

Lesson 94: Apology 3 (Offering a Casual Apology)

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

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

There's going to be a company seminar tomorrow. Sheldon Cooper and his assistant, Hanako, are in charge of organizing it. He is now checking if everything's been prepared.

Mr. Cooper: Is the conference room ready?

Hanako: I've booked the conference room at Hyatt Hotel, sir. I've also ordered the refreshments.

Mr. Cooper: What about the equipment?

Hanako: What equipment, sir?

Mr. Cooper: The equipment for the Power Point presentation. We need a white screen, a projector and the loud speakers.

Hanako: I'm sorry. I haven't arranged for those things.

Mr. Cooper: You'd better call the hotel now, and ask them if they can provide the equipment for tomorrow.

(After a while...)

Hanako: The hotel manager said that they don't have what we need.

Mr. Cooper: Well, we must find some equipment today. Otherwise, our seminar will be a total failure.

Hanako: Sorry for **messing up**, Mr. Cooper. I promise I'll fix it.

2. Today's Phrase

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

1. This meeting is very important for the company, Jack. Please don't **mess up**.
2. Please don't play soccer in the garden. You'll **mess up** the flower patch.
3. Everyone expected Jack to be promoted. But he **messed up** in his last project.

* **mess up** / へまをする、失敗する； ～を散らかす、めちゃくちゃにする

3. Your Task

Situation 1: While you were in a meeting, you missed a call from your boss. Call your boss (=your tutor) and apologize for not taking his call. Explain why you were busy.

Situation 2: You are a technician. You're trying to fix an air conditioner, but it's very old and no longer repairable. Tell the office manager (=your tutor) about it. Apologize for not being able to fix it and recommend a good brand of air conditioner as a replacement.

4. Let's Talk

Japanese people always say "sorry". What can you say about this custom?

What is the most difficult apology you've ever made?

What are the advantages of being able to say sorry easily?

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.

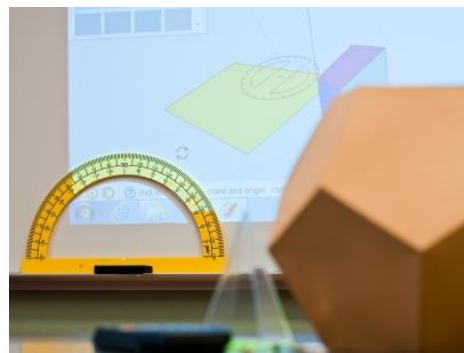


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