

## Lesson 44: Honoring a Retiring Worker at a Ceremony

By Xandra

### 1. Dialogue

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

A ceremony is being held to celebrate Mr. Smith's retirement. Everyone wants to greet him personally, including Mr. Smith's boss, Mr. Yoshida.

Makoto: Congratulations on your retirement, Mr. Smith.

Mr. Smith: Thanks, Makoto.

Makoto: What are your retirement plans?

Mr. Smith: I don't have any definite plans for my retirement. But I've always wanted to take a tour of Europe.

Makoto: Let's keep in touch, sir. I hope you can drop by the office occasionally when you have time.

Mr. Smith: I will. (shakes hands with Makoto)

(Mr. Yoshida has approached Mr. Smith).

Mr. Yoshida: Are you ready to **embark on** a new chapter of your life?

Mr. Smith: I was born ready for anything.

Mr. Yoshida: (laughs) I would like to personally thank you for everything you've done for Hydra Computers. We will miss your wisdom. I hope you'll enjoy every minute of your retirement.

Mr. Smith: I owe a lot to Hydra Computers. Thank you for your well wishes.

### 2. Today's Phrase

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

1. After college, Jackie Chan **embarked on** an acting career.
2. Before **embarking on** a business venture, he went to get an MBA degree at London Business School.
3. The company is **embarking on** a big project next month.

\* **embark on** / (事業など)に着手する

### 3. Your Task

Your boss (=your tutor) is retiring. He is your mentor, and you are taking over his position in the company.

There's a ceremony underway and you'd really like to honor your boss in a speech. Express your appreciation to your boss for mentoring you. Wish him well on his retirement.

### 4. Let's Talk

What are the dos and don'ts when honoring a retiring colleague?

Would you like a ceremony to honor you on your retirement? Why or why not?

In Japan, what activity do most people engage in after retirement?

### 5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.



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