

UNIT

Japan is a shopper's paradise. From large and lavish department stores to small, hole-in-the-wall establishments in shopping arcades, the country abounds with shops. For the most part, price labels are attached to goods, although sometimes when the prices are not given or are written in *kanji* it is necessary to ask how much an item costs. Salesclerks are generally polite and helpful; upon entering a store or restaurant, a customer will almost always be greeted. The greeting is *irasshaimase*!



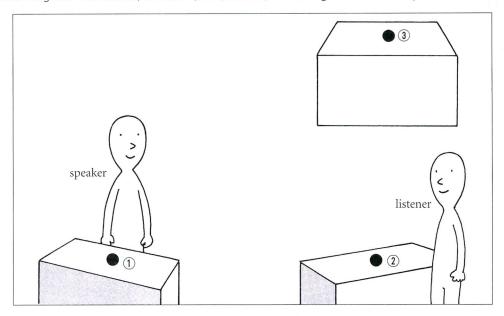
Pronouns and Noun Modifiers

kore/sore/are wa noun desu

ex. Kore wa hon desu. "This is a book."

Kore/Sore/Are

Whereas English has only "this" and "that," Japanese has three separate demonstrative pronouns: **kore**, **sore**, and **are**. **Kore** (see ① below) indicates something near the speaker, **sore** (see ② below) something near the listener, and **are** (see ③ below) something not near either person.



kono/sono/ano noun 1 wa noun 2 desu

ex. Kono hon wa watashi no desu. "This book is mine."

Kono/Sono/Ano

Kono, sono, and ano have similar meanings to kore, sore, and are, but they modify nouns.