

LESSON 7

慎一 最近なんか油っぽいものが食べれなくなってきたんだ。もう歳なのかなあ？

貴子 今何歳になったんだっけ？

慎一 29歳だよ。

貴子 まだ全然若いじゃん。

慎一 いやいやいや、もう立派なアラサーだからね。もうそろそろ若いとは言えなくなってきたよ。三十路までもうすぐだ。

貴子 「男は30から」って言うからまだまだこれからじゃない。

慎一 そうなんだけどね。自分ももう三十路かと思うと愕然とするよね。こないだ新しく事務の子が入社したんだけどね、短大卒で今二十歳だって。話をしても会話が噛み合なくてジェネレーションギャップを感じちゃったよ。

貴子 それわかる！平成生まれって言われると時代が違くなって思っちゃうよね。昭和生まれの自分がおばちゃんになっちゃうみたいに感じてくるのよね。

慎一 貴子は見た目が若いから大丈夫だよ。女の人だって結局は歳なんて関係ないと思うんだよね。取引先の担当さんなんだけど、ずっと同年くらいだと思ってたんだけど、最近実はもうアラフォーだと知ってびっくりしたよ。仕事も凄いでできる人だし、やっぱりエネルギーに溢れた人は見た目も若いんだろうね。

貴子 私もそういう人になりたいな。周りからはいつまでも若いって言われていたいよね。そう言われるように頑張らなくっちゃ。

慎一 きっと貴子ならいい熟女になれるさ。

貴子 熟女って何かやらしい感じがするからやめて。

慎一 もきっとダンディーなおじさまになれるわよ。

慎一 渋い男になりたいね。

脂っぽい(たべ)もの
oily food
歳 old

…じゃん=ですよ
emphasize something
アラサー around 30 years old
もうそろそろ it's about time
三十路 30 years old

じゃない=ではないか
be used to seek agreement
from listener

愕然とする be shocked
事務 office worker
短大=短期(たんき)大学(だいがく) junior college
…卒 graduate from
咬み合う mesh with
平成 1989~
昭和 1926~1989
おばちゃん old lady
見た目 appearance

結局は after all
取引先
Business partner company
担当 the person in charge
同年 same age
アラフォー around 40 years old

いつまでも forever, for good

熟女 mature woman
やらしい erotic

渋い cool, dandy

Shinichi I cannot eat much oily food recently. I think I am getting old..

Takako How old are you now?

Shinichi I'm 29 years old.

Takako You are still young.

Shinichi No no no, I am already Arasa(around 30). I can't say I am young any more. Soon to be 30 years old.

Takako Well, it says 'men get better from their 30s' so you will be fine.

Shinichi I know that. I feel depressed thinking I will be 30. On the other day, a new person joined the office, she is 20 years old and just graduated from a junior college. We haven't been on the same page in conversations, and I felt a big generation gap.

Takako I know that feeling! I think we are in a different era as to be told "Heisei born". I feel like I am becoming an old lady of Showa born.

Shinichi Takako, you look young, so you are fine. But I actually think it is not about the age even for women. I know one person from our business partner company, and I thought she was around the same age as me but she is actually Arafor(around 40), I was so surprised. She is very good at what she does for work and I guess a person full of energy has a younger appearance after all.

Takako I'd like to be someone like that. It is nice to be always told you look young. I will work hard to be told so!

Shinichi I know you will become wonderful mature woman, Takako.

Takako Stop saying that, it sounds a bit erotic. I am sure you will be a dandy guy too, Shinichi.

Shinichi Yeah, I want to be a cool guy.

【POINT】

「アラサー」「アラフォー」

The words have been in circulation since 2006 due to be used in magazines for women.

アラサー Abbreviated form of "around thirty". Generally 27~33 years old.

アラフォー Abbreviated form of "around forty". Generally 37~43 years old.

西暦と年号 Christian era and Japanese era name

There are two kinds of name of an era expressed in Japan; "西暦 (Christian era)" and "年号 (Japanese era name)".

This year of 2013 in the Christian era is the same as 平成 25 years in the Japanese era name. Heisei began in 1989.

Heisei 1 year is generally called "平成元年 (The first year of Heisei)". The previous era of Heisei is 昭和 (Showa) (1926~1989).

The people born in 平成 are called "平成生まれ (Heisei birth)" and the people born in 昭和 are called "昭和生まれ (Showa birth)".

The young people in Heisei birth with a modern sense of values in various aspects are expressed as "あの子は平成生まれだから (Heisei birth cannot be helped)" in a topic as a new generation.