

Japanese Phrases

Here are some Japanese phrases that you may find useful for the welcome ceremony and your self-introduction. (If you get stage fright and forget how to say them in Japanese, then saying them in English is better than saying nothing.) You will practice these during orientation.

**Your name: Watashi no namae wa _____ desu. (My name is ____)
OR Watashi wa _____ desu. (I am ____) Example: Watashi no namae wa Matthew desu. Watashi wa Sarah desu.

**Name of your host family: Example: Watashi no hosuto famiri wa Kawasaki-san desu. (My host family is Kawasaki-san.) OR Hosuto Famiri wa Ito-san desu. Use the word "san" after their name (whether you are using the first or last name) when talking to someone else or talking about someone else: Miko-san, Hiro-san, Tanaka

Here are a few words and phrases you might hear in Japan:

Itadakimasu: Something you say before you eat.

Gochisosama deshita: Something you say after you eat.

Irrashimase: A greeting you hear when entering a store or restaurant.

Sumimasen: Excuse me.

Gomen nasai: I'm very sorry.

Ohayo gozaimasu: Good Morning

Konnichiwa: Good day, hello

Douzo (also spelled Dozo): Please go ahead, please take some, you go first.

Arigato gozaimasu, Domo Arigato gozaimasu: Thank you.

Wakarimasu ka: Do you understand?

Here are some English phrases you might hear in Japan:

Nice to meet you.

It's a bit difficult. (This means that something probably isn't possible)

It can't be helped. (This means that there is no alternative and we will make the best of the situation.)