



Learn Japanese Pod with Ami and Alex

Podcast 36: Describing people's appearances in Japanese

In this lesson you will learn the following:

- ✓ Learn phrases to describe people's appearance
- ✓ Learn family related vocabulary

LEVEL: Lower intermediate



Introduction

In this lesson you'll learn some useful phrases and vocabulary to describe people's general appearance. You'll also learn some useful adjectives to describe body type and shape. Check out the main dialogue for examples.

How to study

This lesson includes the main podcast lesson, PDF show notes and an extra audio drill. You can find all of these resources by going to <https://learnjapanesepod.com> and clicking on the title for this lesson.

In the main podcast lesson Ami Sensei and Alex demonstrate the main dialogue, briefly explain the grammar and talk about other Japan related topics.

Then you can use these show notes to read through and study in more depth. We include grammar and vocabulary explanations to better understand the main lesson dialogue.

Finally, you can use the Japanese dialogue only audio file to practice your listening. You can listen to the audio phrase by phrase and then repeat afterwards to practice your speaking and listening skills.

To access the audio podcast for this lesson go to <https://learnjapanesepod.com> and navigate to this lesson.



Main Dialog 1 - Describing people's appearance

A: ね、私の家族の写真見る？

B: 見る見る！

A: これはおじいちゃん。背が高いんだよね。

B: ほんと、スマートでかっこいいね！

A: そうだけど、反対におばあちゃんは私に似て背が低いんだよね。

B: へえー。彼女は誰？お姉さん？

A: そう！最近髪をショートにして金髪に染めたの！

B: 顔がそっくりだね！それに家族みんなお洒落だよね。

A: ありがとう！

Main Dialog 1 - Describing people's appearance (Pronunciation)

A: Ne, watashi no kazoku no shashin miru?

B: Miru miru!

A: Kore wa ojii chan. Se ga takain da yo ne.

B: Honto, sumaato de kakkō ii ne.

A: Sō dakedo, hantai ni obaa chan wa watashi ni nite, se ga hikuin da yo ne.

B: Heh. Kanojo wa dare? Onee san?

A: Sō! Saikin kami wo shooto ni shite kinpatsu ni someta no!

B: Kao ga sokkuri da ne. Sore ni kazoku minna oshare da yo ne.

A: Arigatō.



Main Dialog 1 - Describing people's appearance (English)

A: Hey, do you want to see photos of my family?

B: Yes!

A: This is my grandpa. He's tall isn't he?

B: That's true. He's tall and good looking.

A: That's right but on the other hand my grandma looks like me and she's short.

B: Ah. Who is she? Is she your older sister?

A: Yes. Recently she cut her hair short and dyed it blond.

B: Her face looks just like yours. Your family is very stylish.

A: Thank you.



Extra Phrases to Describe People's Appearance

Talking about someone's height or body size

背が高い	Se ga takai	Tall
背が低い	Se ga hikui	Short
でかい	Dekai	Large
小さい	Chiisai	Small / Petite

Talking about body shape

スマートな人	Sumaato na hito	Slim
ポッチャリ	Pocchari	Chubby
太っている	Futotteru	Fat
がっしり	Gasshiri	Muscly
ムキムキ	Mukimuki	Muscly
痩せている	Yaseteiru	Slim
ガリガリ	Garigari	Very thin / Skin and bones

Talking about hair

髪の毛が短い/短髪	Kaminoke ga mijikai/tanpatsu	Short hair
髪の毛が長い/長髪	Kaminoke ga nagai/chōhatsu	Long hair
髪の毛が茶色い	Kaminoke ga chairoi	Brown hair
髪の毛が黒い	Kaminoke ga kuroi	Black hair
金髪	Kinpatsu	Blond hair
白髪	Hakuhatsu	Silver/gray hair

Talking about clothes

おしゃれな人	Oshare na hito	Stylish person
派手な服	Hade na fuku	Loud clothes
シック	Shikku	Chic
モダン	Modan	Modern



Other words to describe people

かこういい	Kakō ii	Cool / Good looking
ダンディー	Dandi	Older stylish man
きれい	Kirei	Beautiful
かわいい	Kawaii	Cute

Random Phrase of the Week

Gachi - Really / Super / Mega / Big time

Gachi basically means “really” but is a very casual and a rough expression. It’s maybe best not to use this in a formal situation!

- 1) ガチで可愛い - Gachi de kawaii - Super cute
- 2) ガチで面白い - Gachi de omoshiroi - Crazy funny
- 3) ガチでお金貯めないと - Gachi de okane tamenai to - I’ve gotta save cash big time
- 4) ガチで頑張らないと - Gachi de gambaranai to - I’ve gotta really do my best



Hi, this is Alex, the creator of Learn Japanese Pod. Thanks for downloading these show notes, I hope you find them useful. If you need any help with your Japanese or have any questions or comments please drop me a line at info@learnjapanesepod.com

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- Enjoy!

Alex

- A shout out to SupaaAuru and Conrat from our Discord server who proofread the show notes -