

Lesson 18: How to Decline/ Refuse

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

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

Brad: Sir, can I speak to you for a moment?

Mr. Suzuki: I'm very busy, Brad. Please be quick about it.

Brad: The employees are asking if they can have tomorrow off because it's festival day.

Mr. Suzuki: I would really love to have the day off myself but you know **as well as** I do that it's the busy season. I'm sorry but I can't agree with your request.

Brad: Noted, sir. I'll tell the others.

Mr. Suzuki: I'll tell you what. I'll let you guys off at 4:00PM. That'll give you enough time to join the festivities.

Brad: That's fair enough, sir. But maybe 3:00PM would be kinder.

Mr. Suzuki: Now that's pushing it. You can leave an hour early but that's the best I can do and that's final.

2. Today's Phrase

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

1. Tomorrow's the competition. I hope I do **as well as** my coach expects.
2. My mother doesn't treat her pet cat **as well as** she does her dogs.
3. Here are the test results. Hey, I did **as well as** you did on the Math test.

* as well as ... /...と同じくらい良く

3. Your Task

You are a hiring manager and someone (= your tutor) is following up on his/ her job application. This applicant didn't pass the first interview. Tell him/her that his/her application was declined in the most professional way.

4. Let's Talk

How do Japanese people decline requests? Give an example of a situation.

In the past, did you refuse something and then regretted doing so?

Tell the teacher the story.

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words.



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