

Lesson 58: Talking on the Phone

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, practice each role.

Allan, the operator: Thank you for calling ABC Telecoms. This is Allan. How may I help you? Eiko: Hello. I just received my phone bill. I have some complaints about the charges. Who should I talk to about this?

Allan: That matter should be taken up with the billing department. Hold on while I connect your call. *After a few seconds...*

Ben: Billing department. This is Ben speaking.

Eiko: I have some questions about my phone bill. It seems I'm being charged for phone calls made to Europe. I'd like to have the charges removed from my bill.

Ben: Do you mean you didn't make those phone calls?

Eiko: I wish I had someone to call in Europe. I'm a housewife living in the country side. I use my phone to tell my kids that I'm ready to pick them up. That's pretty much my social life.

Ben: I see. Could you please give me your name and your mobile number? I'll check your phone records on my computer and I'll see what I can do about it.

2. Today's Phrase

First, repeat after your tutor. Then, make a few sentences using Today's phrase.

- 1. Where did you have your hair dyed? It looks good.
- 2. Let's have the house renovated. It needs a lot of repairs.
- 3. Jack is having his car fixed. It broke down yesterday.

* to have something done / (物・事) を~して貰う。

3. Your Task

You work for a pizza shop. Someone (=your tutor) calls and orders pizza. In a business-like manner, take the customer's name and address. You also have to take his order and tell him how much it costs. Before you hang up the phone, inform him/her what time their pizza will arrive. Don't forget to thank the customer too.

4. Let's Talk

How are business calls conducted in Japan? Tell your tutor about it.
We usually know who's calling when using a mobile phone.
If the number is not registered on your phone, do you answer it?
Why or why not?

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.

