Unit 3

Grammar notes

Whose it is, and checking

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Joining nouns with の

の

Date _____

By the end of this part, you can:

- ☐ Join two nouns with の: a Japanese teacher, my company
- ☐ Say which one you mean, without a long sentence

A conversation you can have in Japanese

Tanaka	Is that a Japanese book?
You	Yes, it is my Japanese book.
Tanaka	Is your father a company employee?
You	No, my father is a doctor.

GRAMMAR 1

Joining nouns with の

の joins two nouns, and the one that owns or describes goes first: にほんご の せんせい is a teacher of Japanese, わたし の かいしゃ is my company. English runs the other way round, so read の backwards into English.

1 See how it works

PATTERN

A	(of) の no	B

A's B / B of A

I わたし watashi	(of) の no	bag かばん kaban	(polite) です desu

It is my bag.

Japanese にほんご nihongo	の no	teacher せんせい sensei	です desu

She is a teacher of Japanese.

Mr. Tanaka たなかさん tanakasan	の no	watch とけい tokei	です desu

It is Mr. Tanaka's watch.

2 Build the piece two nouns → A の B

Do each one the same way as the example. Write your answer on the line.

e.g.	わたし ・ かばん watashi ・ kaban I, bag	→	わたし の かばん watashi no kaban my bag
1.	たなかさん ・ ほん tanakasan ・ hon Mr. Tanaka, book	→	Mr. Tanaka's book
2.	にほんご ・ ほん nihongo ・ hon Japanese, book	→	a Japanese book
3.	かいしゃ ・ ひと kaisha ・ hito company, person	→	someone from the company

3 Say it in Japanese

1. This is my company.

2. My father is a doctor.

SUMMARY — this part at a glance

Grammar 1 Joining nouns with の

A の B

わたし の かばん です
watashi no kaban desu
It is my bag.

Drills

1. わたし _____ かばん です。
watashi kaban desu

2. にほんご _____ せんせい です。
nihongo sensei desu

3. たなかさん _____ とけい です。
tanakasan tokei desu

1. It is my bag.

2. She is a teacher of Japanese.

3. This is my company.

UNIT 3 · PART 2

Whose is it?

だれの

Date _____

By the end of this part, you can:

- ☐ Ask whose something is (だれ の ですか)
- ☐ Answer with just の: mine, Mr. Tanaka's
- ☐ Say it is not yours

A conversation you can have in Japanese

Tanaka	Whose pen is this?
You	It is mine.
Tanaka	Is this watch yours too?
You	No, that one is my older brother's.

GRAMMAR 1

Whose is it?

だれ の ですか asks whose something is. The answer drops the noun and stops at の — わたし の です, my one — because the thing is already on the table between you.

1 See how it works

PATTERN

noun	(topic) は wa	だれ dare	(mine) の no	(question) ? ですか desu ka

Whose ~ is this?

this この kono	bag かばん kaban	(topic) は wa	whose だれ の dare no	(question) ? ですか desu ka

Whose bag is this?

that one それ sore	は wa	I わたし watashi	(mine) の no	(polite) です desu

That one is mine.

2 Build the piece full noun → の on its own

Do each one the same way as the example. Write your answer on the line.

e.g.	わたし の かばん です watashi no kaban desu it is my bag	→	わたし の です watashi no desu it is mine
1.	たなかさん の ほん です tanakasan no hon desu it is Mr. Tanaka's book	→	it is Mr. Tanaka's
2.	ちち の とけい です chichi no tokei desu it is my father's watch	→	it is my father's
3.	だれ の ペン ですか dare no pen desu ka whose pen is it?	→	whose is it?

3 Say it in Japanese

1. Whose watch is this?

2. It is my older brother's.

SUMMARY — this part at a glance

Grammar 1

Whose is it?
noun は だれ の ですか
この かばん は だれ の ですか
kono kaban wa dare no desu ka
Whose bag is this?

Drills

1. この かばん は _____ の ですか。
kono kaban wa no desu ka

2. それ は わたし _____ です。
sore wa watashi desu

3. この ペン は たなかさん _____ です。
kono pen wa tanakasan desu

1. Whose bag is this?

2. That one is mine.

3. It is my father's.

Softening and asserting

～ね ・ ～よ

Date _____

By the end of this part, you can:

- ☐ Soften what you say with ね, when you expect agreement
- ☐ Add よ, when you are telling someone something new

A conversation you can have in Japanese

You	This is your bag, isn't it.
Tanaka	Yes, it is mine.
You	The company is over there, you know.
Tanaka	Oh, thank you.

GRAMMAR 1

Softening and asserting

ね and よ are how a sentence is aimed. ね expects the other person to agree — you both know it already. よ hands over something they did not know. Leaving both off is neutral, not rude — and よ on every sentence starts to sound pushy.

1 See how it works

PATTERN

sentence	right? ね ne	/	(telling you) よ yo

isn't it? / you know

this one これ kore	(topic) は wa	Japanese にほんご nihongo	(of) の no	book ほん hon	(polite) です desu	right? ね ne

This is a Japanese book, isn't it.

the company かいしゃ kaisha	は wa	over there あそこ asoko	です desu	(telling you) よ yo

The company is over there, you know.

2 Build the piece です → です ね / です よ

Do each one the same way as the example. Write your answer on the line.

	わたし の です watashi no desu	→	わたし の です よ watashi no desu yo
e.g.	it is mine		it is mine, you know
	たなかさん の ほん です tanakasan no hon desu	→	
1.	it is Mr. Tanaka's book		...isn't it
	あそこ です asoko desu	→	
2.	it is over there		it is over there, you know
	にほんじん です nihonjin desu	→	
3.	is Japanese		is Japanese, isn't it

3 Say it in Japanese

1. That is your bag, isn't it.

2. This one is mine, you know.

SUMMARY — this part at a glance

Grammar 1 — Softening and asserting

sentence ね / よ

これ は にほんご の ほん です ね
kore wa nihongo no hon desu ne
This is a Japanese book, isn't it.

Drills

1. これ は にほんご の ほん です _____ 。
kore wa nihongo no hon desu

2. かいしゃ は あそこ です _____ 。
kaisha wa asoko desu

3. あれ は わたし の かばん です _____ 。
are wa watashi no kaban desu

1. This is a Japanese book, isn't it?

2. The company is over there, you know.
