

Lesson 53: At the Post Office

By Xandra

1. Dialogue

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

Akiko: Hello. I need stamps for these, please.

Rob: Are these priority mail or first class?

Akiko: They're just post cards to let my family in Japan know where I've been to. It's not really important for them to get there quickly.

Rob: In that case, I'll send them via regular mail. It may take two weeks to reach your folks.

Akiko: Um, I didn't realize delivery would take that long.

Rob: You can still change your mind. I haven't stamped them yet.

Akiko: (thinking first) I guess two weeks doesn't matter. **As long as** they don't get lost in the mail, I'm okay with it.

Rob: Okay. It's \$0.94 cents for each one. Twelve post cards add up to \$11.28.

2. Today's Phrase

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

1. A: Can I borrow your car for a while? B: **As long as** you don't scratch it, I'll let you borrow it.
2. A: Mom, can we get a dog? B: **As long as** you're responsible for feeding and cleaning up after it, we can get a pet dog.
3. A: Dad, can I go out with my friends tonight? B: **As long as** you're home before midnight, you can hang out with your friends.

* As long as S + V / SがVする限りは

3. Your Task

Your friend has sent you a package through the post office. Go to the post office and inquire if anything has arrived for you. The post master (=your tutor) will tell you that there's no package for you. But you have to tell him/her to check again because it was supposed to have arrived last week.

4. Let's Talk

Which is better: to receive letters/cards by traditional mail or to receive them by email? Why do you think so?

Do you still send cards through the mail for special occasions? Why or why not?

5. Today's photo

Describe the photo in your words as precisely as possible.



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