

eg.,

Last week, I went to see a movie with Ms. Ueno and her friends, Ms. Ikeda and Ms. Igarash. After the movie, we had a chat over a meal. Every time I said something, Ms. Ueno said, "Uso~," while Ms. Ikeda said, "Uso-mitai," and Ms. Igarashi said, "Uso desho, uso~, usso~." Since they said that word so many times, I went to a restroom and secretly checked it in my dictionary. The dictionary said "uso" meant "lie." As soon as I was back. I said to them. "Uso janai desu (What I said wasnot a lie)." Three girls started to laugh and said, "We know that." Ms.Hirayama, why did they keep saving"**uso**"?

## ◆Kanji for "lie" ◆



- $\star$ I would like to explain two different usages in this lesson.
- A. To say something as if it were the truth or a fact (same meaning as "lie")

1) Telling a lie

嘘をつく uso o tsuku

嘘がばれる uso ga bareru

3) Outright lie

4) Shedding crocodile tears

2) A lie is exposed.

嘘泣き 真っ赤な嘘 makka na uso usonaki

5) Necessary to stretch the truth (in a good sense, such as telling a white lie)

嘘も方便 (positive meaning) uso mo hōben

B. To emphasize the feeling of surprise when some amazing or unbelievable thing has happened, rather than implying that it is a "lie." (in this case, "uso" is usually written in **hiragana** or **katakana**.)

6) The phrases vary according to the person. Although some typical phrases are selected here, it may be better not to use them too often because they sound very informal. (Although every phrase has been translated into English, it does not necessarily mean that they are precise equivalents.)

う

uso

そ.

USSO-

うそ

0

uso



usō chittomo shiranakatta

7) To emphasize the feeling of "It's a miracle!" or "That's unbelievable!" They are used in the form of "\_\_\_mitai" or "\_\_\_no yo"

It can't be! (woman speaking)

うそみたい uso mitai

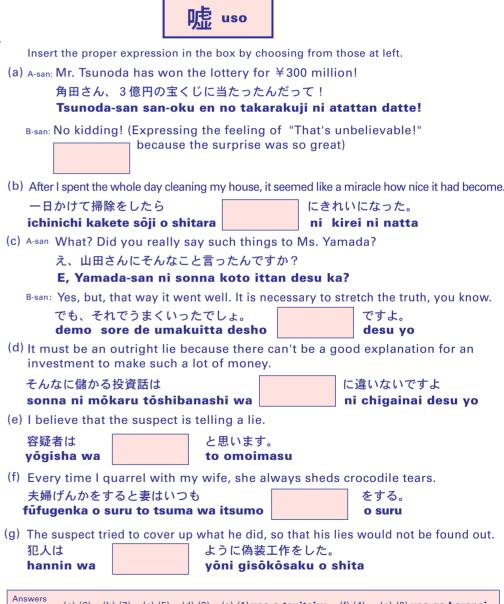
e.a.,

No kidding! You mean they've got married? That's unbelievable!

え~!あの二人が結婚?ウソみたい! ano futari ga kekkon? uso mitai!

It seemed like a miracle to return to good health after such a severe illness.

大病をしたのにウソのように元気になった。 taibyō o shita noni uso no vō ni genki ni natta



Pero Pero Penovin's 5-minute Japanese Class by Hitomi Hirayama

■ ■ ■ Well, I also say that word sometimes when I talk with my friends.

seems that young people and those who lack sufficient vocabulary tend to

use the phrase. those girls did not mean you were lying when they said

ni Nihongo ga jozu ni naru desho (It seems a miracle that you start

speaking in excellent Japanese)."

"uso". Let me explain "uso" for today's lesson. "Pole-san wa uso-mitai

For some people, "uso" becomes their favorite word. In particular, it

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(a)-(6) (b)-(7) (c)-(5) (d)-(3) (e)-(1) uso o tsuiteiru (f)-(4) (g)-(2) uso ga barenai

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