



Learn common greetings for different times of day and how to introduce yourself politely.

You've just arrived in Japan and are meeting your host family for the first time at their home in the evening. You exchange polite greetings and introduce yourselves.

### After this lesson, you'll be able to:

- Greet people politely
- Introduce yourself simply
- Say goodbye casually

### Cultural Notes

#### Polite Forms are Key for First Meetings

Japanese greetings often have polite and casual forms. When meeting your host family or anyone new, always use polite forms like おはようございます (good morning) and こんにちは (good evening) to show respect.

#### The Nuance of よろしくお願いします

After はじめまして (Nice to meet you), you'll almost always hear or say よろしくお願いします. It doesn't have a direct English translation, but conveys 'Please treat me kindly,' 'I look forward to our time together,' or 'Please take care of me.'

#### Time-Specific Greetings

Unlike English 'hello,' Japanese greetings are time-specific. こんにちは (hello/good afternoon) is used during the day, while こんにちは (good evening) is for the evening and night. Using こんにちは after sunset is a common mistake.

## Vocabulary

**おはよう** good morning (casual)

例: おはよう、元気? — Good morning, how are you?

**おはようございます** good morning (polite)

例: 先生、おはようございます。 — Good morning, teacher.

**こんにちは** hello / good afternoon

例: こんにちは、お元気ですか？ — Hello, how are you?

**こんばんは** good evening

例: こんばんは、お元気ですか？ — Good evening, how are you?

**さようなら** goodbye

例: 先生、さようなら。 — Goodbye, teacher.

**じゃあね** see you (casual)

例: じゃあね、また明日。 — See you, see you tomorrow.

**はじめまして** nice to meet you

例: はじめまして、田中です。 — Nice to meet you, I am Tanaka.

**よろしくお願ひします** よろしくおねがいします  
pleased to meet you (polite)

例: はじめまして、よろしくお願ひします。 — Nice to meet you, pleased to meet you.

## Dialogue (会話)

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Scene: You've just arrived in Japan and are meeting your host family for the first time at their home in the evening. You exchange polite greetings and introduce yourselves.

**A: こんばんは。**

A: Good evening.

**B: こんばんは。**

B: Good evening.

**A: はじめまして。**

A: Nice to meet you.

**B: はじめまして。**

B: Nice to meet you.

**A: よろしくお願ひします。**

A: Pleased to meet you.

**B: よろしくお願ひします。**

B: Pleased to meet you.

**A: おはようございます。**

A: Good morning (polite).

**B: おはよう。**

B: Good morning (casual).

**A: こんにちは。**

A: Hello / Good afternoon.

**B: さようなら。じゃあね。**

B: Goodbye. See you.

## Exercises (練習)

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### Q1. Fill in the Blank (Word Bank)

A: こんにちは。 B: \_\_\_\_\_。

Word bank: おはよう | こんにちは | さようなら | じゃあね

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Q2. Matching

Draw lines to match each word with its meaning:

1. おはようございます

A. good evening

2. こんにちは

B. nice to meet you

3. こんにちは

C. good morning (polite)

4. はじめまして

D. hello / good afternoon

### Q3. Fill in the Blank (Word Bank)

A: はじめまして。 B: \_\_\_\_\_。

Word bank: おはよう | こんにちは | はじめまして | さようなら

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Q4. Fill in the Blank

A: こんにちは。 B: \_\_\_\_\_。

Hint: A greeting for afternoon.

### Q5. Fill in the Blank (Word Bank)

A: おはようございます。 B: \_\_\_\_\_。

Word bank: こんにちは | おはよう | こんにちは | さようなら

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Q6. Grammatical Transformation

Change to the polite form.

おはよう → \_\_\_\_\_

### Q7. Fill in the Blank (Word Bank)

A: こんにちは。 B: \_\_\_\_\_。

Word bank: はじめまして | こんにちは | こんにちは | よろしくお願ひします

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Q8. Sentence Reordering

Arrange the fragments into a correct sentence:

よろしく

おねがい

します

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### Q9. Fill in the Blank

A: よろしくお願ひします。 B: \_\_\_\_\_。

Hint: A polite response to 'pleased to meet you.'

### Q10. Grammatical Transformation

Change to the casual form.

さようなら → \_\_\_\_\_

### Q11. Sentence Reordering

Arrange the fragments into a correct sentence:

おはよう

ござい

ます

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**Q12. Translate to English**

こんばんは。

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**Q13. Translate to Japanese**

Nice to meet you.

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**Q14. Translate to English**

じゃあね。

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**Q15. Reading Comprehension**

A: こんにちは。 B: こんにちは。 A: はじめまして。 B: はじめまして。 A: よろしくお願ひします。 B: よろしくお願ひします。

Is this a first meeting or between old friends? What clues tell you?

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**Q16. Translate to Japanese**

Pleased to meet you.

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**Q17. Write in Japanese**

How do you say 'See you (casual)' in Japanese?

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## Answer Key (答え)

### Exercise Answers:

- Q1: こんにちは  
Q2: おはようございます → good morning (polite), こんにちは → hello / good afternoon, こんにちは → good evening, はじめまして → nice to meet you  
Q3: はじめまして  
Q4: こんにちは  
Q5: おはよう  
Q6: おはようございます  
Q7: こんにちは  
Q8: こんにちは、おねがいします  
Q9: こんにちは、お会いします  
Q10: こんにちは  
Q11: おはようございます  
Q12: Good evening.  
Q13: はじめまして。  
Q14: See you (casual).  
Q15: This is a first meeting. The use of はじめまして (nice to meet you) and こんにちは (pleased to meet you) indicates it's the first time they are meeting.  
Q16: こんにちは、お会いします。  
Q17: こんにちは。