

Lesson 26: Is There a Problem?

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

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

Tomoaki: Excuse me, sir. Are you alright?

Alex: Oh... Thank goodness you can speak English. I'm having a bit of trouble.

Tomoaki: **What's the matter?**

Alex: I can't find my wife and son. I thought they were right behind me.

Tomoaki: Can you tell me what they're wearing or what they look like? I might have seen them.

Alex: My wife has blonde hair and she's wearing a red shirt. My son has a baseball cap on.

Tomoaki: I can't remember seeing them. You could have them paged at the customer service.

Alex: I could? I should have them paged. I'm actually worried sick about them.

Tomoaki: I'll take you to the paging area. They can do the announcement in English.

Alex: It's really nice of you to help me.

2. Today's Phrase

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

1. You look a little tense. **What's the matter?**
2. **What's the matter** with Jim? He's been sulking all morning.
3. Why are you crying? Could you please tell me **what the matter is?**

* What's the matter? / どうしましたか? (問題は何ですか?)

3. Your Task

You are about to take the subway. You are lined up at the ticket vending machine but a foreigner is taking a long time and is holding up the line. Approach the foreigner (=your tutor) and offer your help.

4. Let's Talk

When was the last time you spoke to a foreigner? What did you talk about?

Have you ever helped a lost foreigner find his way? If have, tell your teacher all about it. If not, would you offer help to a lost foreigner?

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.



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