

# **Crazy- Crazy Words**

By Ema Miwa

Orange is a crazy word!

When someone says, "I like orange," which do you imagine?

A fruit or the color? I imagine the fruit, but someone might say color, which can be confusing.

In Japanese, "Erai" is also a crazy word.

In my hometown, "eraï" means, "I feel sick," but that is the local meaning. Elsewhere in Japan, "eraï" means "you are good." And that can also cause misunderstanding.

Everyday, Japanese say "daijoubu" because it has many meanings. Basically, "daijoubu" means "okay." However, there are many ways to use the word because of the Japanese national character.

For example, we ask someone who looks bad, "daijoubu?" which means "Are you ok?" However, if you don't need something from other people, we also say, "daijoubu" meaning "no thanks!"

For Japanese characters, many people say, "daijoubu" meaning, "I'm okay," but for seventy percent of the time, those people are not okay!

## **Crazy? Crazy!**