When your Kansai Gaidai friends call you on your携帯 (cell phone), after sayingもしもし, many times they will then ask, “今どこにおるん?” This means “where are you now?” In Kansai-benおる replaces standard Japanese’sいる meaning “to be,” or“to exist,” for animate objects.①おる conjugates in a variety of ways, but let’s take a look at some of its more common conjugated forms:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>意味</th>
<th>標準語</th>
<th>関西弁</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Be; To Exist</td>
<td>いる</td>
<td>おる</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is Not (Here/There)</td>
<td>いない</td>
<td>おらへん</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was (Here/There)</td>
<td>いた</td>
<td>おった</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was Not (Here/There)</td>
<td>いなかった</td>
<td>おらへんかった</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As you can seeおる conjugates into the negative with the Kansai-ben〜へん ending, and if you recall from Chapter 1,〜へん in the past tense is〜へんかった. Let's take a look at a few basic sentences:

1) どこにおる？ Where you at?

2) 兄弟おるんですか？ Do you have siblings? (polite)

3) 彼女おらへんで。 I don’t have a girlfriend.

A casual conversation between Tomie and Tsunemi:

トミエ: ルームメートおるの？
ツネミ: ルームメートおらへんで。一人暮らしてる。
トミエ: 前期は、あったんですか？
ツネミ: おらへんかったよ。18歳からずっと一人暮らししてる。

Tomie: Do you have a roommate?
Tsunemi: I don’t have roommates, I live by myself.
Tomie: How about last semester?
Tsunemi: Nope. I’ve lived by myself since I was 18.

① It is important to note that this is not the same as theおる humble form learned in Chapter 20 of Genki. While they both happen to replace the verbいる, it is not a humble form when used in daily conversation in Kansai.
Here is a conversation you will probably hear everyday at Kansai Gaidai between friends on the phone:

キヨヘイ：もしもし。
ツネミ：  もしもし。今どこにおるん？
キヨヘイ： 今CIEのコンピュータールームにおける。
ツネミ：  あ、そうか。俺今CIEのラウンジ着いたやわ。
キヨヘイ： 分かった。ちょっと待って、すぐ行くわ。

Kyohei: Hey.
Tsunemi: Hey, where are you?
Kyohei: I'm in the CIE computer room.
Tsunemi: Oh, I see. I just got to the CIE lounge.
Kyohei: For sure. Hold on a second, I'll be there right away.

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2 CIE stands for Center for International Education, which is Kansai Gaidai's Study Abroad Division. It is a tall building in the middle of the main campus, where all classes for students studying abroad at Kansai Gaidai are held. It contains a large lounge and computer lab on the ground floor, which is a popular meeting place for exchange students and Japanese students alike.

3 Here we see わ as a sentence final particle, which will be introduced in the next chapter

4 In Kansai-ben, many times the ちょっと from ちょっと待って is abbreviated to ちょう