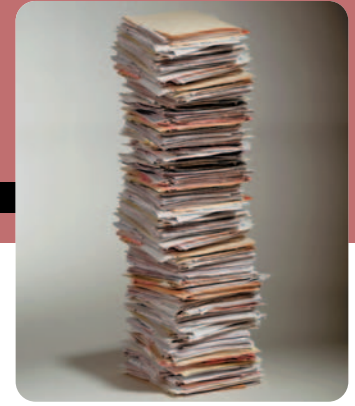


I was wondering if you could read it over.

making requests



Listening



1 Listen. Check the sentences you hear.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Could you do me a favor? | <input type="checkbox"/> I was wondering if I could borrow some money. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I have a favor to ask you. | <input type="checkbox"/> I was wondering if you could lend me some money. |

2 Listen again. Answer the questions.

a. How much does Scott want to borrow?

About \$ _____

b. What does Scott need the money for?

To _____



Conversation



Ippei: **Sorry to bother you, but can I ask you a favor?**

Scott: **Uh, what is it?**

Ippei: **I wrote an essay for my English literature class. I was wondering if you could read it over and check my English.**

Scott: **Sure, why not?**

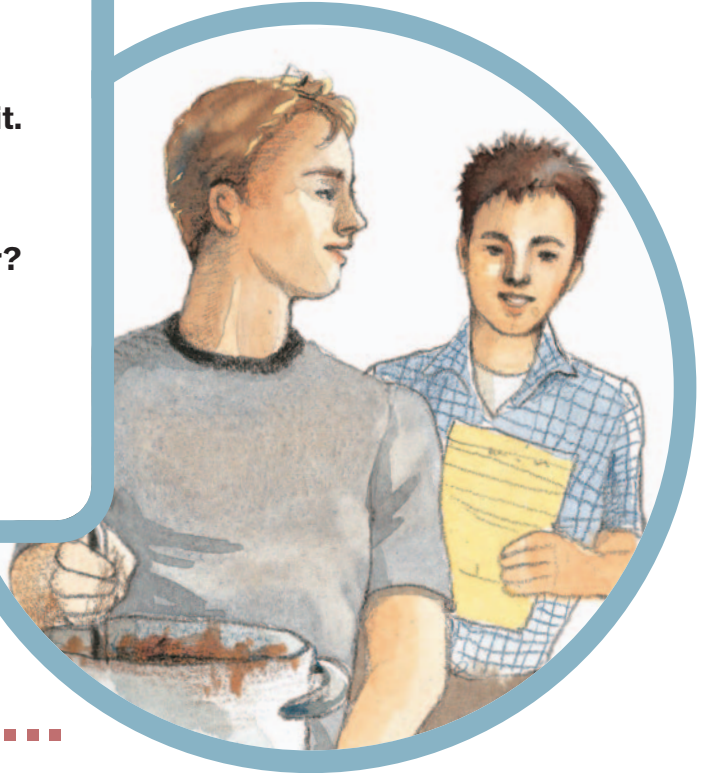
Ippei: **Thanks a lot. I really appreciate it.**

Scott: **No problem.**

Ippei: **Oh, and can you write the corrections directly on the paper?**

Scott: **OK. But while I'm doing it, can you take care of this chili? Just keep stirring it.**

Ippei: **Sure.**



Practice

1 Complete the dialogues. Use the information provided.

a. At an office:

Boss: _____
[make a copy of this report]

Employee: Sure.

Boss: Thanks.

⋮

Boss: I dropped the files on the floor. _____

Employee: OK. _____
[sort them out and put them back into the cabinet]

Boss: Thanks a lot.

b. Taking a taxi:

Customer: My mother is waiting in the living room, but she has a bad leg. _____

Taxi Driver: OK. _____ [come with me and help me get her into the car]

Customer: Thank you so much.

⋮

Customer: _____ [drop us off at the corner]

Taxi Driver: Sure.

Customer: Thanks.

2 Practice the dialogues in pairs.

More Practice

1 Work in pairs. Your teacher will give you some cards. Using the cards and your imagination, role-play the situations with your partner.

EX.

STUDENT A

You are going on a trip for a week.
Student B is your next-door neighbor.
Ask him/her to look after your pet.

STUDENT B

You are Student A's next-door neighbor.

A: Hi Yumiko, how're you doing?
B: Great, thanks. How about you?
A: Pretty good. Uh, actually, I have a favor to ask you.
B: What is it?
A: My husband and I are going to Shizuoka for a week to visit his sister. We're leaving on Thursday, but we can't take our cat with us because my husband's sister has a baby. I was wondering if you could take care of our cat ...
B: Oh ... I wish I could help, but I have goldfish.

⋮

2 Report to the class.

STUDENT A How did you make your request?
How do you think your partner felt?

STUDENT B How did you feel?

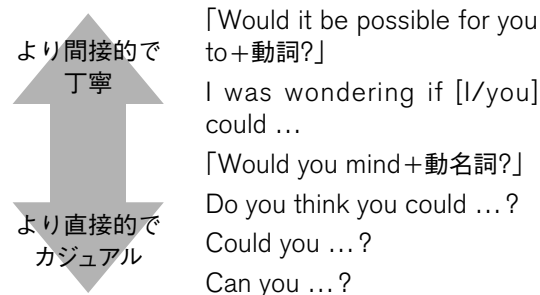
uncomfortable *offended*
embarrassed OK

Today's Goal

Making Requests

依頼をする

依頼をするときは、I have a favor to ask you. や Could you do me a favor? のように言って前置きすることができます。依頼をするための表現には以下のようなものがあります。



上記の依頼表現のうち、どれを使うかは「依頼をする相手」と「相手に与える負担の大きさ」によって決まります。ただし、相手が引き受けてくれた依頼の内容を細かく説明する場合は、最初に使った依頼表現よりも、より直接的な表現を使って構いません。

A: Would it be possible for you to take this package to the post office for me? A friend is coming here in 20 minutes, so I can't leave.

B: Sure.

A: Thanks a lot. Can you send it by registered mail?

丁寧に頼むべき場面でカジュアルすぎる表現を使うのも失礼ですが、逆に、カジュアルに頼んでも良いときに丁寧すぎる表現を使ってしまうのもいざん無礼、あるいは嫌味に聞こえてしまう恐れがあります。次の例は、忙しそうに食事の支度をしている妻(A)が、のんびりとテレビを見ている夫(B)にわざと丁寧な表現を使って協力を求めている場面です。

A: Would it be possible for you to take out the garbage?

B: Uh ... sure.

依頼に対応する

依頼を引き受ける場合は、Yes.あるいはSure.のように言うといいでしょう。ただしWould you mind ...?という表現を使って頼まれた依頼を引き受ける場合は、No(, not at all).のように言います。依頼を断る場合は、「(I'm) sorry, but+理由」や「I'd like to help, but+理由」、「I wish I could (help), but+理由」などの構文を使うといいでしょう。

Language Tip

I'd really appreciate it if ...

依頼をするための表現には、嫌味に聞こえやすいため注意しなくてはならないものもあります。例えばI'd really appreciate it if ... 「…できるとありがたいんですが」という表現は、いきなり使うと嫌味に聞こえてしまいがちな表現です。誤解を防ぐには、最初の依頼には他の表現を使うようにし、I'd really appreciate it if ...はその依頼の詳細を説明するのに使うようにすると良いでしょう。以下の例は、日本人学生(A)とアメリカ人学生(B)の会話です。

A: I was wondering if you could read my essay over and correct my English.

B: Sure. When do you need it by?

A: Well, I'd appreciate it if you could give it back to me by Friday.

Words & Phrases

Making Requests

依頼をする

依頼をする

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| ▶ I have a favor to ask you. | お願いがあるんですが。 |
| ▶ Could you do me a favor? | お願いがあるんですが。 |
| ▶ I was wondering if I could ... | …させてもらうことはできないでしょうか。 |
| ▶ borrow some money | お金を借りる |
| ▶ I was wondering if you could ... | …してもらうことはできないでしょうか。 |
| ▶ lend me some money | お金を貸す |
| ▶ take out the garbage | ゴミを出す |
| ▶ Would it be possible for you to ... ? | …していただくことはできますか。 |
| ▶ Do you think you could ... ? | …してもらえないでしょうか。 |
| ▶ Could you ... ? | …してもらえますか。 |
| ▶ Can you ... ? | …してもらえますか。 |
| ▶ take this package to the post office for me | この小包を私の代わりに郵便局に持っていき それを書留で出す |
| ▶ send it by registered mail | それを書留で出す |
| ▶ Would you mind ... ? | …していただけないでしょうか。 |
| ▶ taking care of this chili | このチリを見ている |
| ▶ reading my essay over | 私の(授業の)レポートを読む |

依頼に対応する

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| ▶ (I'm) sorry, but ... | すみませんが、…。 |
| ▶ I'd like to help, but ... | 力になりたいんですが、…。 |
| ▶ I wish I could (help), but ... | 力になりたいんですが、…。 |
| ▶ I have goldfish | 金魚を飼っているんです |
| ▶ No(, not at all). | いえ(、全然構いませんよ)。 |

Other

その他

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| ▶ I'm still short by ... | (お金が)まだ…足りないんです。 |
| ▶ a hundred | 100(ドル) |
| ▶ I'm a little short of cash. | 持ち合わせがあまりないんです。 |
| ▶ bucks | ドル [口語表現] |