes, it is.)

A2: **iie, [sore wa enpitsu dewa arimasen.]**

[sore wa] mannenhitsu desu. (No, it is not a pencil. It is a fountain pen.)

4 Q: **sore wa jisho desu ka?** (Is that a dictionary?)

A1: **hai, [kore wa] jisho desu.** (Yes, it is a dictionary.) /

hai, sou desu. (Yes, it is.)

A2: **iie, [kore wa jisho ja arimasen.]**

[kore wa] hon desu. (No, it is not a dictionary. It is a book.)

New Question-Word:

5 Q: **kore wa nan desu ka.** (What is this?)

A: **[sore wa] jisho desu.** (It is a dictionary.)

6 Q: **are wa nan desu ka.** (What is that?)

A: **[are wa] tokei desu.** (It is a clock.)

Notes for 5:

-5. 'nan' is a question-word for asking what it is.

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§2 **kore wa watashi no enpitsu desu.** (This is my pencil.)

Basically, the particle 'no' is used to modify a noun with another noun. In the phrase of '(A) no (B)', '(B) modifies (A)'. The meaning of 'no' depends on the context. In §2, '(A) no (B)' means '(A)'s (B) / (B) which belongs to (A)'. 'no' shows the possessor.

Examples:

1 **sore wa anata no tabako desu.** (That is your cigarette.)

2 **are wa Tanaka-san no nouto desu.** (That is Mr Tanaka's notebook.)

3 **sore wa kare no desu.** (That is his.)

4 **are wa gakkou no desu.** (That is school's.)

5 Q: **kore wa Tanaka-san no kagi desu ka?** (Is this Mr Tanaka's key?)

A1: **hai, [sore wa] Tanaka-san no [kagi] desu. / sou desu.** (Yes, it is.)

A2: **iie, [sore wa] Kimura-san no [kagi] desu.** (No, it is Mr Kimura's.)

6 Q: **sore wa Suzuki-san no desu ka?** (Is this Mr Suzuki's?)

A1: **hai, [kore wa] Suzuki-san no desu. / sou desu.** (Yes, it is.)

A2: **iie, [kore wa] Tanaka-san no desu.** (No, it is Mr Tanaka's.)

Notes for 5:

-5. We can leave out the word after 'no' when it is understandable from the context.

New Question-Word:

7 Q: **kore wa dare no monosashi desu ka.** (Whose ruler is this?)

A: **[sore wa] Kimura-san no [monosashi] desu.** (It is Mr Kimura's.)

8 Q: **sore wa dare no keshigomu desu ka.** (Whose eraser is this?)

A: **[kore wa] Suzuki-san no [keshigomu] desu.** (It is Mr Suzuki's.)

Notes for 7:

-7. 'dare no' is a question-word for asking the unknown possessor and its meaning is "whose".

'donata no' can be used when you would like to speak more politely.

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§3 **kore wa Nihon-go no kyookasho desu.**

(This is a textbook on the Japanese language. / This is a Japanese textbook.)

In §3, '(A) no (B)' means '(B) about (A) / (B) on (A) / (B) which has the contents of (A)'. We can describe the language by adding '-go' to the name of country except 'Ei-go (English)'.

Examples:

1 **sore wa neko no hon desu.** (That is a book on cats.)

2 are wa Ei-go no zasshi desu.

(That is a magazine on English / a magazine written in English / an English magazine.)

3 kore wa Chuugoku-go no jisho desu. (This is a Chinese dictionary.)

New Question-Word:

4 Q: kore wa **nan no** hon desu ka. (What is this book about?)

A: [sore wa] ongaku no hon desu. (It is a book about music.)

5 Q: sore wa nan no jisho desu ka. (What dictionary is that?)

A: [kore wa] Marei-go no jisho desu. (This is a Malay dictionary.)

Notes for 4:

-4. 'nan no' is a question-word for asking what it is about and its meaning is "about what / on what / what ---". When 'no' in '(A) no (B)' shows the possessor, we can leave out '(B)', otherwise we cannot leave out '(B)'.

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§4 **kono kasa wa watashi no desu.** (This umbrella is mine.)

'kono', 'sono' and 'ano' are used to modify a noun. When we say "this (A = noun), that (A)" in Japanese, we should say 'kono (A)', 'sono (A)' or 'ano (A)', not 'kore (A)', 'sore (A)' or 'are (A)'.

Examples:

1 sono kamera wa kare no [kamera] desu. (That camera is his.)

2 sono hako wa kanojo no [hako] desu. (That box is hers.)

3 ano hito wa Tanaka san desu. (That person is Mr Tanaka.)

4 kono tokei wa Suisu no tokei desu. (This watch is made in Swaziland.)

5 kono jisho wa Nihon-go no jisho desu. (This dictionary is on the Japanese language.)

Notes:

When the meaning of '(A) no (B)' is "(B) on / about (A) / (B) which has the contents of (A)" or "(B) from / made in (A)" (We will study this expression at the next lesson), we cannot leave out (B) right after 'no' even if you mention (B) in a topic and a subject position. This rule also applies to the question with a Question-Word.

Question-Word:

6 Q: kono kasa wa dare no [kasa] desu ka. (Whose umbrella is this?)

A: [sono kasa wa] Kimura-san no [kasa] desu. (It is Mr Kimura's.)

7 Q: kono keitai denwa wa dare no [keitai denwa] desu ka. (Whose hand phone is this?)

A: [sono keitai denwa wa] Suzuki-san no [keitai denwa] desu. (It is Mr Suzuki's.)

10 Q: kono hon wa nan no hon desu ka. (What is this book about?)

A: [sono hon wa] rekishi no hon desu. (It is about history.)

11 Q: sono jisho wa nan no jisho desu ka. (What dictionary is that?)

A: [kono jisho wa] Furansu-go no jisho desu. (It is a French dictionary.)