

For more information, please send e-mail to "Mash Satou." <SG000310@nifty.ne.jp>.

A Logical Japanese Grammar

Welcome to my "A Logical Japanese Grammar" page. I would like to introduce wonderful and logical Japanese grammar. Japanese has a strange grammar that is quite different from most European languages. However, you can easily understand and be familiar with it after you know the simple and logical grammar of Japanese. It has a few exceptions and unformed rules. I hope this article helps you learn Japanese more deeply.

I am sorry I am still constructing these pages and columns. There might be many blanks but I will update them frequently. I am happy you may check this page once a week.

- [Let's go to the table of contents.](#) "<http://homepages3.nifty.com/jgrammar/>".
- Please feel free to link this page [this Package](#).
- You can get a PDF version from [this Package](#).
- Interesting topics about Japanese Grammar [コラ大統計計算文法考](#) (Feb. 12/2005)

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History of Updating

- Mar.28/2005 : Topical particles
- Nov.02/2004 : Update and Bug Fix of Kanji Cards
- Sep.04/2004 : About nominal particles
- Jul.27/2004 : About case particles
- Apr.13/2004 : Bug Fix of Javascrpt in Japanese Conjugation Builder.
- Feb.14/2004 : Change the terms form imperfect, perfect to present, past
- Dec.29/2003 : Open Kanji cards page.
- Dec.06/2003 : Add a link to Furigana pages.
- Nov.03/2003 : Provide a PDF version of these pages.
- Oct.19/2003 : Introduce a new conjugation builder.
- Jul.14/2003 : About particles and to append Kana tables.
- Jun.30/2003 : About supplemental verbs
- May.27/2003 : About moving and giving verbs
- May.23/2003 : About auxiliary verbs

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- Apr.26/2003 : Modify nouns, the conjugation, the copula, voices page
- Apr.06/2003 : Complete the document of voices
- Mar.28/2003 : Rearrange conjugation tables and pitch accents
- Feb.01/2003 : Start to make the page about voices
- Jan.18/2003 : About copulas and adjectival verbs
- Jan.14/2003 : Add a summary to the verbs for existence
- Dec.28/2002 : About existence
- Dec.18/2002 : About tenses and so on
- Dec.14/2002 : About verbal conjugation
- Dec.11/2002 : About verbal nouns, classifiers
- Dec.10/2002 : About nouns, adjectival nouns
- Dec.09/2002 : About demonstrative pronouns
- Dec.08/2002 : About word orders
- Dec.07/2002 : This new site starts

Special Thanks to

- **Japanese Language** (<http://japanese.about.com/>)
- **Language Express** (<http://www.langeexpress.com/Study-Japanese-Links.htm>)
- **A Japanese guide to Japanese grammar** (<http://www.geocities.jp/nihongojude/>)
- **Japanese for the Western Brain** (<http://www.mindspring.com/~kimall/Japanese/index.html>)
- **Kotoba no sanpo-nitchi** (<http://homepage1.nifty.com/forty-sixer/kotoba.htm>)
- **Nihon-go-mono-gatai** (http://www.jlu.org/CAL/E/calle_essay_index.htm)

Interesting Topics

- **Jim Brent's Japanese Page** (<http://www.csse.monash.edu.au/~jwb/japanese.html>)
- **Collins Japanese Language & Culture Page** (<http://www.epochnypha.com/japanese/>)
- **Japanese in the Age of Technology** (<http://www.honoo.net/japanese/index.html>)
- **Omniqid** (<http://www.omniqid.com/index.htm>)

Pronunciation

Japanese has a very simple syllabic system which is easy to learn. The most syllables consist of simple combinations as a consonant followed by a vowel. The total number of the syllables are only around 150 including the syllables for loan words. The syllables for Japanese native words are counted to around 100.

Tables of Phonemes

Vowels

Japanese has the system of 5 stable vowels, which is the most popular among languages in the world, like Spanish.

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positions of a tongue	Vowels				
	front	center	back		
flat lips/round lips	F	R	F	R	F
high	i				u
middle	e				o
low			a		

- "a" as in past
- "i" as in pit
- "u" as in put
- "e" as in pet
- "o" as in pot

Strictly speaking, they are slightly different from the real sound of Japanese. The best way to confirm these sounds is to listen to the real sounds pronounced by a native speaker of Japanese. In this article, I have no purpose to tell the correct sound deeply so I do not mention more details.

Consonants

Japanese has 22 consonants that are easy to pronounce.

	Consonants				
	labial	alveolar	post-alveolar	palatal	velar
voiceless plosives	p	t			k
voiced plosives	b	d			g
voiceless affricates		ts	ch		
voiced affricates		dz	dj		
voiceless fricatives	f	s	sh		h
voiced fricatives	v	z	j		
nasals	m	n			
lateral approximants		r			
approximants	w		y		

- "p" as in space
- "b" as in base
- "t" as in fade
- "d" as in fade
- "ts" as in take
- "ch" as in take
- "n" as in make
- "m" as in make
- "f" as in safe
- "s" as in safe
- "sh" as in share
- "v" as in vase
- "z" as in zone
- "j" as in jet
- "h" as in hat
- "k" as in kite
- "g" as in gate
- "d" as in date
- "dz" as in cards
- "s" as in sake
- "z" as in zoo
- "r" as in red
- "r" as intermediate sound between l and r
- "ch" as in chase
- "dj" as in adjust
- "sh" as in shake
- "j" as in jet
- "y" as in you
- "k" as in skate
- "g" as in gate
- "h" as in head

They are slightly different from the real sounds. If you know the exact sounds, please refer the other sources. I do not focus on the exact sounds as well as the sounds of the vowels in this article.

Special Thanks to

- <http://www2.arts.dia.ac.uk/IPAipa.html>
- <http://lc.polyu.edu.hk/Pronunciation/consonant/consonan.htm>
- <http://www.departments.bucknell.edu/linguistics/lectures/10oct15.html>

Tables of Syllables

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	カ	キ	ク	ケ	コ	カ	キ	ク	ケ	コ	カ	キ	ク	ケ	コ	カ	キ	ク	ケ	コ
k,ky	ka	ki	ku	ke	ko	kya	kyu	kyo	kye	kyo	ka	ki	ku	ke	ko	kya	kyu	kyo	kye	kyo
g,gy	ga	gi	gu	ge	go	gya	gyu	gye	gyo	ga	gi	gu	ge	go	gya	gyu	gye	gyo		
s,sh	sa	si	su	se	so	sha	shi	shu	she	sho	sa	si	su	se	so	sha	shi	shu	she	sho
z,ji	za	zi	zu	ze	zo	ja	ji	ju	je	jo	za	zi	zu	ze	zo	ja	ji	ju	je	jo
t,ty	ta	ti	tu	te	to	ya	yu		yo		ta	ti	tu	te	to	ya	yu		yo	
d,dy	da	di	du	de	do	dya	dyu		dyo		da	di	du	de	do	dya	dyu		dyo	
ts,sh	tsa	tsi	tsu	tse	tso	cha	chi	chu	che	cho	tsa	tsi	tsu	tse	tso	cha	chi	chu	che	cho
dz,dj	tsa	tsi	tsu	tsu	tsu	tsa	chi	chu	che	cho	dz	dz	dz	dz	dz	dja	dji	dju	djo	
n,ny	na	ni	nu	ne	no	nya	nyu	nye	nyo		na	ni	nu	ne	no	nya	nyu	nye	nyo	
h,hy	ha	hi		he	ho	hya	hyu	hye	hyo		ha	hi		he	ho	hya	hyu	hye	hyo	
p,py	pa	pi	pu	pe	po	dya	dyu	dye	dyo		pa	pi	pu	pe	po	dya	dyu	dye	dyo	
b,by	ba	bi	bu	be	bo	bya	bju	bje	bjo		ba	bi	bu	be	bo	bya	bju	bje	bjo	
f,fy	fa	fi	fu	fe	fo	fya	fyu		fyo		fa	fi	fu	fe	fo	fya	fyu		fyo	
v,vy	va	vi	vu	ve	vo	vya	vju		vjo		va	vi	vu	ve	vo	vya	vju		vjo	
m,my	ma	mi	mu	me	mo	mya	myu	mye	myo		ma	mi	mu	me	mo	mya	myu	mye	myo	
r,ry	ra	ri	ru	re	ro	rya	ryu	rye	ryo		ra	ri	ru	re	ro	rya	ryu	rye	ryo	
w	wa	wi		we	wo						wa	wi		we	wo					
	ワ	ウ		エ	オ						ワ	ウ		エ	オ					

- yes: yesu (イエズ)
- sit: sitto (ズット)
- shake: shakeku (シェイク)
- jet: jetto (ジェット)
- teacher: itsh'chah', tichá (ティーチャー)
- too: tūh', tū (トゥー)
- deep: dīh'pu, dīpu (ディープ)
- duty: dyun'tih', dyūit (デュティー)
- check: chekku (チェック)
- fight: fāto (ファイト)
- feet: fh'to, fīto (フィート)
- face: fāisu (フェイス)
- folk: fōh'ku, fōku (フォーク)
- future: fūh'chah', fūchā (フューチャー)
- violin: va'iohn (ヴァイオリン)
- victory: vikutorī (ヴィクトリー)
- vendor: vendān', vendā (ヴェンダー)
- voice: vo'isu (ヴォイス)
- view: vyūh', vyū (ビュー)
- weak: wh'iku, wīku (ウィーク)
- west: wesuto (ウェスト)
- water: woh'tah', wōtā (ウォーター)
- quiet: kwāietto (クワイエット)
- queen: kwī'n, kwīn (クイーン)
- question: kwesuchon (クエスチョン)
- quarter: kwōh'tah', kwōtā (クォーター)
- Sunday: Sandei (サンデー)
- Monday: Mandei (マンデー)
- Tuesday: Tyūh'zudei, Tyūzudei (トゥーズデー)
- Wednesday: Wenzudei (ウェンズデー)
- Thursday: Sah'zudei, Sāzudei (サースデー)
- Friday: Furaidēi (フライデー)
- Saturday: Satadei (サタデー)

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	kw	kwi	kwe	kwo																
	クワ	クイ	クエ	クオ																
gw	gwa	gwi	gwe	gwo																
	グワ	グイ	グエ	グオ																
Special	n'	ç'	h'								wa	'e	'o							
	ン	ッ	フ	ー							ハ	エ	オ							

Special Thanks to

- <http://syllabary.sourceforge.net/>
- <http://www.age.ne.jp/x/nrs/iso3602/iso3602.html>
- <http://www.halcat.com/roomaz/>
- <http://www.hiragatanet.com/>

Accents

Japanese has pitch accents whose types are high and low. It is different from stress accents that English speakers use. I express these 2 pitch as follows.

- ˊ :high to low
- ˋ :low to high

However, The pitch accent of Japanese has various different rules from each dialects and there is no uniformed rule except for occupations like an announcer. When I indicate the pitch of word if it is necessary. The pitch of words is based on Tokyo dialect. In Tokyo dialect, the pitch mark that expresses "low to high" can be omitted because "low to high" always appears between the first syllable and the second syllable of a word if the place between the syllables are not a position from high to low.

I introduce some examples.

- 2 syllables
 - hāshi = ha' shi: edge
 - hashi = ha shi : bridge
- 3 syllables
 - sāwagi: noise
 - sāwagu = sa wa' gu: to make a noise
 - sāwaru = sa wari' : to touch
 - sāwari = sa wari' touch

A Dictionary

Japanese	Kana	English
hāshi	はし	edge
hāshi	はし	bridge
hāshi	はし	chopsticks
sāwagi	さわぎ	noise
sāwagu	さわぐ	to make a noise
sāwaru	さわる	to touch

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| さわり | さつじ | ouch |

Special Thanks to

- <http://www.aurora.dti.ne.jp/~zom/Kyo-to/index.html>

Introduction

In order to understand one language fundamentally, you need to dig out the deep structure which is ruling all over the activities of the language. However, this is a very boring and tiring process at the beginning. This chapter introduces the corresponding ideas which are important in English, such as *pronouns*, *cases*, *articles*, *interrogatives*. To tell the truth, these ideas are not essential in Japanese. However, Knowing the correspondence of these idea is a good trigger that you start to learn Japanese with your motivation, because you can compose simple sentences with these ideas.

Parts of Speech

The following table shows us the parts of speech of Japanese. You do not understand and memorize them just now. However, you may figure out the framework of Japanese from this table. You may use this table for your reference later.

Parts of Speech

conjugation	independent	to express actions		Verbs
	dependent	to express properties		Adjectival Verbs Auxiliary Verbs
no conjugation	independent	modicand	to express objects	Nouns
			to express actions	Verbal Nouns
	no modicand	to demonstrate	to express properties	Adjectival Nouns
		to modify verbs	to demonstrate	Demonstrative
dependent	to modify nouns	to modify nouns	Adverbs	
	to connect sentences	to connect sentences	Adnominals Conjunctives	
	no element in sentences	no element in sentences	Interjections Particles	

Word Orders

In order to compose Japanese sentences correctly, you have to know the word orders well. The rule of the orders is very simple. You only have to know three orders.

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Elements

- V: verbal elements
- N: nominal elements
- M: modifier's elements

Operators

- f: final operators
- c: conjunctive operators
- a: attributive operators

Word Orders

- **Vf**: verbal elements followed by final operators
- **(V or N or M)cV**: verbal elements followed by conjunctive operators
- **(V or N or M)aN**: nominal elements followed by attributive operators

	Elements			Operators		
	V	N	M	f	c	a
Verbs	OK			OK	OK	OK
Adjectival Verbs	OK			OK	OK	OK
Auxiliary Verbs	OK			OK	OK	OK
Nouns		OK				(*1)
Verbal Nouns	OK	OK				
Adjectival Nouns	OK	(*2)				
Demonstrative			OK		OK	OK
Adverbs		(*3)			OK	OK
Adnominal			OK			OK
Conjunctives			OK		OK	OK
Interjections			OK		OK	OK
Particles			(*4)		OK	OK

- (*1) Some of nouns have the property of "Nc" without particles.
- (*2) Some of adjectival nouns have the property of "N".
- (*3) Some of adverbs have the property of "V".
- (*4) Some of particles have the property of "v".

Correspondence of Pronouns, Cases, Articles, Interrogative

Pronouns, Cases

Japanese dose not have the correspondence of personal pronouns and case inflections strictly. However, it can express the same idea by combining several words. In this chapter, you do not have to get serious to understand the details. The following table shows us the same functions which personal pronouns have in English.

Inflections of Personal Pronouns					
first		single	second		case marker

- E: English
- J: Japanese
- K: Japanese Kana

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	E	J	K	E	J	K	J	K
subjective	I	wátashi ga	watashi ga	you	ánata ga	ánata ga	ga	が
possessive	my	wátashi no	watashi no	your	ánata no	ánata no	no	の
direct objective	me	wátashi ni	watashi ni	you	ánata o	ánata o	o	を
indirect objective		wátashi ni	watashi ni	ánata ni	ánata ni	ánata ni	ni	に

	single					
	third			neuter		
	masculine			feminine		
	E	J	K	E	J	K
subjective	he	káre ga	care ga	she	kánojo ga	kanjo ga
possessive	his	káre no	care no	hers	kánojo no	kanjo no
direct objective		káre o	care o	her	kánojo o	kanjo o
indirect objective	him	káre ni	care ni	it	kánojo ni	kanjo ni

	plural					
	first			second		
	E	J	K	E	J	K
subjective	we	wátashi-tachi ga	watashi-tachi ga	you	ánata-tachi ga	ánata-tachi ga
possessive	our	wátashi-tachi no	watashi-tachi no	your	ánata-tachi no	ánata-tachi no
direct objective		wátashi-tachi o	watashi-tachi o	you	ánata-tachi o	ánata-tachi o
indirect objective	us	wátashi-tachi ni	watashi-tachi ni	you	ánata-tachi ni	ánata-tachi ni

Demonstrative Pronouns

English has a demonstrative system which separates "near to the speaker" and "near to the hearer". On the other hand, Japanese has a demonstrative system which separates "near to the speaker", "near to the hearer", and "far from both the speaker and the hearer". Japanese demonstrative words must be followed by case markers so that you use them in sentences. However, you may not have to use the plural forms unless you need to clear the number of objects.

	near to the speaker			near to the hearer			far from both		
	E	J	K	E	J	K	E	J	K
subjective		kóre ga	core ga		sóre ga	so-re ga		áre ga	are ga
possessive(=I)		kóno	cono		sóno	sono		áno	ano
single direct objective		kóre o	core o		sóre o	so-re o		áre o	are o
indirect objective		kóre ni	core ni		sóre ni	so-re ni		áre ni	are ni
plural subjective		kóre-ra ga	core-ra ga		sóre-ra ga	so-re-ra ga		áre-ra ga	are-ra ga
possessive		kóre-ra no	core-ra no		sóre-ra no	so-re-ra no		áre-ra no	are-ra no

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	direct objective	kóre-ra o	core-ra o	sóre-ra o	so-re-ra o	áre-ra o	are-ra o
	indirect objective	kóre-ra ni	core-ra ni	sóre-ra ni	so-re-ra ni	áre-ra ni	are-ra ni

- (1) You use the special forms when they are used as the possessive case.

Articles

Japanese has no articles, however, you can use the following words when you have to express them explicitly. They belong to adnominals classified by Japanese parts of speech.

	E	J	K
infinite article a, an		iru	aru
definite article the	so	sono	sono

Numbers, Genders

Japanese nouns do not distinguish the forms of the words for numbers and genders. They use perfectly the same form. Furthermore, Japanese verbs do not have any conjugation for numbers and genders, although they have rich conjugations for tenses, aspects, voices and so on.

- **desuku** (ですく): It is only one form to express a desk, desks, the desk and the desks.

Interrogatives

In order to ask something, you have to use interrogative words, otherwise, you could not communicate with one another smoothly. English provides typical interrogative words called 5W1H. The following tables show us the correspondence of them. Most of Japanese interrogative words belong to demonstrative classified by the parts of speech.

	Interrogative Pronouns						Interrogative Adverbs					
	person			object			choice					
	E	J	K	E	J	K	E	J	K	E	J	K
subjective	who	dare ga	dare ga	what	nani ga	nani ga	where	doko de	doko de	when	itsu	itsuu
possessive(=I)	whose	dare no	dare no	which	nani no	nani no	place	doko de	doko de	reason	why	naze
direct objective		dare o	dare o		nani o	nani o		doko ni	doko ni	method	how	dou
indirect objective	whom	dare ni	dare ni		nani ni	nani ni		doko ni	doko ni			dou

Question Mark

• **ka** (か): Japanese has an explicit simple question marker. You can construct a simple interrogative sentence by adding "ka" to the end of the sentence

Response Words

- **hai** (はい): When you agree with a questioner, you use "hai".
- **ie** (いいえ): When you disagree with a questioner, you use "ie".

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m ^(#4)	m	ma	mæ	me	mê	mi	mo	mu	mü	myu
	mu	ma	ma	me	me	mi	mo	mu	mu	myu
n	n	na	na	ne	ne	ni	no	nu	nü	nyu
	n	na	na	ne	ne	ni	no	nu	nu	nyu
ng ^(#5)	ng									
	ngu	ng								
p ^(#3)	p	pa	pæ	pe	pê	pi	po	pu	pü	pyu
	pu	pa	pa	pe	pe	pi	po	pu	pu	pyu
r ^(#6)	r	ra	ræ	re	rê	ri	ro	ru	rü	ryu
	a	ra	ra	re	re	ri	ro	ru	ru	ryu
s	s	sa	sæ	se	sê	si	so	su	sü	
	su	sa	sa	se	se	si	so	su	su	
sh	sh	sha	shæ	she	shê	shi	sho	shu	shü	
	shu	sha	sha	she	she	shi	sho	shu	shu	
t ^(#3)	t	ta	tæ	te	tê	ti	to	tu	tü	tyu
	to	ta	ta	te	te	ti	to	tu	tu	tyu
th	th	tha	thæ	the	thê	thi	tho	thu	thü	
	su	sa	sa	se	se	si	so	su	su	
ts ^(#3)	ts									
	tsu	ts								
v	v	va	væ	ve	vê	vi	vo	vu	vü	vyu
	vu	va	va	ve	ve	vi	vo	vu	vu	vyu
w		wa	wæ	wè	wê	wi	wo	wu	wü	
		wa	wa	wè	wè	wi	wo	wo	wo	
y		ya	yæ	yè	yê	yí	yo	yu	yü	
		ya	ya	yè	yè	yí	yo	yo	yo	yu
z	z	za	zæ	ze	zê	zi	zo	zu	zü	
	zu	za	za	ze	ze	zi	zo	zu	zu	

- (*1) An ambiguous vowel "ê" refers to the original spelling, unless the following letter is "r". If "êr" locates at the end of a word, pronounce long vowel "ahr".
 - Refer to "a" as in account [ɛkaunt] then pronounce "a".
 - Refer to "e" as in absent [æbsənt] then pronounce "e".
 - Refer to "r" as in ability [əbɪlənt] then pronounce "r".
 - Refer to "o" as in object [əbɪdʒt] then pronounce "o".
 - Refer to "u" as in until [ɛntɪl] then pronounce "a".
- (*2) A weak vowel "i" refers to the original spelling. If "i" locates at the end of a word, pronounce long vowel "ih".
 - Refer to "a" as in manager[ˌmænɪdʒɪl] then pronounce "ei".
 - Refer to "ay" as in yesterday[yestɪdɪ] then pronounce "ei".
 - Refer to "e" as in enjoy[ɛnɔɪ] then pronounce "e".
 - Refer to "i" as in ability[əbɪlənt] then pronounce "i".

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- (*3) If these consonants locate at the end of a word and follow a monophthong, change them into double consonants.
 - b → bb, ch → ich, d → dd, g → gg, j → jj, k → Kk, p → pp, t → tt, ts → tss, z → zz
- (*4) If "m" precedes "n", "m", "p", pronounce "m" and spell "n".
- (*5) If "ng" precedes "k", "g", pronounce "ng" and spell "n".
- (*6) If single "r" appears at the middle of a word, ignore it. If it locates at the end of a word, pronounce as a long vowel before "a", "ê" or pronounce "a" before "o".

Vowels (Long and Diphthongs)

a	e	è	i	o	u	yu
a:		è:	i:	o:	u:	yu:
ah	ah	ih	oh	uh	uh	yu
	eè	èè	ii	oo	uu	yué
é	ea	ia	oa	ua	ya	yua
	ai	ei	oi			
i	ai	ei	oi	oi	oi	
au			ou			
u	au		ou	ou	ou	
au	au		ou	ou	ou	

Stressed vowels

English stressed vowels are generally treated as vowels whose position is at high to low pitch in Japanese.

- approach → ɔpɹoʊtʃ (アツロウチ)
- giant → ˌdʒaɪənt (シヤアツオト)

Sample Kana Spelling generated by the Rules

- [200 Words Sample](#)

Nouns, Adjectival Nouns, Verbal Nouns

Japanese has common nouns, collective nouns, proper nouns, material noun and abstract nouns in the idea as well as English. However, they do not have to be distinguished as a point of the grammar, because Japanese has no number inflection of nouns. Only as for proper nouns, the orthography of Japanese Romanization requests to uses a capital letter at the first letter of them just as well as English orthography. Meanwhile, Japanese has two types of nouns, which are grammatically unique to ordinary nouns. They have two behaviors of parts of speech. One has adjectival and nominal behaviors. It is called Adjectival Nouns. The other has verbal and nominal behaviors. It is called Verbal Nouns. They are usually loan words from ancient Chinese and modern English. They substitute for verbs and adjectival Verbs, by accompanying special auxiliary verbs.

Ordinary Nouns

Ordinary nouns are Japanese typical nouns. They have no inflection of numbers. They can perform a subject or an object in a sentence. They can also perform a possessive part.

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Désuku, kyábhinetto are ordinary nouns in the following tables.

Particle "no" is a possessive marker to connect nouns.

English	Japanese	Japanese Kana
a desk		
desks	désuku (*1)	デスク
the desk		
the desks		
my desk	wátashi no désuku	わたしのデスク
my desks		
his desk's cabinet	kàre no désuku no kyábhinetto	かれのデスクのキャビネット
a cabinet of his desk		

- (*1) If strict expressions are really necessary, you might say it as follows.
 - o a desk, desks → áru désuku (ある デスク)
 - o the desk → sóno désuku (その デスク)
 - o the desks → sóre-ra no désuku (それらの デスク)

Adjectival Nouns

Adjectival nouns are the nearest part of speech to English adjectives, except they need a particle to modify nouns. Indeed, if an adjectival noun is a loan word from English, the original English word is also an adjective generally. The difference between adjectival nouns and ordinary nouns is that adjectival nouns are not modified by nouns with particle "no". They do not modify nouns with particle "no", either. They use particle "na" to modify nouns. Of course a few of adjectival nouns have an exceptional behaviors that they can modified nouns and be modified by nouns with "no".

Puráiveito, páburikku are adjectival nouns in the following tables.

Particle "na" is an attributive marker to modify nouns.

English	Japanese	Japanese Kana
a private document	puráiveito na dókkyumento	プライベートなドキュメント
a public document	páburikku na dókkyumento	パブリックなドキュメント
my public document	wátashi no páburikku na dókkyumento (*1)	わたしのパブリックなドキュメント
the public document of mine		

- (*1) "Wátashi no páburikku na dókkyumento" is divided into two parts. One is "wátashi no dókkyumento", the other is "páburikku na dókkyumento". "Wátashi no" does not modify "páburikku" directly but "dókkyumento".
- If you know Japanese native words corresponding to loan words from English, you should use Japanese native words, because loan words as adjectival nouns are stranger than loan words as nouns.
- Indeed, particle "na" is an adjectival inflection of a copula verb.

Verbal Nouns

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Verbal nouns generally express actions and motions, and have the same characters as ordinary nouns. They modify nouns with particle "no", they are modified with particle "no". Besides these characteristics, verbal nouns have the parts of characteristics which verbs have, although they do not have any conjugation as verbs have. They behave like verbs, followed by verb "suru". This chapter introduces two behaviors of verbal nouns, although those may be regarded as advanced usages for beginners. Those are very unique behaviors which nouns and verbs do not have.

Púrèi is a verbal noun in the following tables.

Verbal Nouns as Ordinary Nouns

English	Japanese	Japanese Kana
play of tennis	ténisu no púrèi	テニスのプレイ
our play of tennis	wátashi-tachi no ténisu no púrèi	わたしたちのテニスのプレイ

Verbal Nouns with an objective marker "o".

	English	Japanese	Japanese Kana
	before play of tennis	ténisu no púrèi-naè	テニスのプレイまえ
before	before playing tennis	ténisu o púrèi-naè	テニスをプレイまえ
during	during play of tennis	ténisu no púrèi-chuu	テニスのプレイちゅう
during	during playing tennis	ténisu o púrèi-chuu	テニスをプレイちゅう
after	after play of tennis	ténisu no púrèi-gò	テニスのプレイご
after	after playing tennis	ténisu o púrèi-gò	テニスをプレイご

Verbal Nouns with a subjective marker "ga".

	English	Japanese	Japanese Kana
	before our play of tennis	wátashi-tachi no ténisu no púrèi-naè	わたしたちのテニスのプレイまえ
before	before our playing tennis	wátashi-tachi ga ténisu o púrèi-naè	わたしたちがテニスをプレイまえ
during	during our play of tennis	wátashi-tachi no ténisu no púrèi-chuu	わたしたちのテニスのプレイちゅう
during	during our playing tennis	wátashi-tachi ga ténisu o púrèi-chuu	わたしたちがテニスをプレイちゅう
after	after our play of tennis	wátashi-tachi no ténisu no púrèi-gò	わたしたちのテニスのプレイご
after	after our playing tennis	wátashi-tachi ga ténisu o púrèi-gò	わたしたちがテニスをプレイご

You can never say "wátashi-tachi ga ténisu o púrèi" itself in the correct grammar. However, you can say

- Wátashi-tachi ga ténisu o púrèi-suru. (We play tennis.)
- Wátashi-tachi ga ténisu o púrèi-naè. (Before our playing tennis.)
- Wátashi-tachi ga ténisu o púrèi-chuu. (During our playing tennis.)
- Wátashi-tachi ga ténisu o púrèi-gò. (After our playing tennis.)

On the other hand, you can never say "wátashi-tachi no ténisu no púrèi-suru" in the correct grammar. However, you can say

- wátashi-tachi no ténisu no púrèi (our play of tennis)

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- *watashi-tachi no tēnisu no pūrei-mae* (before our play of tennis)
- *watashi-tachi no tēnisu no pūrei-chuu* (during our play of tennis)
- *watashi-tachi no tēnisu no pūrei-go* (after our play of tennis)

Numerals and Classifiers

Japanese have rich combinations of numerals and classifiers. This correct usage sometimes bothers even native speakers of Japanese. In my opinion this rich combinations are sometimes harmful and fruitless, while the rich combinations of verbal conjugation are fruitful to express subtle ideas. Using classifiers properly is a measure of cultural knowledge among Japanese, although it contains many meaningless expressions to inform an event correctly, so a beginner of Japanese does not have to do it correctly. This chapter introduces the minimum information about numerals and classifiers. If I have a chance to arrange them, I may write an additional document about them in future.

Base Numbers

Base numbers consist of logical and plain combinations except a few sound changes. There is no special name for 11, 12, 20 as in English or in French. All combinations follow the decimal counter perfectly. Of course, there are other ways to count numbers. However, these ways are not in general but idiomatic usages.

Base Numbers

	English	Japanese	Kana	Comment
0	zero	rei	ゼロ	
1	one	ichi	イチ	(*2)
2	two	ni	ニ	
3	three	sān	サン	(*2)
4	four	yōn	ヨン	(*1)
5	five	go	ゴ	
6	six	rōku	ロク	(*2)
7	seven	nāna	ナナ	(*1)
8	eight	hachi	ハチ	(*2)
9	nine	kyūu	キュウ	(*1)
10	ten	jūu	ジュウ	(*2)
100	one hundred	hyāku	ヒャク	(*2)
1,000	one thousand	sēn	セン	(*2)
10,000	ten thousand	ichimān	いちまん	
100,000,000	one hundred million	ichī-oku	いちおく	
1,000,000,000,000	one trillion	it-chōu	いちちよう	(*2)

- (*1) When you count up numbers from one to ten sequentially, 4, 7, 9 are sometimes called "shi", "shichi", "ku", but these sounds are similar with other numbers, you do not use these sounds in individual usages to avoid misunderstandings.
- (*2) These numbers change their sounds in special combinations.
 - 300: sān + hyaku → *sān-byaku* (さんびやく)
 - 600: rōku + hyaku → *rōp-pyaku* (ろっぴやく)
 - 800: hachi + hyaku → *hap-pyaku* (はっぴやく)

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Counting Rule 1

Grouping units of four columns

2,222,222,222,222,222 = {2,222}{222,222}{22,222}{2,222} is called

ni-sēn ni-hyaku ni-jū ni-chōu

ni-sēn ni-hyaku ni-jū ni-oku

ni-sēn ni-hyaku ni-jū ni-man

ni-sēn ni-hyaku ni-jū ni.

Counting Rule 2

Skipping sound "ichi" before "jū", "hyāku" and "sēn"

1,111,111,111,111,111 = {1,111}{111,111}{11,111}{1,111} is called

sēn hyāku jū it-chōu

sēn hyāku jū ichi-oku

sēn hyāku jū ichi-mān

sēn hyāku jū ichi.

Counting Rule 3

Skipping columns valued with 0

2,220 is called *ni-sēn ni-hyaku ni-jū.*

2,202 is called *ni-sēn ni-hyaku ni.*

2,022 is called *ni-sēn ni-jū ni.*

Classifiers

Classifiers are one of the most annoying features of Japanese. You have to remember thousands of combinations with counted things and counting classifiers idiomatically. There is no other way but memorizing more than one hundred classifiers in order to compose Japanese expressions related to numbers exactly. This way is impossible even for native speakers of Japanese to perform perfectly, to tell the truth. The chapter picks up 3 classifiers. I hope these 3 classifiers cover more than 90% expressions conveniently in order to count objects.

	people		animate objects		inanimate objects, things	
	Japanese	Kana	Japanese	Kana	Japanese	Kana
1	<i>ichi-nin</i> (*1)	いちにん	<i>ip-piki</i>	いっぴき	<i>ik-ko</i>	いっこ
2	<i>ni-nin</i> (*1)	ににん	<i>ni-hiki</i>	にひき	<i>ni-ko</i>	にこ
3	<i>sān-nin</i>	さんにん	<i>sān-biki</i>	さんびき	<i>sān-ko</i>	さんこ
4	<i>yō-nin</i>	よにん	<i>yōn-hiki</i>	よんひき	<i>yōn-ko</i>	よんこ
5	<i>go-nin</i>	ごにん	<i>go-hiki</i>	ごひき	<i>go-ko</i>	ごこ
6	<i>rōku-nin</i>	ろくにん	<i>rōp-piki</i>	ろっぴき	<i>rōk-ko</i>	ろっこ
7	<i>nānā-nin</i>	ななにん	<i>nānā-hiki</i>	ななひき	<i>nānā-ko</i>	ななこ
8	<i>hachi-nin</i>	はちにん	<i>hāp-piki</i>	はっぴき	<i>hāk-ko</i>	はっこ

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9	kyū-nin	きゆうにん	kyū-hiki	きゆうひき	kyū-ko	きゆうこ
10	jū-nin	じゆうにん	jū-piki	じゆうひき	jū-ko	じゆうこ
100	hyāku-nin	ひゃくにん	hyāp-piki	ひゃつひき	hyāk-ko	ひゃっこ
1,000	sēn-nin	せんにん	sēn-biki	せんひき	sēn-ko	せんこ
10,000	ichi-man-nin	いちまんにん	ichi-man-biki	いちまんひき	ichi-man-ko	いちまんこ

- (1) These words are generally used for combined usages as "jū-ich-nin". In uncombined usages, You use "hitori" for a person, "futari" for two people.

Ordinal Numbers

In order to express ordinal numbers, you have only to add suffix "-me" after classifiers.

- **sān-nin no dōrivah!** (three drivers) → **sān-nin-me no dōrivah!** (the third driver)
- **ni-hiki no māusu** (two mice) → **ni-hiki-me no māuse** (the second mouse)
- **yōn-ko no ōranji** (four oranges) → **yōn-ko-me no ōranji** (the forth orange)

Verbs, Adjectival Verbs, Auxiliary Verbs

The Verbal Conjugation

Japanese has a rich conjugation system, comparing English. (But it is not as rich as Romance languages.) This chapter introduces whole conjugation tables of Japanese verbs. To understand all is unnecessary for beginners of Japanese. However, to know the outline is very useful for them, since you can imagine what Japanese can express by these table.

		The Verbal System		adjectival verb		copula		polite verb (-masu)		polite copula (desu)	
		weak verb	strong verb					-masu	desu		
Inflection	present	indicative	-ru	-u	-i	da	-masu	desu			
		enumeration				nari					
		conditional	-eba		-eba	-kereba	nara				
		imperative	-ro		-e			-mase (*3)			
		subjunctive	-you		-ou	-karou (*2)	darou	-mashou	deshou		
past	participle	[use stem]		-i	-ku	ni					
		indicative	-ta		-katta	atta	-mashita	deshita			
		participle	-te		-kute	de	-mashite (*3)	deshite (*3)			
negative	participle	-zu		-azu			-masen (*4)				

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Derivative	negative verb	-na-i	-ana-i	
	causative verb	-sase-ru	-ase-ru	
	passive verb	-rare-ru	-are-ru	
	potential verb	-(ra)e-ru (*1)	-e-ru	

- Japanese has 6 types of conjugation excluding irregular types. They are *weak verbs* for verbs whose stems end with a vowel, *strong verbs* for verbs whose stems end with a consonant, *adjectival verbs*, *the copula*, *polite verbs* which consist of verbs followed by a polite auxiliary verb and *the polite copula* which is the polite correspondence of the copula.
- Japanese has 3 layers in the verbal system. The upper layer classifies the inflections and the derivatives. The second layer classifies the past and the present. The lower layer has 6 forms. Then it has one trace for the negative present by historical reasons.
- Japanese verbs have 4 derivative verbs. They are *negative verbs* which is conjugated as an adjectival verb, *causative verbs*, *passive verbs* and *potential verbs*. All of the last 3 derivative verbs are conjugated as present and the past. The present includes not only the literal meaning but also the future, the habitual action, the nature rules and Japanese has 2 tenses which are the present and the past. The present includes not only the literal meaning but also the future, the habitual action, the nature rules and the historical present. The past also includes various meanings as well as the literal meaning. It includes the perfect and the confirmation. These two tenses have an influence on subordinate clauses.
- Japanese has 6 forms in the lower layers. They are 3 predicative forms and 3 conjunctive forms. 3 predicative forms correspond to 3 moods, the indicative, the imperative and the subjunctive. **Especially, the present indicative and the past indicative are simply called the present and the past as the abbreviation.** On the other hand, the other 3 conjunctive forms are the enumeration, the conditional and the participle. In classic Japanese, it had almost complete set of 6 forms for the past and the negative as well as the present. However, they are simplified and isolated to another words, so the total number of the inflections is 9, which are 6 for the present, 2 for the past, 1 for the negative in modern Japanese. When you express all sets of forms for the past and the negative, you use inflectional particles, which come form the inflections of the copulas, with another forms and another derivative verbs correspondingly.
- (*1) The potential inflection of weak verbs sometimes omit their sound from "rareru" to "reru" in colloquial conversation. It is called "ra-nuki (ra-omission)" in Japanese.
- (*2) The subjunctive inflection of adjectival verbs is usually replaced with "-i darou", which is the present inflection followed by the subjunctive of the copula. For polite contexts, "ideshou" is used.
- (*3) These inflections are not used generally. They are mainly used in classic documents, formal documents or idiomatc expressions, when you come across them.
- (*4) The negative form of the polite verb is not the participle but the indicative. In some dialects and some speeches, the negative verb "-na-i" is abbreviated as follows.
 - **the negative present indicative: "-na-i" → "-n" or "-nu".**
 - **the negative present conditional: "-na-kereba" → "-neba".**

Inflectional particles are not included in parts of speech. They fill the lost forms of the verbal system, such as the past enumeration as so on.

- **the present enumeration:** the present + "nari", which is the enumeration of the copula.
- **the present conditional:** the present + "nari", which is the conditional of the copula.
- **the present subjunctive:** the present + "darou", which is the subjunctive of the copula.
- **the past enumeration:** the past + "nari", which is the enumeration of the copula.
- **the past conditional:** the past + "nari", which is the conditional of the copula.
- **the past subjunctive:** the past + "darou", which is the subjunctive of the copula.
- **the negative imperative:** the present + "na", which is a special particle to express prohibition.
- **the negative subjunctive:** the present + "nai", which is a special particle to express negative intent mainly.
- **the negative past participle:** the negative verb + "de", which is the past participle of the copula.

Inflectional Particles

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	particle	verb		adjectival verb	copula	polite verb (-masu)	polite copula (desu)
		weak verb	strong verb				
present	enumeration	nari	-ru nari	-i nari	nari	-masu nari	desu nari
	conditional	nara	-ru nara	-i nara	nara	-masu nara	desu nara
past	subjunctive	darou	-ru darou	-i darou	darou		
	enumeration	nari (*1)	-ta nari	-katta nari	datari nari	-mashita nari	deshitari nari
	conditional	nara (*2)	-ta nara	-katta nara	datari nara	-mashita nara	deshitari nara
negative	subjunctive	darou (*3)	-ta darou	-katta darou	datari darou		
	imperative	na	-ru na	-u na			
negative past	subjunctive	mai (*4)	-(ru) mai	-u mai			
	particle	de	-na-i de	-ana-i de		-imasu mai	

- (*1) The past enumeration usually drops "na" in "nari". So the popular forms are "tari", "kattari", "dattari" and so on.
- (*2) The past conditional usually drops "na" in "nara". So the popular forms are "tara", "kattara", "dattara" and so on.
- (*3) The past subjunctive does not usually drop "da" in "darou".
- (*4) The negative subjunctive usually drops "ru" in "ru mai", when it follows weak verbs.

Inflectional polite particles add polite meanings to inflections. They come from the inflections of the polite copula.

- **the polite present:** the present + " desu ", which is the present of the polite copula.
- **the polite present subjunctive:** the present + " deshou ", which is the subjunctive of the polite copula.
- **the polite past:** the past + " desu ", which is the present of the polite copula.
- **the polite past subjunctive:** the past + " deshou ", which is the subjunctive of the polite copula.

Inflectional Polite Particles

	particle	verb		adjectival verb	copula
		weak verb	strong verb		
present	indicative	desu		-i desu	
	subjunctive	deshou	-ru deshou	-i deshou	
past	indicative	desu	-ta desu (*1)	-katta desu	datari desu (*2)
	subjunctive	deshou	-ta deshou	-katta deshou	datari deshou

- (*1) This form "ta desu" is not formal in writing. It is mainly used in colloquial conversations instead of the formal form "-mashita".
- (*2) This form "datari desu" is not formal in writing. It is mainly used in colloquial conversations instead of the formal form "deshitari".

Sound Changes of Strong Verbs

A Dictionary

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Combination	Stem + Inflection	Real Forms	Japanese ¹	Kana	English
K -k + t → -i-	kak + t → kait-	kāta, kaitte, kaitara, kaitari	kāku	か<	to write
R -r + t → -it-	kar + t → kait-	kāta, kaitte, kaitara, kaitari	kāku	か<	to write
S -s + t → -shit-	kas + t → kashit-	kāshita, kashite, kashitara, kashitari	kāsu	か<	to cut
T -t + t → -it-	kat + t → kait-	kāta, kaitte, kaitara, kaitari	kāsu	か<	to lend
W -w + t → -ite-	kaw + t → kait-	kāta, kaitte, kaitara, kaitari	kāu	か<	to win
B -b + t → -nd-	ukab + t → ukand-	ūkanda, ukande, ukandara, ukandari	ūkabu	うかぶ<	to float
G -g + t → -id-	kag + t → kaid-	kāida, kaidte, kaidara, kaidari	kāgu	か<	to smell
M -m + t → -nd-	kam + t → kand-	kānda, kānde, kāndara, kāndari	kāmu	か<	to bite
N -n + t → -nd-	shin + t → shind-	shinda, shinde, shindara, shindari	shinu	しぬ	to die
S -s + i → -shi	kas + i → kashi	kāshi			
T -t + i → -ghi	kat + i → kachi	kāchi			
T -t + u → -tsu	kat + u → katsu	kātsu			
W -w + i → -i	kaw + i → kai	kāi			
W -w + u → -u	kaw + u → kau	kāu			
W -w + e → -e-	kaw + e → kae-	kāe, kaeba, kaeru			
W -w + ou → -ou	kaw + ou → kaou	kāou			

- Strong verbs whose stems end with a consonant have some sound changes mainly for their past and past participle, because Japanese, which is an open syllabic language, needs special considerations when the last consonant of a verbal stem is followed by the inflections.
- The first 11 patterns are caused by double consonants, the last 7 patterns are caused by palatalization or omission.

Irregular Verbs

Inflection		Modern S	Classic S	Classic Z	K	Japanese	Kana	English
present	indicative	-suru		-zuru	kūru	sūru	する	to do
	conditional	-sureba		-zureba	kūreba	dēkiru	できる	to be able
	imperative	-shiro		-jiro	kōi	kūru	くる	to come
	subjunctive	-shiyou		-jiyou	kōyou	āisu	あいす	to love
past	participle	-shi		-ji	ki	nassu	ねっす	to heat
	indicative	-shita		-jita	kita	kānjinru	かんじんる	to feel
	participle	-shite		-jite	kite	shinjinru	しんじんる	to believe
	negative participle	-sezu		-zezu	kōzu	ākiru	あきる	to get tired of
Derivative	negative verb	-shina-i		-jina-i	kōna-i	ākaru-i	あかるい	to open
	causative verb	-sase-ru		-sesase-ru	kōsase-ru			
	passive verb	-sare-ru		-serare-ru	kōrarē-ru			
	potential verb	-deki-ru (*1)		-serare-ru	kō(ra)re-ru			

A Dictionary

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- the present enumeration: the present + "nari"
- the past enumeration: the past + "ri" (the past + "nari" is an alternation.)
- the past conditional: the past + "ra" (the past + "nari" is an alternation.)
- the negative imperative: the present + "na"
- the negative subjunctive: the present + "nai" (Weak verbs drop "ru" preceding "nai".)
- the negative past participle: the present of negative verbs + "de"

- Japanese has 2 types of irregular conjugation (Modern S, K) for primitive verbs, and 3 types (Modern S, Classic S, Classic Z) for compound verbs.
- Classic S appears in one Chinese character followed by "suru". However, This type is merged into a strong verb, for example, "ai-suru" into "ais-u", "nase-suru" into "nase-u". You do not have to speak Classic S, although you have to understand it when you hear it.
- Classic Z appears in one Chinese character followed by zuru. Voiced from suru ; However, This type is merged into a weak verb, for example, "kan-zuru" into "kan-jiru", "shin-zuru" into "shin-jiru". You do not have to speak Classic Z, although you have to understand it when you hear it.
- Irregular Verb K contains only one word "kuru".
- Modern S is frequently used by verbal nouns combined with "suru".
- (1) The potential derivative verb of "suru" is perfectly a different originated verb from "suru". The verb is "dekinu" conjugated as a weak verb.

References

Conjugation Table-1

	Weak Verbs		Irregular Verbs	
	I	E	Modern S	K
dictionary	akiru	akeru	suru	kuru
inflection	indicative	-ru	-ru	-ru
	conditional	-reba	su	ku
	imperative	-ro	-ro	-reba
	subjunctive	-you	-you	-i
	participle	-ta	shi	ko
Derivative	past participle	aki	-ta	ki
	negative verb	-te	-te	-te
	causative verb	-zu	se	zu
	passive verb	-na-i	-na-i	-na-i
	potential verb	-ra	-ra	-ra

- the present enumeration: the present + "nari"
- the past enumeration: the past + "ri" (the past + "nari" is an alternation.)
- the past conditional: the past + "ra" (the past + "nari" is an alternation.)
- the negative imperative: the present + "na"
- the negative subjunctive: the present + "nai" (Weak verbs drop "ru" preceding "nai".)

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- the negative past participle: the present of negative verbs + "de"

Conjugation Table-2

	Strong Verbs				
	K	R	S	T	W
dictionary	kaku	karu	kasu	katsu	kau
inflection	indicative	-u	-u	-u	-u
	conditional	-eba	-eba	-eba	-eba
	imperative	kae	kae	e	kae
	subjunctive	-ou	-ou	-ou	-ou
	participle	-i	-i	ka	ka
Derivative	past participle	ka	ka	ka	ka
	negative verb	-te	-te	-te	-te
	causative verb	-azu	-azu	-azu	-azu
	passive verb	-na-i	-na-i	-na-i	-na-i
	potential verb	-ra	-ra	-ra	-ra

- the present enumeration: the present + "nari"
- the past enumeration: the past + "ri" (the past + "nari" is an alternation.)
- the past conditional: the past + "ra" (the past + "nari" is an alternation.)
- the negative imperative: the present + "na"
- the negative subjunctive: the present + "nai" (Weak verbs drop "ru" preceding "nai".)
- the negative past participle: the present of negative verbs + "de"

Conjugation Table-3

	Strong Verbs			
	B	G	M	N
dictionary	ukabu	kagu	kamu	shinu
inflection	indicative	-u	-u	-u
	conditional	-eba	-eba	-eba
	imperative	uka	ka	ka
	subjunctive	-e	-e	-e
	participle	-ou	-ou	-ou
Derivative	past participle	uka	ka	ka
	negative verb	-de	-de	-de
	causative verb	-azu	-azu	-azu
	passive verb	-na-i	-na-i	-na-i
	potential verb	-ra	-ra	-ra

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Case 2a

- (K): 子イブが ジェニファーを 上げます。
- (J): Daviddo ga Jennifer' o yôbi-mâsu.
- (E): David calls Jennifer.

Case 2b

- (K): だれが ジェニファーを 上げますか。子イブが 上げます。
- (J): Dare ga Jennifer' o yôbi-mâsu ka? Daviddo ga yôbi-mâsu.
- (E): Who calls Jennifer? David does.

Case 2c

- (K): 子イブが だれを 上げますか。ジェニファーを 上げます。
- (J): Daviddo ga dare' o yôbi-mâsu ka? Jennifer' o yôbi-mâsu.
- (E): Who does David call? He calls Jennifer.

The Negative

To create negative polite forms is very easy. It is only to change the end of "masu".

Negative

Affirmative	Inflection	negative
shi-mâsu	shi-mas + en →	shi-masen

How to use negative polite present forms

Case 1a

- (K): マリアが マーケットを リサーチしました。
- (J): Maria ga mah'ketto' o risah'chi shi-masen.
- (E): Maria does not researches the market.

Case 1b

- (K): マリアが マーケットを リサーチしますか。はい、します。いいえ、しません。
- (J): Maria ga mah'ketto' o risah'chi shi-masu ka? Hai, shi-masu. Iie, shi-masen.
- (E): Does Maria researches the market? Yes, she does. No, she doesn't.

Case 2a

- (K): ジョンが コートを ぬぎません。
- (J): Jon ga koh'to' o nugi-masen.
- (E): John does not take off his coat.

Case 2b

- (K): ジョンが コートを ぬぎますか。はい、ぬぎます。いいえ、ぬぎません。
- (J): Jon ga koh'to' o nugi-masu ka? Hai, nugi-masu. Iie, nugi-masen.
- (E): Does John take off his coat? Yes, he does. No, he doesn't.

The Tense

Japanese has two types of basic tenses, the present and the past. As general usages, these type are almost correspond to the present and the past. However, the present contains the future and the past contains the perfect. Of course, Japanese has many expression to distinguish slight tenses by using auxiliary verbs and helping verbs. However, these two types are most essential to compose Japanese sentences.

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Tenses

	present	inflection	past
affirmative	shi-mâsu	shi-mas + i + ta	shi-mâshita
negative	shi-masen	shi-masen + deshita	shi-masen deshita

How to use polite past forms

Case 1a

- (K): マリアが マーケットを リサーチしました。
- (J): Maria ga mah'ketto' o risah'chi shi-mashita.
- (E): Maria researched the market.

Case 1b

- (K): だれが マーケットを リサーチしましたか。マリアが しました。
- (J): Dare ga mah'ketto' o risah'chi shi-mashita ka? Maria ga shi-mashita.
- (E): Who researched the market? Maria did.

Case 1c

- (K): マリアが だれを リサーチしましたか。マリアが しました。
- (J): Maria ga nani' o risah'chi shi-mashita ka? Mah'ketto' o risah'chi shi-mashita.
- (E): What did Maria research? She researched the market.

Case 1d

- (K): マリアが マーケットを リサーチしました。
- (J): Maria ga mah'ketto' o risah'chi shi-masen deshita.
- (E): Maria did not research the market.

Case 1e

- (K): マリアが マーケットを リサーチしました。はい、しました。いいえ、しません。
- (J): Maria ga mah'ketto' o risah'chi shi-mashita ka? Hai, shi-mashita. Iie, shi-masen deshita.
- (E): Did Maria research the market? Yes, she did. No, she didn't.

Case 2a

- (K): スーザンが ミューズィックを ききました。
- (J): Susan ga myu'h'zikk'u' o kiki-mashita.
- (E): Susan listened to music.

Case 2b

- (K): だれが ミューズィックを ききましたか。スーザンが きました。
- (J): Dare ga myu'h'zikk'u' o kiki-mashita ka? Suh'zan ga kiki-mashita.
- (E): Who listened to music? Susan did.

Case 2c

- (K): スーザンが だれを ききましたか。ミューズィックを ききました。
- (J): Suh'zan ga nani' o kiki-mashita ka? Myu'h'zikk'u' o kiki-mashita.
- (E): What did Susan listen to? She listened to music.

Case 2d

- (K): スーザンが ミューズィックを ききませんでした。
- (J): Suh'zan ga myu'h'zikk'u' o kiki-masen deshita.
- (E): Susan did not listen to music.

Case 2e

- (K): スーザンが ミューズィックを ききましたか。はい、ききました。いいえ、ききませんでした。
- (J): Suh'zan ga myu'h'zikk'u' o kiki-mashita ka? Hai, kiki-mashita. Iie, kiki-masen deshita.
- (E): Did Susan listen to music? Yes, she did. No, she didn't.

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The Mood

This section introduces three moods of Japanese. The first is the indicative mood which has been already introduced above. The second is the imperative mood. The last is the subjunctive mood. However, the subjunctive mood is not same as English. It should be called "the intent mood" and "the probable mood". And it is divided into 2 parts, "the intent" and "the probable".

How to make the imperative mood with politeness

- affirmative: past participle + "kudasai"
- negative: past participle + "kudasai"

How to make the intent mood with politeness

- affirmative: present participle + "-mashou" which is the subjunctive form of the polite verb.
- negative: present participle + "-masu ma" which is the present form of the polite verb followed by "ma".

How to make the probable mood with politeness

- affirmative present: present form + " deshou" which is the subjunctive form of the polite copula.
- affirmative past: past form + " deshou" which is the subjunctive form of the polite copula.
- negative present: negative present + " deshou" which is the subjunctive form of the polite copula.
- negative past: negative past + " deshou" which is the subjunctive form of the polite copula.

In order to construct the sentences of these moods, you need to know the five forms first. They are the past form and the past participle form of the affirmative, the present form, the past form and the past participle of the negative.

How To Make Past Forms

	dictionary		past	
	stem	inflection		↓
Weak Verb	E néru	ne	+ ta →	néta
	I miru	mi	+ ta →	mita
	K kiku	ki	+ ta →	kitta
	R naru	na	+ ta →	natta
	S dasu	da	+ ta →	dashita
Strong Verb	T máisu	ma	+ ta →	matta
	W iu	iw	+ ta →	itta
	B yóbu	yob	+ ta →	yōnda
	G nūgu	nug	+ ta →	nūnda
	M nōmu	nom	+ ta →	nōnda
N shinu	shin	+ ta →	shinda	
K kuru	k	+ i + ta →	kita	

How To Make Negative Forms

	dictionary		negative	
	stem	derivative		↓
Weak Verb	E néru	ne	+ na-i →	néna-i
	I miru	mi	+ na-i →	mína-i
	K kiku	ki	+ a + na-i →	kikena-i
	R naru	na	+ a + na-i →	narána-i
	S dasu	da	+ a + na-i →	dásána-i
Strong Verb	T máisu	ma	+ a + na-i →	mátána-i
	W iu	iw	+ a + na-i →	iwána-i
	B yóbu	yob	+ a + na-i →	yōbana-i
	G nūgu	nug	+ a + na-i →	nūgána-i
	M nōmu	nom	+ a + na-i →	nōmána-i
N shinu	shin	+ a + na-i →	shinana-i	
K kuru	k	+ o + na-i →	kóna-i	

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Irregular Verb	S	suru	s	+ i + ta →	shita
• past participle: change the ending of the past form					
					o -ta → -te
					o -da → -de

Irregular Verb	S	suru	s	+ i + na-i →	shina-i
• past: change the ending					
• past participle: change the ending					
					o -na-i → -na-i-de

The following table shows you how to make the imperative, subjunctive moods.

Moods I (Kana Table 1)

imperative	affirmative		shite		(past participle)	
	negative	affirmative	shina-i-de	(negative past participle)	+ kudasai →	shite kudasai
intent	affirmative	shi	(present participle)	+ -mashou →	shi-mashou	
	negative	shi	(present participle)	+ -masu + mai →	shi-masu mai	
subjunctive	affirmative	present suru	(present)	+ deshou →	suru deshou	
		past shita	(past)	+ deshou →	shita deshou	
	prohibable	present shina-i	(negative present)	+ deshou →	shinà-i deshou	
		past shina-katta	(negative past)	+ deshou →	shinà-katta deshou	

How to use polite imperative forms

Case 1a

- (K): マリアさん、マールケットをリサーチしてください。
- (J): Maria-san, mah'ketto 'o risai'chi shite kudasai.
- (E): Ms. Maria, please research the market.

Case 1b

- (K): マリアさん、マールケットをリサーチしないでください。
- (J): Maria-san, mah'ketto 'o risai'chi shina-i de kudasai.
- (E): Ms. Maria, please don't research the market.

Case 2a

- (K): ジェイムズさん、ワインをのんでください。
- (J): Jaimuzu-san, wain 'o nonde kudasai.
- (E): Mr. James, please drink wine.

Case 2b

- (K): ジェイムズさん、ワインをのまないでください。
- (J): Jaimuzu-san, wain 'o nomana-i de kudasai.
- (E): Mr. James, please don't drink wine.

How to use polite subjunctive (intent) forms

Case 1a

- (K): マリアさん、マールケットをリサーチしましょう。
- (J): Maria-san, mah'ketto 'o risai'chi shi-mashou.
- (E): Ms. Maria, let's research the market.

Case 1b

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- (K): マリアさん、何をリサーチしましたか。サーチをリサーチしました。
 - (J): Maria-san, nani o risah'chi shi-mashou ka? mah'ketto o risah'chi shi-mashou.
 - (E): Ms. Maria, what shall we research. Let's research the market.
- Case 1c
- (K): マリアさん、サーチをリサーチしますか。
 - (J): Maria-san, mah'ketto o risah'chi shi-masu mai.
 - (E): Ms. Maria, let's not research the market.
- Case 1d
- (K): マリアさん、サーチをリサーチしましたか。はい、しました。いいえ、しません。
 - (J): Maria-san, mah'ketto o risah'chi shi-mashou ka? Hai, shi-mashou. Iie, shi-masu mai.
 - (E): Ms. Maria, shall we research the market? Yes, let's. No, let's not.
- Case 2a
- (K): ドクターになりました。
 - (J): Dokutah' ni nari-mashou.
 - (E): I will become a doctor.
- Case 2b
- (K): なにになりましたか。ドクターになりました。
 - (J): Nani ni nari-mashou ka? Dokutah' ni nari-mashou.
 - (E): What shall we become. We will become doctors.
- Case 2c
- (K): ドクターになりますか。
 - (J): Dokutah' ni nari-masu mai.
 - (E): I will not be a doctor.
- Case 2d
- (K): ドクターになりましたか。はい、になりました。いいえ、なりません。
 - (J): Dokutah' ni nari-mashou ka? Hai, nari-mashou. Iie, nari-masu mai.
 - (E): Shall we become doctors? Yes, let's. No, let's not.

How to use polite subjunctive (probable present) forms

- Case 1a
- (K): マリアがサーチをリサーチするでしょう。
 - (J): Maria ga mah'ketto o risah'chi suru deshou.
 - (E): Maria will probably research the market.
- Case 1b
- (K): だれがサーチをリサーチするでしょう。マリアがするでしょう。
 - (J): Dare ga mah'ketto o risah'chi suru deshou ka? Maria ga suru deshou.
 - (E): Who will research the market? Maria will probably.
- Case 1c
- (K): マリアがなにをリサーチするでしょう。サーチをリサーチするでしょう。
 - (J): Maria ga nani o risah'chi suru deshou ka? Mah'ketto o risah'chi suru deshou.
 - (E): What will Maria research? She will probably research the market.
- Case 1d
- (K): マリアがサーチをリサーチしないでしょう。
 - (J): Maria ga mah'ketto o risah'chi shina-i deshou.
 - (E): Maria will not probably research the market.
- Case 1e
- (K): マリアがサーチをリサーチするでしょう。はい、するでしょう。いいえ、しないでしょう。

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- (J): Maria ga mah'ketto o risah'chi suru deshou ka? Hai, suru deshou. Iie, shina-i deshou.
 - (E): Will Maria research the market? Yes, she will probably. No, she won't probably.
- Case 2a
- (K): カレンがムービーをみるでしょう。
 - (J): Karen ga muh'vii' o miru deshou.
 - (E): Karen will probably see a movie.
- Case 2b
- (K): カレンがムービーをみるでしょう。カレンがみるでしょう。
 - (J): Dare ga muh'vii' o miru deshou ka? Karen ga miru deshou.
 - (E): Who will see a movie? Karen will probably.
- Case 2c
- (K): カレンがなにをみるでしょう。ムービーをみるでしょう。
 - (J): Karen ga nani o miru deshou ka? Muh'vii' o miru deshou.
 - (E): What will Karen see? She will probably see a movie.
- Case 2d
- (K): カレンがムービーをみないでしょう。
 - (J): Karen ga muh'vii' o mina-i deshou.
 - (E): Karen will not probably see a movie.
- Case 2e
- (K): カレンがムービーをみるでしょうか。はい、みるでしょう。いいえ、みないでしょう。
 - (J): Karen ga muh'vii' o miru deshou ka? Hai, miru deshou. Iie, mina-i deshou.
 - (E): Will Karen see a movie? Yes, she will probably. No, she won't probably.
- How to use polite subjunctive (probable past) forms
- Case 1a
- (K): マリアがサーチをリサーチしたでしょう。
 - (J): Maria ga mah'ketto o risah'chi shita deshou.
 - (E): Maria would probably research the market.
- Case 1b
- (K): だれがサーチをリサーチしたでしょう。マリアがしたでしょう。
 - (J): Dare ga mah'ketto o risah'chi shita deshou ka? Maria ga shita deshou.
 - (E): Who would research the market? Maria would probably.
- Case 1c
- (K): マリアがなにをリサーチしたでしょうか。サーチをリサーチしたでしょう。
 - (J): Maria ga nani o risah'chi shita deshou ka? Mah'ketto o risah'chi shita deshou.
 - (E): What would Maria research? She would probably research the market.
- Case 1d
- (K): マリアがサーチをリサーチしなかったでしょう。
 - (J): Maria ga mah'ketto o risah'chi shina-katta deshou.
 - (E): Maria would not probably research the market.
- Case 1e
- (K): マリアがサーチをリサーチしたでしょう。はい、したでしょう。いいえ、しませんでした。
 - (J): Maria ga mah'ketto o risah'chi shita deshou ka? Hai, shita deshou. Iie, shina-katta deshou.
 - (E): Would Maria research the market? Yes, she would probably. No, she wouldn't probably.
- Case 2a
- (K): ロバートがバスをまったでしょう。
 - (J): Robah'to ga basu o matta deshou.

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- (E): Robert would probably wait for the bus.

Case 2b

- (K): だれがバスをまたたせよか。ロバートがまたたせよ。
- (J): Dare ga basu o mata deshou ka? Robah'to ga mata deshou.
- (E): Who would wait for the bus? Robert would probably.

Case 2c

- (K): ロバートがなにをまたたせよか。バスをまたたせよ。
- (J): Robah'to ga nani o mata deshou ka? Basu o mata deshou.
- (E): What would Robert wait for? He would probably wait for the bus.

Case 2d

- (K): ロバートがバスをまたたかっただけだ。
- (J): Robah'to ga basu o mata-na-katta deshou.
- (E): Robert would not probably wait for the bus.

Case 2e

- (K): ロバートがバスをまたたせよか。はい、またたせよ。いいえ、またたかっただけだ。
- (J): Robah'to ga basu o mata deshou ka? Hai, mata deshou. Iie, mata-na-katta deshou.
- (E): Would Robert wait for the bus? Yes, he would probably. No, he wouldn't probably.

Future

Japanese does not have any special inflection to express future events. It uses the present form for a certain future event, the probable present form for an uncertain future event. Indeed, the real meaning of the present form is the present, the future and the habitual form which contains future events as well as present events.

How to express future tenses

Case 1a. (a certain event)

- (K): マリアがマーケットをリサーチします。
- (J): Maria ga mah'ketto o risah'chi shi-masu.
- (E): Maria will research the market.

Case 1b (an uncertain event)

- (K): マリアがマーケットをリサーチするでしょう。
- (J): Maria ga mah'ketto o risah'chi suru deshou.
- (E): Maria will probably research the market.

A Summary

The following table shows you a chart of the tenses.

A chart of the tenses of "suru" [Kana Table]

tenses	moods	English	Japanese Polite	Ref. Japanese Plain
A F I	indicative	do	shi- nà su	suru
	uncertain	do probably	suru deshou	suru darou
F I	subjunctive	would do	suru deshou	suru darou
	intent	let's do	shi- na sh'ou	shiy'ou
I	imperative	Do	shite kudasai	shiro

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R M A T	past	indicative	did	shi- nà shita	shita
		uncertain	did probably	shita desu(*1)	
I T V	future	subjunctive	would have done	shita deshou	shita darou
		indicative	will do	shi- nà su	suru
E N	present	uncertain	will do probably	suru deshou	suru darou
		indicative	do not do	shi- na sen shina-i desu(*1)	shina-i
G E	imperative	uncertain	do not do probably	shina-i deshou	shina-i darou
		subjunctive	would not do	shi- na su m'ai	suru m'ai
A T I V	past	intent	let's not do	shinà-i de kudasai	suru na
		imperative	Don't do	shinà-i	
E N	future	indicative	did not do	shi- na sen deshita	shina-katta
		uncertain	did not do probably	shina-katta desu(*1)	
I T V	past	indicative	did not do	shi- na sen deshita	shina-katta
		uncertain	did not do probably	shina-katta desu(*1)	
E N	future	subjunctive	would not have done	shina-katta deshou	shina-katta darou
		indicative	will not do	shi- na sen shina-i desu(*1)	shina-i
I T V	past	certain	will not do	shi- na sen shina-i desu(*1)	shina-i
		uncertain	will not do probably	shina-i deshou	shina-i darou

- (*1) colloquial variants (not used in formal conversations)

Verbs, Adjectival Verbs, Auxiliary Verbs

This page introduces Japanese verbs of existence. To understand verbs of existence is very important in order to understand the copulas and adjectival verbs.

Existence

Japanese has two types of verbs in order to express existence. One is "aru", which is classified into strong verbs, for motionless objects the other is "iru", which is classified into weak verbs, for motion objects including human beings. The negation of "aru" is replaced with "nai", which is classified into adjectival verbs. On the other hand, the negation of "iru" is derived into "ina-i", which is the negative derivative verb. However, "na-i" and "ina-i" are mainly used as basic forms. Some polite negation forms are expressed by the inflections of the polite verb "-masu".

The Polite PresentHow to Make The Polite Present

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dictionary	present participle		polite verb		polite present	
	stem	inflection	↓	affirmative	↓	negative
motionless	aru	+ i →	ari + masu →	ari-masu	ari-masen	ari-masen
motional	iru	i →	i + masu →	i-masu	i-masen	i-masen

How to use the polite present forms

Case 1a

- (K): ナイフが キッチンに あります。
- (J): **Naifu ga kitchin ni arimasu.**
- (E): **A knife is in the kitchen.**

Case 1b

- (K): ナイフが キッチンに ありません。
- (J): **Naifu ga kitchin ni arimasen.**
- (E): **A knife is not in the kitchen.**

Case 1c

- (K): ナイフが キッチンに ありますか、はい、あります。いいえ、ありません。
- (J): **Naifu ga kitchin ni arimasu ka? Hi, arimasu. Iie, arimasen.**
- (E): **Is a knife in the kitchen? Yes, it is. No, it isn't.**

Case 1d

- (K): 包に 刀が キッチンに ありますか、ナイフが あります。
- (J): **Nani ga kitchin ni arimasu ka? Naifu ga arimasu.**
- (E): **What is in the kitchen? A knife is.**

Case 1e

- (K): ナイフが どこに ありますか、キッチンに あります。
- (J): **Naifu ga doko ni arimasu ka? Kitchin ni arimasu.**
- (E): **Where is a knife? It is in the kitchen.**

Case 2a

- (K): リサが リビングルームに います。
- (J): **Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni imasu.**
- (E): **Lisa is in the living room.**

Case 2b

- (K): リサが リビングルームに いません。
- (J): **Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni imasen.**
- (E): **Lisa is not in the living room.**

Case 2c

- (K): リサが どこに ありますか、はい、います。いいえ、いません。
- (J): **Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni imasu ka? Hi, imasu. Iie, imasen.**
- (E): **Is Lisa in the living room? Yes, she is. No, she isn't.**

Case 2d

- (K): だれが リビングルームに いますか、リサが います。
- (J): **Dare ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni imasu ka? Risa ga imasu.**
- (E): **Who is in the living room? Lisa is.**

Case 2e

- (K): リサが どこに いますか、リビングルームに います。
- (J): **Risa ga doko ni imasu ka? Rivingu-ruh'umu ni imasu.**
- (E): **Where is Lisa? She is in the living room.**

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The Polite Past

How to Make The Polite Past

	present participle		polite verb (past)		polite past	
	stem	inflection	↓	affirmative	↓	negative
motionless	aru	+ i →	ari + mashita →	ari-mashita	ari-masen deshita	
motional	iru	i →	i + mashita →	i-mashita	i-masen deshita	

How to use the polite past forms

Case 1a

- (K): ナイフが キッチンに ありました。
- (J): **Naifu ga kitchin ni arimashita.**
- (E): **A knife was in the kitchen.**

Case 1b

- (K): ナイフが キッチンに ありませんでした。
- (J): **Naifu ga kitchin ni arimasen deshita.**
- (E): **A knife was not in the kitchen.**

Case 1c

- (K): ナイフが キッチンに ありましたか、はい、ありました。いいえ、ありませんでした。
- (J): **Naifu ga kitchin ni arimashita ka? Hi, arimashita. Iie, arimasen deshita.**
- (E): **Was a knife in the kitchen? Yes, it was. No, it wasn't.**

Case 1d

- (K): 包に 刀が キッチンに ありましたか、ナイフが ありました。
- (J): **Nani ga kitchin ni arimashita ka? Naifu ga arimashita.**
- (E): **What was in the kitchen? A knife was.**

Case 1e

- (K): ナイフが どこに ありましたか、キッチンに ありました。
- (J): **Naifu ga doko ni arimashita ka? Kitchin ni arimashita.**
- (E): **Where was a knife? It was in the kitchen.**

Case 2a

- (K): リサが リビングルームに いました。
- (J): **Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni imashita.**
- (E): **Lisa was in the living room.**

Case 2b

- (K): リサが リビングルームに いませんでした。
- (J): **Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni imasen deshita.**
- (E): **Lisa was not in the living room.**

Case 2c

- (K): リサが どこに いましたか、はい、いました。いいえ、いませんでした。
- (J): **Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni imashita ka? Hi, imashita. Iie, imasen deshita.**
- (E): **Was Lisa in the living room? Yes, she was. No, she wasn't.**

Case 2d

- (K): だれが リビングルームに いましたか、リサが いました。
- (J): **Dare ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni imashita ka? Risa ga imashita.**
- (E): **Who was in the living room? Lisa was.**

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Case 2e

- (K): リサがどこにいましたか、リビングルームにいました。
- (J): Risa ga doko ni i-mashita ka? Rivingu-ruh'umu ni i-mashita.
- (E): Where was Lisa? She was in the living room.

[The Polite Subjunctive Present](#)[How to Make The Polite Subjunctive Present](#)

	dictionary	present stem inflection	polite subjunctive present ↓ affirmative	negative
affirmative	motionless aru	ar + u →	aru deshou	
	motionless iru	i + ru →	iru deshou	
negative	motionless na-i	na + i →	na-i	na-i deshou
	motionless ina-i	ina + i →	ina-i	ina-i deshou

[How to use the polite subjunctive present forms](#)

Case 1a

- (K): ナイフがキッチンにあるでしょう。
- (J): Naifu ga kitchin ni aru deshou.
- (E): A knife is probably in the kitchen.

Case 1b

- (K): ナイフがキッチンにないでしょう。
- (J): Naifu ga kitchin ni nai deshou.
- (E): A knife is not probably in the kitchen.

Case 2a

- (K): リサがリビングルームにいますでしょう。
- (J): Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni iru deshou.
- (E): Lisa is probably in the living room.

Case 2b

- (K): リサがリビングルームにいませんでしょう。
- (J): Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni inai deshou.
- (E): Lisa is not probably in the living room.

This list does not introduce the interrogative sentences with the subjunctive forms, because they are not simple correspondence to the indicative sentences. They contain courteous nuance.

[The Polite Subjunctive Past](#)[How to Make The Polite Subjunctive Past](#)

	dictionary	past stem inflection	polite subjunctive past ↓ affirmative	negative
affirmative	motionless aru	ar + ta →	atta deshou	
	motionless aru	ar + ta →	atta deshou	

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	motionless na-i	na + katta →	na-katta	na-katta deshou
negative	motionless ina-i	ina + katta →	ina-katta	ina-katta deshou

[How to use the polite subjunctive past forms](#)

Case 1a

- (K): ナイフがキッチンにあったでしょう。
- (J): Naifu ga kitchin ni atta deshou.
- (E): A knife was probably in the kitchen.

Case 1b

- (K): ナイフがキッチンになかったでしょう。
- (J): Naifu ga kitchin ni na-katta deshou.
- (E): A knife was not probably in the kitchen.

Case 2a

- (K): リサがリビングルームにいたでしょう。
- (J): Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni ita deshou.
- (E): Lisa was probably in the living room.

Case 2b

- (K): リサがリビングルームにいませんでした。
- (J): Risa ga rivingu-ruh'umu ni inai deshou.
- (E): Lisa was not probably in the living room.

This list does not introduce the interrogative sentences with the subjunctive forms, because they are not simple correspondence to the indicative sentences. They contain courteous nuance.

[The Polite Imperative and Intent Mood](#)

Motional objects have their own will. They can have imperative and intent moods.

[How to Make The Polite Imperative Mood](#)

	dictionary	present participle stem inflection	polite imperative mood ↓ affirmative	negative
affirmative	motionless iru	i + te →	ite kudasai	
negative	motionless ina-i	ina + i de →	ina-i de kudasai	

[How to use the polite imperative forms](#)

Case 1a

- (K): リサさん、リビングルームにいてください。
- (J): Risa-san, rivingu-ruh'umu ni ite kudasai.
- (E): Lisa, please stay in the living room.

Case 1b

- (K): リサさん、リビングルームにいたないうでください。
- (J): Risa-san, rivingu-ruh'umu ni inai de kudasai.

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- (E): Lisa, please do not stay in the living room.

How to Make The Polite Intent Mood

	dictionary	present participle	polite verb (subjunctive)	polite intent mood
	stem	inflection ↓	↓	affirmative
modal	iru	い →	+ mashou →	-i mashou negative

How to use the polite intent forms

Case 1a

- (K): リサさん、リビングルームにいます。
Risa-san, rivingu-ruh'umu ni i-mashou.
- (J): Lisa, let's stay in the living room.

Case 1b

- (K): リサさん、リビングルームにいますまい。
Risa-san, rivingu-ruh'umu ni i-masu-mai.
- (E): Lisa, let's not stay in the living room.

A Summary.

The following table shows you a chart of the tenses.

A chart of the tenses of "aru" (a strong verb) [Kana Table 1]

tenses	moods		English		Japanese Polite		Ref. Japanese Plain	
	certain	uncertain	am/are/is probably	would be	āri-māsu	āru	āru	āru darou
A present	indicative	certain	am/are/is probably	would be	āri-māsu <td>āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td></td>	āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td>	āru <td>āru darou</td>	āru darou
F present	subjunctive	uncertain	am/are/is probably	would be	āru deshou <td>āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td></td>	āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td>	āru <td>āru darou</td>	āru darou
I present	imperative	certain	let's be	Be	āri-māshita	āta	āta	āta darou
M present	imperative	uncertain	let's be	Be	āta desu(*)	āta deshou	āta	āta darou
A past	indicative	certain	was/were	would have been	āta deshou	āta	āta	āta darou
M past	subjunctive	uncertain	was/were probably	would have been	āri-māsu <td>āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td></td>	āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td>	āru <td>āru darou</td>	āru darou
E future	indicative	certain	will be	will be probably	āru deshou <td>āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td></td>	āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td>	āru <td>āru darou</td>	āru darou
V future	indicative	uncertain	will be probably	will be probably	āru deshou <td>āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td></td>	āru <td>āru <td>āru darou</td> </td>	āru <td>āru darou</td>	āru darou
N present	indicative	certain	am/are/is not	would not be	nā-i deshou <td>nā-i <td>nā-i <td>nā-i darou</td> </td></td>	nā-i <td>nā-i <td>nā-i darou</td> </td>	nā-i <td>nā-i darou</td>	nā-i darou
E present	subjunctive	uncertain	am/are/is not probably	would not be	āri-masen	nā-i desu(*)	nā-i <td>nā-i darou</td>	nā-i darou
N future	indicative	certain	am/are/is not	would not be	nā-i deshou <td>nā-i <td>nā-i <td>nā-i darou</td> </td></td>	nā-i <td>nā-i <td>nā-i darou</td> </td>	nā-i <td>nā-i darou</td>	nā-i darou
E future	subjunctive	uncertain	am/are/is not probably	would not be	āri-masen deshita	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou
A past	indicative	certain	was/were not	would not have been	nā-katta desu(*)	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou
G past	indicative	uncertain	was/were not probably	would not have been	nā-katta desu(*)	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou
A past	subjunctive	uncertain	was/were not probably	would not have been	nā-katta deshou <td>nā-katta</td> <td>nā-katta</td> <td>nā-katta darou</td>	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou
T past	subjunctive	uncertain	was/were not probably	would not have been	nā-katta deshou <td>nā-katta</td> <td>nā-katta</td> <td>nā-katta darou</td>	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou
V past	subjunctive	uncertain	was/were not probably	would not have been	nā-katta deshou <td>nā-katta</td> <td>nā-katta</td> <td>nā-katta darou</td>	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou

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E future	indicative	certain	will not be	āri-masen	nā-i desu(*)	nā-i	nā-i
		uncertain	will not be probably	nā-i deshou	nā-i darou	nā-i	nā-i darou

- (*) colloquial variants (not used in formal conversations)

A chart of the tenses of "iru" (a weak verb) [Kana Table]

tenses	moods		English		Japanese Polite		Ref. Japanese Plain	
	certain	uncertain	am/are/is probably	would be	i-māsu	iru	iru	iru darou
A present	indicative	certain	am/are/is probably	would be	i-māsu <td>iru <td>iru <td>iru darou</td> </td></td>	iru <td>iru <td>iru darou</td> </td>	iru <td>iru darou</td>	iru darou
F present	subjunctive	uncertain	am/are/is probably	would be	iru deshou <td>iru <td>iru <td>iru darou</td> </td></td>	iru <td>iru <td>iru darou</td> </td>	iru <td>iru darou</td>	iru darou
I present	imperative	certain	let's be	Be	i-mashou	iyou	iyou	iyou darou
M present	imperative	uncertain	let's be	Be	ite kudasai	irō	irō	irō darou
A past	indicative	certain	was/were	would have been	i-māshita	itā	itā	itā darou
M past	subjunctive	uncertain	was/were probably	would have been	itā desu(*)	itā deshou <td>itā</td> <td>itā darou</td>	itā	itā darou
T past	subjunctive	uncertain	was/were probably	would have been	itā desu(*)	itā deshou <td>itā</td> <td>itā darou</td>	itā	itā darou
V past	subjunctive	uncertain	was/were probably	would have been	itā desu(*)	itā deshou <td>itā</td> <td>itā darou</td>	itā	itā darou
E future	indicative	certain	will be	will be probably	i-māsu <td>iru <td>iru <td>iru darou</td> </td></td>	iru <td>iru <td>iru darou</td> </td>	iru <td>iru darou</td>	iru darou
V future	indicative	uncertain	will be probably	will be probably	iru deshou <td>iru <td>iru <td>iru darou</td> </td></td>	iru <td>iru <td>iru darou</td> </td>	iru <td>iru darou</td>	iru darou
N present	indicative	certain	am/are/is not	would not be	i-masen	nā-i desu(*)	nā-i	nā-i darou
E present	subjunctive	uncertain	am/are/is not probably	would not be	nā-i deshou <td>nā-i</td> <td>nā-i</td> <td>nā-i darou</td>	nā-i	nā-i	nā-i darou
N future	indicative	certain	am/are/is not	would not be	nā-i deshou <td>nā-i</td> <td>nā-i</td> <td>nā-i darou</td>	nā-i	nā-i	nā-i darou
E future	subjunctive	uncertain	am/are/is not probably	would not be	i-masu mai	iru nai	iru nai	iru nai darou
A past	indicative	certain	was/were not	would not have been	nā-katta desu(*)	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou
T past	indicative	uncertain	was/were not probably	would not have been	i-masen deshita	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou
V past	indicative	uncertain	was/were not probably	would not have been	nā-katta desu(*)	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou
E past	subjunctive	uncertain	was/were not probably	would not have been	nā-katta deshou <td>nā-katta</td> <td>nā-katta</td> <td>nā-katta darou</td>	nā-katta	nā-katta	nā-katta darou
F future	indicative	certain	will not be	will not be probably	i-masen	nā-i desu(*)	nā-i	nā-i darou
V future	indicative	uncertain	will not be probably	will not be probably	nā-i deshou <td>nā-i</td> <td>nā-i</td> <td>nā-i darou</td>	nā-i	nā-i	nā-i darou

- (*) colloquial variants (not used in formal conversations)

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Verbs, Adjectival Verbs, Auxiliary Verbs

Copula

Japanese has copulas which play the most important part in this language as well as most other languages. Japanese copulas provide the similar ideas with the verbs of existence which are introduced in the previous chapter. The copulas express equality in most cases. Japanese prepares two types of copulas, one is the plain copula, the other is the polite copula. Firstly, this chapter introduces whole the tenses of the polite copula, which provides the unique forms in order to express the affirmative, while it uses "de"(1), which is the past participle of the copula, followed by the negative of the verbs of existence in order to express the negative.

- (1) "De" is usually added to "wa" or replaced by "ja", which is a contraction of "de-wa", to express the negative, however, I pick up only "de" here because "de" is grammatically essential and it is easy to explain the relation between existence verbs, the copula, adjectival verbs.

[A chart of the tenses of the polite copula \(Kana Table\)](#)

	tenses	moods		English		Japanese Polite		Ref. Japanese Plain	
		certain	uncertain	am/are/is	am/are/is probably	désu	deshôu	dâ	darôu
A	present	indicative	subjunctive	am/are/is	am/are/is probably	désu	deshôu	dâ	darôu
F	past	indicative	certain	was/were	was/were probably	déshita	dâtta desu(1)	dâtta	dâtta darou
R		uncertain	was/were	was/were probably	dâtta desu(1)	dâtta	dâtta darou		
M	future	indicative	certain	will be	will probably be	désu	deshôu	dâ	darôu
I		uncertain	will have been	will probably have been	désu	deshôu	darôu		
V	present	indicative	certain	am/are/is	am/are/is not	de ar-i-masen	de nâ-i desu(1)	de nâ-i	de nâ-i darou
E		uncertain	am/are/is not probably	am/are/is not	de nâ-i desu(1)	de nâ-i	de nâ-i darou		
N	past	indicative	certain	was/were	was/were not	de ar-i-masen deshita	de nâ-katta deshou(1)	de nâ-katta	de nâ-katta darou
G		uncertain	was/were not probably	was/were not	de nâ-katta deshou(1)	de nâ-katta	de nâ-katta darou		
A	future	indicative	certain	will not be	will not probably be	de ar-i-masen	de nâ-i desu(1)	de nâ-i	de nâ-i darou
T		uncertain	will not have been	will not probably have been	de nâ-i desu(1)	de nâ-i	de nâ-i darou		
I	future	indicative	certain	will not be	will not probably be	de ar-i-masen	de nâ-i desu(1)	de nâ-i	de nâ-i darou
V		uncertain	will not have been	will not probably have been	de nâ-i desu(1)	de nâ-i	de nâ-i darou		
E	future	indicative	certain	will not be	will not probably be	de ar-i-masen	de nâ-i desu(1)	de nâ-i	de nâ-i darou
B		uncertain	will not have been	will not probably have been	de nâ-i desu(1)	de nâ-i	de nâ-i darou		

- (1) colloquial variants (not used in formal conversations)

Particle "wa"

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Before introducing sentences which are composited with copulas, this chapter introduce particle "wa". Particle "wa" has many features as you read it from many Japanese grammar books. Especially, this particle is famous for the contrary of "ga" and "wa". In this chapter, I define particle "wa" as a subject marker to explain sentences easily, although I redefine it in the later chapters. You can use "ga" as well as "wa", however, particle "wa" is generally used as a subject marker in sentences with the copulas. Particle "ga" gives a strong nuance to sentences when it is used with the copulas.

The Polite Present

How to use the polite present forms

Case 1a

- (K): ウリアムは ドクターです。
- (J): Wirianu 'wa dokutah' desu.
- (E): William is a doctor.

Case 1b

- (K): ウリアムは ドクターであります。
- (J): Wirianu 'wa dokutah' de ar-i-masen.
- (E): William is not a doctor.

Case 1c (1)

- (K): ドクターは ドクターです、はい、そうです、いいえ、そうです。
- (J): Wirianu 'wa dokutah' desu ka? Hai, sou desu. Iie, sou de ar-i-masen.
- (E): Is William a doctor? Yes, he is. No, he isn't.

Case 1d (2)

- (K): だれが ドクターですか、ウリアムが そうです。
- (J): Dare ga dokutah' desu ka? Wirianu ga sou desu.
- (E): Who is a doctor? William is.

Case 1e (3)

- (K): これは 筆ですか、それは ペンです。
- (J): Kore 'wa nani desu ka? Sore 'wa pen desu.
- (E): What is this? It is a pen.

- (1) "Sou" is a demonstrative noun. In most cases, Japanese can omit a pronoun when it is imaginable in a context. However, a demonstrative noun can not be omitted before the copulas.
- (2) When the subject of sentences is a interrogative noun, "ga" must be used as a subject marker, because a interrogative noun is always the most important word in sentences, they should be marked strongly.
- (3) You must not use "(X)Anata 'wa nani desu ka?" in Japanese, as well as "(X)What are you?" in English, because this direct expression to ask human attributes gives the listener a rude nuance. You use other indirect expressions, for example, "Anata 'wa nani o shite i-masu ka?" in Japanese, as well as "What do you do?" in English.

The Polite Past

How to use the polite past forms

Case 1a

- (K): ウリアムは ドクターでした。
- (J): Wirianu 'wa dokutah' deshita.
- (E): William was a doctor.

Case 1b

- (K): ウリアムは ドクターで ありませんでした。

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- (J): Wirriarnu 'wa dokutah' de ar-i-masen deshita.
 - (E): William was not a doctor.
- Case 1c(*1)
- (K): ウリアムはドクターでしたか。はい、そうでした。いいえ、そうではありません。
 - (J): Wirriarnu 'wa dokutah' deshita ka? Hai, sou deshita. Iie, sou de ar-i-masen deshita.
 - (E): Was William a doctor? Yes, he was. No, he wasn't.
- Case 1d(*2)
- (K): だねがドクターでしたか、ウリアムがそうでした。
 - (J): Dare ga dokutah' deshita ka? Wirriarnu ga sou deshita.
 - (E): Who was a doctor? William was.
- Case 1e(*3)
- (K): これはなにでしたか。それはペンでした。
 - (J): Kore 'wa nani deshita ka? Sore wa pen deshita.
 - (E): What was this? It was a pen.

- (*1),(*2),(*3) Please refer the above list.

The Polite Subjunctive Present

How to use the polite subjunctive present forms

Case 1a

- (K): ウリアムはドクターでしょう。
- (J): Wirriarnu 'wa dokutah' deshou.
- (E): William is probably a doctor.

Case 1b

- (K): ウリアムはドクターでないでしょう。
- (J): Wirriarnu 'wa dokutah' de na-i deshou.
- (E): William is not probably a doctor.

This list does not introduce the interrogative sentences with the subjunctive forms, because they are not simple correspondence to the indicative sentences. They contain courteous nuance.

The Polite Subjunctive Past

How to use the polite subjunctive past forms

Case 1a

- (K): ウリアムはドクターだったでしょう。
- (J): Wirriarnu 'wa dokutah' data deshou.
- (E): William was probably a doctor.

Case 1b

- (K): ウリアムはドクターでなかったでしょう。
- (J): Wirriarnu 'wa dokutah' de na-katta deshou.
- (E): William was not probably a doctor.

This list does not introduce the interrogative sentences with the subjunctive forms, because they are not simple correspondence to the indicative sentences. They contain

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courteous nuance.

The Polite Imperative and Intent Mood

The copulas do not have these types of inflections, although the subject of a sentence is a motional object which has wills like human beings, animals and so on. When you express these moods, you use ordinary verbs "haru" which means "to become", "suru" which means "to do", and so on.

Adjectival Verb

Adjectival verb is a unique part of speech in Japanese. There is no counterpart in English. Adjectival verb is regarded as "to be" + adjective in English. It has the tense forms in the inflections. Firstly, this chapter introduces whole the tenses of the adjectival verbs which provide the unique forms for the affirmative, while they use "-ku" + the negative of the verbs of existence for the negative. Next, the adjectival verbs provide adjectival usages and adverbial usages with their inflections. However, I skip explanation about them. I will explain them in later chapters.

A chart of the tenses of the adjectival verbs (Ikana Table)

tenses	moods	English		Japanese Polite		Ref. Japanese Plain		
		certain	am/are/is bright	ákaru-i desu	ákaru-i	certain	am/are/is not bright	ákaru-i darou
A / F present	indicative	certain	am/are/is bright <td>ákaru-i desu <td>ákaru-i</td> <td>certain</td> <td>am/are/is not bright <td>ákaru-i darou</td> </td></td>	ákaru-i desu <td>ákaru-i</td> <td>certain</td> <td>am/are/is not bright <td>ákaru-i darou</td> </td>	ákaru-i	certain	am/are/is not bright <td>ákaru-i darou</td>	ákaru-i darou
	uncertain	am/are/is bright probably <td>ákaru-i deshou <td>ákaru-i darou</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </td>	ákaru-i deshou <td>ákaru-i darou</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	ákaru-i darou				
I / I past	indicative	certain	was/were bright <td>ákaru-katta desu</td> <td>ákaru-katta</td> <td>certain</td> <td>was/were not bright <td>ákaru-katta darou</td> </td>	ákaru-katta desu	ákaru-katta	certain	was/were not bright <td>ákaru-katta darou</td>	ákaru-katta darou
	uncertain	was/were bright probably <td>ákaru-katta deshou</td> <td>ákaru-katta darou</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	ákaru-katta deshou	ákaru-katta darou				
E / E future	indicative	certain	will be bright <td>ákaru-i desu</td> <td>ákaru-i</td> <td>certain</td> <td>will be bright probably <td>ákaru-i darou</td> </td>	ákaru-i desu	ákaru-i	certain	will be bright probably <td>ákaru-i darou</td>	ákaru-i darou
	uncertain	will be bright probably <td>ákaru-i deshou</td> <td>ákaru-i darou</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	ákaru-i deshou	ákaru-i darou				
N / N present	indicative	certain	am/are/is not bright <td>ákaru-ku ar-i-masén</td> <td>ákaru-ku ná-i</td> <td>certain</td> <td>am/are/is not bright <td>ákaru-ku ná-i</td> </td>	ákaru-ku ar-i-masén	ákaru-ku ná-i	certain	am/are/is not bright <td>ákaru-ku ná-i</td>	ákaru-ku ná-i
	uncertain	am/are/is not bright probably <td>ákaru-ku ná-i deshou(*1)</td> <td>ákaru-ku ná-i darou</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	ákaru-ku ná-i deshou(*1)	ákaru-ku ná-i darou				
G / G past	indicative	certain	was/were not bright <td>ákaru-ku ar-i-masén deshita</td> <td>ákaru-ku ná-katta</td> <td>certain</td> <td>was/were not bright probably <td>ákaru-ku ná-katta darou</td> </td>	ákaru-ku ar-i-masén deshita	ákaru-ku ná-katta	certain	was/were not bright probably <td>ákaru-ku ná-katta darou</td>	ákaru-ku ná-katta darou
	uncertain	was/were not bright probably <td>ákaru-ku ná-katta deshou(*1)</td> <td>ákaru-ku ná-katta darou</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	ákaru-ku ná-katta deshou(*1)	ákaru-ku ná-katta darou				
I / I future	subjunctive	uncertain	would not be bright <td>ákaru-ku ná-i deshou</td> <td>ákaru-ku ná-i darou</td> <td>uncertain</td> <td>would not be bright probably <td>ákaru-ku ná-i darou</td> </td>	ákaru-ku ná-i deshou	ákaru-ku ná-i darou	uncertain	would not be bright probably <td>ákaru-ku ná-i darou</td>	ákaru-ku ná-i darou
	uncertain	would not have been bright <td>ákaru-ku ná-i deshou(*1)</td> <td>ákaru-ku ná-i darou</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	ákaru-ku ná-i deshou(*1)	ákaru-ku ná-i darou				
E / E future	indicative	certain	will not be bright <td>ákaru-ku ná-i deshou</td> <td>ákaru-ku ná-i darou</td> <td>uncertain</td> <td>will not be bright probably <td>ákaru-ku ná-i darou</td> </td>	ákaru-ku ná-i deshou	ákaru-ku ná-i darou	uncertain	will not be bright probably <td>ákaru-ku ná-i darou</td>	ákaru-ku ná-i darou
	uncertain	will not have been bright <td>ákaru-ku ná-i deshou(*1)</td> <td>ákaru-ku ná-i darou</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	ákaru-ku ná-i deshou(*1)	ákaru-ku ná-i darou				

- (*1) colloquial variants (not used in formal conversations)

The Polite Present

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How to use the polite present forms

Case 1a

- (K): ランプが あかっています。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-i desu.
- (E): The lamp is bright.

Case 1b

- (K): ランプが あかるく ありません。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-ku arimasen.
- (E): The lamp is not bright.

Case 1c

- (K): ランプが あかっていますか、はい、あかっています。いいえ、あかるく ありません。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-i desu ka? Hai, akaru-i desu. Iie, akaru-ku arimasen.
- (E): Is the lamp bright? Yes, it is. No, it isn't.

Case 1d

- (K): 灯に が あかいですか、ランプが あかっています。
- (J): Nani ga akaru-i desu ka? Ranzu ga akaru-i desu.
- (E): What is bright? The lamp is.

Case 1e

- (K): ランプは どうですか、あかっています。
- (J): Ranzu wa dou desu ka? Akaru-i desu.
- (E): How is the lamp. It is bright.

The Polite Past**How to use the polite past forms**

Case 1a

- (K): ランプが あかりました。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-katta desu.
- (E): The lamp was bright.

Case 1b

- (K): ランプが あかるく ありませんでした。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-ku arimasen deshita.
- (E): The lamp was not bright.

Case 1c

- (K): ランプが あかりましたですか、はい、あかりました。いいえ、あかるく ありませんでした。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-katta desu ka? Hai, akaru-katta desu. Iie, akaru-ku arimasen deshita.
- (E): Was the lamp bright? Yes, it was. No, it wasn't.

Case 1d

- (K): 灯に が あかりましたですか、ランプが あかりました。
- (J): Nani ga akaru-katta desu ka? Ranzu ga akaru-katta desu.
- (E): What was bright? The lamp was.

Case 1e

- (K): ランプは どうでしたか、あかりました。
- (J): Ranzu wa dou deshita ka? Akaru-katta desu.
- (E): How was the lamp. It was bright.

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The Polite Subjunctive Present**How to use the polite subjunctive present forms**

Case 1a

- (K): ランプが あかりたいです。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-i deshou.
- (E): The lamp is probably bright.

Case 1b

- (K): ランプが あかるく ないです。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-ku nai- deshou.
- (E): The lamp is not probably bright.

This list does not introduce the interrogative sentences with the subjunctive forms, because they are not simple correspondence to the indicative sentences. They contain courteous nuance.

The Polite Subjunctive Past**How to use the polite subjunctive past forms**

Case 1a

- (K): ランプが あかりましたら。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-katta deshou.
- (E): The lamp was probably bright.

Case 1b

- (K): ランプが あかるく なかったら。
- (J): Ranzu ga akaru-ku nakatta deshou.
- (E): The lamp was not probably bright.

This list does not introduce the interrogative sentences with the subjunctive forms, because they are not simple correspondence to the indicative sentences. They contain courteous nuance.

The Polite Imperative and Intent Mood

The adjectival verbs do not have these types of inflections, although the subject of a sentence is a motional object which has wills like human beings, animals and so on. When you express these moods, you use ordinary verbs "naru" which means "to become", "suru" which means "to do", and so on.

A relation between existence verbs, the copula and adjectival verbs**A relation between existence verbs, the copula and adjectival verbs [Kana Table]**

	English		the existence		the copula		adjectival verbs	
polite affirmative	past	certain	was/were	ari-mashita	the existence	deshita	the copula	adjectival verbs
	present	uncertain	was/were probably	ari-deshou	the existence	data deshou	the copula	-katta desu
polite negative	past	certain	was/were not	ari-masen	the existence	desu	the copula	-i desu
	present	uncertain	was/were not probably	aru deshou	the existence	deshou	the copula	-i deshou

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	past	certain	was/were not		ari-masen deshita	de ari-masen deshita	ku ari-masen deshita
negative	present	certain	was/were not probably		na-katta deshou	de na-katta deshou	ku na-katta deshou
		uncertain	am/are/is not probably		ari-masen	de ari-masen	ku ari-masen
	past	certain	was/were		na-i deshou	de na-i deshou	ku na-i deshou
		uncertain	was/were probably		atta	atta	katta
affirmative	present	certain	am/are/is probably		atta darou	atta darou	katta darou
		uncertain	am/are/is probably		aru darou	da	-i darou
plain	past	certain	was/were not		na-katta	de na-katta	ku na-katta
		uncertain	was/were not probably		na-katta darou	de na-katta darou	ku na-katta darou
negative	present	certain	am/are/is not		na-i	de na-i	ku na-i
		uncertain	am/are/is not probably		na-i darou	de na-i darou	ku na-i darou

Verbs, Adjectival Verbs, Auxiliary Verbs

Voices

This chapter introduces Japanese voices. Japanese have three voices, the causative voice, the passive voice, the potential voice. Although the causative and the potential are not members of voices according to a strict definition. Logical Japanese Grammar define them as members of voices, because these three voice are derived from ordinary verbs regularly. Then these derivative verbs change the rules of particles for cases, the subjective marker "ga", the object marker "ni", "o", comparing with the original verbs, while expressions for the polite and the tenses do not change the rules of particles for cases. The derivative verbs are unique to the verbs. The adjectival verbs and the copula do not have these derivations. All the derivative verbs are classified into the weak verbs.

How To Make Causative Forms

	dictionary	causative verbs		meaning
		stem	derivative	
Weak Verb	E neru	ne	+ s + aseru →	nesaseru to let somebody sleep
	I miru	mi	+ s + aseru →	misaseru to let somebody see
Strong Verb	K kiku	kik	+ aseru →	kikaseru to let somebody hear
	R naru	nar	+ aseru →	naraseru to let somebody become
Strong Verb	S dasu	das	+ aseru →	dasaseru to let somebody put out
	T matsu	mat	+ aseru →	mataseru to let somebody wait
Strong Verb	W iu	iw	+ aseru →	iwaseru to let somebody say
	B yobu	yob	+ aseru →	yobaseru to let somebody call
Strong Verb	G nugu	nug	+ aseru →	nugaseru to let somebody undress
	M nomu	nom	+ aseru →	nomaseru to let somebody drink

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	N shinu	shin	+ aseru →	shinaseru to let somebody die
Irregular Verb	K kuru	k	+ os + aseru →	kosaseru to let somebody come
	S suru	s	+ aseru →	saseru to let somebody do

How To Make Passive Forms

	dictionary	passive verbs		meaning
		stem	derivative	
Weak Verb	E neru	ne	+ r + areru →	nerareru to let somebody sleep unwillingly
	I miru	mi	+ r + areru →	mirareru to let somebody see unwillingly
Strong Verb	K kiku	kik	+ areru →	kikareru to be heard
	R naru	nar	+ areru →	narareru to let somebody hear unwillingly
Strong Verb	S dasu	das	+ areru →	dasareru to let somebody become unwillingly
	T matsu	mat	+ areru →	matareru to let somebody put out unwillingly
Strong Verb	W iu	iw	+ areru →	iwareru to let somebody say unwillingly
	B yobu	yob	+ areru →	yobareru to let somebody call unwillingly
Strong Verb	G nugu	nug	+ areru →	nugareru to be undressed
	M nomu	nom	+ areru →	nomareru to let somebody drink unwillingly
Irregular Verb	N shinu	shin	+ areru →	shinareru to let somebody die unwillingly
	K kuru	k	+ or areru →	korareru to let somebody come unwillingly
Irregular Verb	S suru	s	+ areru →	sareru to be done
	S suru	s	+ areru →	sareru to let somebody do unwillingly

How To Make Potential Forms

	dictionary	potential verbs		meaning
		stem	derivative	
Weak Verb	E neru	ne	+ (ra)r + eru →	ne(ra)yeru to be able to sleep
	I miru	mi	+ (ra)r + eru →	mi(ra)yeru to be able to see
Strong Verb	K kiku	kik	+ eru →	kikeru to be able to hear
	R naru	nar	+ eru →	nareru to be able to become
Strong Verb	S dasu	das	+ eru →	daseru to be able to put out
	T matsu	mat	+ eru →	materu to be able to wait
Strong Verb	W iu	iw	+ eru →	ieru (*) to be able to say
	B yobu	yob	+ eru →	yoberu to be able to call
Strong Verb	G nugu	nug	+ eru →	nugeru to be able to undress
	M nomu	nom	+ eru →	nomeru to be able to drink
Strong Verb	N shinu	shin	+ eru →	shineru to be able to die
	K kuru	k	+ o(ra)r + eru →	ko(ra)yeru to be able to come

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Irregular Verb	S suru	dekiru (*2)	to be able to do
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- (*1) a sound change : w + e → e
- (*2) "dekiru" is a potential verb. This is not derived from "suru".

The Causative

The Causative [Kana Table]

verb	voice	subject	indirect object	direct object	predicate	meaning
intransitive	active	Amanda ga			ki-mashita.	Amanda came.
	causative	Masyuh' ga		Amanda o	kosase-mashita.	Matthew let Amanda come.
transitive	active	Amanda ga		wain 'o	nomi-mashita.	Amanda drank wine.
	causative	Masyuh' ga	Amanda ni	wain 'o	nomase-mashita.	Matthew let Amanda drink wine.
	active	Amanda ga	Jessika ni	tiketto 'o	kai-mashita.	Amanda bought Jessica a ticket.
transitive	causative	Masyuh' ga	Amanda ni (*1)	tiketto 'o	kawase-mashita.	Matthew let Amanda buy Jessica a ticket.

- (*1) The order of "Amanda ni" followed by "Jessika ni" is very important. If the order is exchanged, the meaning is changed.

The table above shows us typical diagram to change particles among voices. When the predicate in the active voice is an intransitive verb, The subject in the active voice moves the direct object in the causative voice. When the predicate in the active voice is a transitive verb, The subject in the active voice moves the indirect object in the causative voice.

How to use causative forms

Case 1a

- (K): マシューがワインをこせました。
- (J): Masyuh' ga Amanda 'o kosase-mashita.
- (E): Matthew let Amanda come.

Case 2a

- (K): マシューがワインにワインをのませました。
- (J): Masyuh' ga Amanda ni wain 'o nomase-mashita.
- (E): Matthew let Amanda drink wine.

Case 3a

- (K): マシューがワインにチケットをかわせました。
- (J): Masyuh' ga Amanda ni Jessika ni tiketto 'o kawase-mashita.
- (E): Matthew let Amanda buy Jessica a ticket.

The Passive

The passive has two types of voices. One is the indirect passive voice, the other is the direct passive voice.

The Indirect Passive [Kana Table]

verb	voice	subject	indirect object	direct object	predicate	meaning
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intransitive	active	Amanda ga			ki-mashita.	Amanda came.
	passive	Masyuh' ga	Amanda ni		korare-mashita.	Matthew let Amanda come.
transitive	active	Amanda ga		wain 'o	nomi-mashita.	Amanda drank wine.
	passive	Masyuh' ga	Amanda ni	wain 'o	nomase-mashita.	Matthew let Amanda drink wine.
	active	Amanda ga	Jessika ni	tiketto 'o	kai-mashita.	Amanda bought Jessica a ticket.
transitive	passive	Masyuh' ga	Amanda ni (*1)	tiketto 'o	kaware-mashita.	Matthew let Amanda buy Jessica a ticket.

- (*1) The order of "Amanda ni" followed by "Jessika ni" is very important. If the order is exchanged, the meaning is changed.

The table above shows us typical diagram to change particles among voices. The subject in the active voice moves the indirect object in the causative voice.

As you may be aware of it, the indirect passive voice is a kind of causative voices in its meaning. It indicates regretful feelings or unwilling feelings by the subject to the indirect object's action. You may rarely use indirect passive forms. However, these forms are very important for you to understand Japanese passive voice and potential voice because they are derived from this indirect passive voice historically.

How to use indirect passive forms

Case 1a

- (K): マシューがワインにこられました。
- (J): Masyuh' ga Amanda ni korare-mashita.
- (E): Matthew let Amanda come unwillingly.
(Because he was very tired and he wanted to stay alone.)

Case 2a

- (K): マシューがワインにワインをのまれました。
- (J): Masyuh' ga Amanda ni wain 'o nomare-mashita.
- (E): Matthew let Amanda drink wine regretfully.
(Because the wine is very expensive and he did not want to give it to anyone.)

Case 3a

- (K): マシューがワインにチケットをかわれました。
- (J): Masyuh' ga Amanda ni Jessika ni tiketto 'o kikare-mashita.
- (E): Matthew let Amanda buy Jessica a ticket unwillingly.
(Because this was the last ticket and Matthew could not get a ticket.)

The Direct Passive [Kana Table]

verb	voice	subject	indirect object	direct object	predicate	meaning
transitive	active	Amanda ga		wain 'o	nomi-mashita.	Amanda drank wine.
	passive	Wain ga	Amanda ni		nomare-mashita.	A movie was drunk by Amanda.
	active	Amanda ga	Jessika ni	tiketto 'o	kai-mashita.	Amanda bought Jessica a ticket.
transitive	passive	Jessika ga	Amanda ni	tiketto 'o	kaware-mashita.	Jessica was bought a ticket by Amanda.
	passive	Tiketto ga	Amanda ni		kaware-mashita.	A ticket was bought by Amanda.

The direct passive is an ordinary passive used generally in English. When the predicative verb has two objects, you may choose two passive sentences. One has the subject

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which comes from the indirect object, the other has the subject which comes from the direct object. When the predicative verb is an intransitive verb, there is no direct passive form.

How to use direct passive forms

Case 1a

- (K): ワインが (アマンドが) のまれました。
- (J): Wine ga (Amanda ni) nomare-mashita.
- (E): A movie was drunk (by Amanda).

Case 2a

- (K): ジェシカが (アマンドが) チケットを かいました。
- (J): Jesika ga (Amanda ni) tiketto 'o kaware-mashita.
- (E): Jessica was bought a ticket (by Amanda).

Case 2b

- (K): チケットが (アマンドが) かわれました。
- (J): Tiketto ga (Amanda ni) kaware-mashita.
- (E): A ticket was bought (by Amanda).

The Potential

The potential has two types of voices. One is the direct potential voice. The relation of particles for cases do not change their position. The other is the indirect potential voice. In this voice, the direct object change its case into the subject.

The Indirect Potential (Kana Table)

verb	voice	subject	indirect object	direct object	predicate	meaning
intransitive	active	Amanda ga			ki-mashita.	Amanda came.
	potential	Amanda ga			ko(ra)re-mashita.	Amanda was able to come.
transitive	active	Amanda ga		wain 'o	nomi-mashita.	Amanda drink wine.
	potential	Amanda ga		wain 'o	nome-mashita.	Amanda was able to drink wine.
transitive	active	Amanda ga	Jesika ni	tiketto 'o	kai-mashita.	Amanda bought Jessica a ticket.
	potential	Amanda ga	Jesika ni	tiketto 'o	kae-mashita.	Amanda was able to buy Jessica a ticket.

How to use indirect potential forms

Case 1a

- (K): アマンドが こ(ら)れました。
- (J): Amanda ga ko(ra)re-mashita.
- (E): Amanda was able to come.

Case 2a

- (K): アマンドが ワインを のめました。
- (J): Amanda ga wain 'o nome-mashita.
- (E): Amanda was able to drink wine.

Case 3a

- (K): アマンドが ジェシカに チケットを かえました。
- (J): Amanda ga Jesika ni tiketto 'o kae-mashita.
- (E): Amanda was able to buy Jessica a ticket.

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The Direct Potential (Kana Table)

verb	voice	subject	indirect object	direct object	predicate	meaning
transitive	active	Amanda ga		wain 'o	nomi-mashita.	Amanda drink wine.
	potential	Wain ga	Amanda ni		nome-mashita.	Wine was capable of drinking for Amanda.
transitive	active	Amanda ga	Jesika ni	tiketto 'o	kai-mashita.	Amanda bought Jessica a ticket.
	potential	Tiketto ga	Amanda ni		kae-mashita.	A ticket was capable of buying for Amanda.

How to use direct potential forms

Case 1a

- (K): (アマンドが) ワインが のめました。
- (J): (Amanda ni) wain ga nome-mashita.
- (E): Wine was capable of drinking (for Amanda).

Case 2a

- (K): (アマンドが) チケットが かえました。
- (J): (Amanda ni) tiketto ga kae-mashita.
- (E): A ticket was capable of buying (for Amanda).

Verbs, Adjectival Verbs, Auxiliary Verbs**Auxiliary Verbs**

Japanese has several auxiliary verbs to append special meanings to ordinary verbs. They have only dependent usage and always follow independent words or independent phrases.

I list up the auxiliary verbs as the following table

The list of the auxiliary verbs

auxiliary verb	conjugation type	English	comment
-masu	the polite verb	to do	It appends polite nuances to verbs.
-agaru	strong verbs	to want to	It expresses desire to do something for the third person.
-tai-i	adjectival verbs	to want to	It expresses desire to do something.
-sou	adjectival nouns	to look to	It expresses that something appears to do.
da	the copula	to be	a copula.
desu	the polite copula	to be	a copula that expresses polite nuances
rashi-i	adjectival verbs	to seem to	It expresses that something seems to do.
you	adjectival nouns	to appear to	It expresses that something looks to do.
sou	adjectival nouns	It is said that	It expresses that it is said something.

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- Case 2a
- (K): そのライオンは しろいです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-sou desu.
 - (E): It appears that the lion looks is white.
- Case 2b
- (K): そのライオンは しろかったです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-sou deshta.
 - (E): It appeared that the lion was white.
- Case 3a
- (K): そのライオンは スマートです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'io-sou desu.
 - (E): It appears that the lion is smart.
- Case 3b
- (K): そのライオンは スマートでした。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'io-sou deshta.
 - (E): It appeared that the lion was smart.

how to use "you"

- Case 1a
- (K): ライオンが ジャンプするようです。
 - (J): Raion ga jampu suru you desu.
 - (E): It looks that a lion jumps.
- Case 1b
- (K): ライオンが ジャンプするようです。
 - (J): Raion ga jampu suru you deshta.
 - (E): It looked that a lion jumped.
- Case 1c
- (K): ライオンが ジャンプしたようです。
 - (J): Raion ga jampu shita you desu.
 - (E): It looks that a lion jumped.
- Case 1d
- (K): ライオンが ジャンプしたようです。
 - (J): Raion ga jampu shita you deshta.
 - (E): It looked that a lion had jumped.
- Case 2a
- (K): そのライオンは しろいです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-i you desu.
 - (E): It looks that the lion is white.
- Case 2b
- (K): そのライオンは しろかったです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-i you deshta.
 - (E): It looked that the lion was white.
- Case 2c
- (K): そのライオンは しろかったようです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-katta you desu.
 - (E): It looks that the lion was white.
- Case 2d
- (K): そのライオンは しろかったです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-katta you deshta.
 - (E): It looked that the lion was white.

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- (K): そのライオンは しろかったようです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-katta you deshta.
 - (E): It looked that the lion had been white.
- Case 3a
- (K): そのライオンは スマートなようです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'io na you desu.
 - (E): It looks that the lion is smart.
- Case 3b
- (K): そのライオンは スマートなりました。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'io na you deshta.
 - (E): It looked that the lion appeared to be smart.
- Case 3c
- (K): そのライオンは スマートなようです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'io datta you desu.
 - (E): It looks that the lion is a monster.
- Case 3d
- (K): そのライオンは スマートだったようです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'io datta you deshta.
 - (E): It looked that the lion had been smart.
- Case 4a
- (K): そのライオンは モンスターのようです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa monsutah' no you desu.
 - (E): It looks that the lion is a monster.
- Case 4b
- (K): そのライオンは モンスターのようです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa monsutah' no you desu.
 - (E): It looked that the lion was a monster.
- Case 4c
- (K): そのライオンは モンスターのようです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa monsutah' datta you desu.
 - (E): It looks that the lion was a monster.
- Case 4d
- (K): そのライオンは モンスターだったようです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa monsutah' datta you desu.
 - (E): It looked that the lion had been a monster.

how to use "rashi-i!"

- Case 1a
- (K): ライオンが ジャンプするらしいです。
 - (J): Raion ga jampu suru rashi-i desu.
 - (E): It seems that a lion jumps.
- Case 1b
- (K): ライオンが ジャンプしたらしいです。
 - (J): Raion ga jampu shita rashi-i desu.
 - (E): It seems that the lion jumped.
- Case 2a
- (K): そのライオンは しろらしいです。

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- (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-i rashi-i desu.
 - (E): It seems that the lion is white.
- Case 2b
- (K): そのライオンは しろかったらしいです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-katta rashi-i desu.
 - (E): It seems that the lion was white.
- Case 3a
- (K): そのライオンは スマーtrらしいです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'to rashi-i desu.
 - (E): It seems that the lion is smart.
- Case 3c
- (K): そのライオンは スマーtrだったらしいです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'to datta rashi-i desu.
 - (E): It seems that the lion was smart.
- Case 4a
- (K): そのライオンは モンスカーtrらしいです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa monsutah' rashi-i desu.
 - (E): It seems that the lion is a monster.
- Case 4c
- (K): そのライオンは モンスカーtrだったらしいです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa monsutah' datta rashi-i desu.
 - (E): It seems that the lion was a monster.

how to use "sou"

- Case 1a
- (K): ライオンが ジャンプtrするそうです。
 - (J): Raion ga jampu suru sou desu.
 - (E): It is said that a lion jumps.
- Case 1b
- (K): ライオンが ジャンプtrしたそうです。
 - (J): Raion ga jampu shita sou desu.
 - (E): It is said that a lion jumped.
- Case 2a
- (K): そのライオンは しろいそうです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-i sou desu.
 - (E): It is said that the lion is white.
- Case 2b
- (K): そのライオンは しろかったそうです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa shiro-katta sou desu.
 - (E): It is said that the lion was white.
- Case 3a
- (K): そのライオンは スマートtrだそうです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'to da sou desu.
 - (E): It is said that the lion is smart.
- Case 3b
- (K): そのライオンは スマートtrだったそうです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa sumah'to datta sou desu.

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- (E): It is said that the lion was smart.
- Case 4a
- (K): そのライオンは モンスカーtrだそうです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa monsutah' da sou desu.
 - (E): It is said that the lion is a monster.
- Case 4b
- (K): そのライオンは モンスカーtrだったそうです。
 - (J): Sono raion 'wa monsutah' datta sou desu.
 - (E): It is said that the lion was a monster.

Verbs, Adjectival Verbs, Auxiliary Verbs

Moving and Giving Verbs

The basic verbs, to go, to come and to give are important in Japanese as well as English. However, their usages are slight different between Japanese and English. This chapter explains the difference between them.

Moving Verbs ("iku" and "kuru")

In English, the moving verbs respect the position of both the speaker and the listener, on the other hand, they respect the position of the speaker only in Japanese. The verb "iku" is conjugated as a strong verb and the verb "kuru" is conjugated as an irregular verb K.

[the diagram of the moving verbs](#)

English	"come" →	"come" →	"go" →	
Japanese	"kuru" →	"iku" (1) →	"iku" →	other people
English	← "go"	← "come"	← "come"	
Japanese	← "iku"	← "kuru"	← "iku" (2)	other people
English	"come" →	"come" →	"come" →	
Japanese	"kuru" →	the speaker and the listener	"iku" (3) →	interesting places
English	← "go"	the speaker or the listener	← "come"	
Japanese	← "ku"	← "ku"	← "kuru"	

In most cases, Japanese "iku" corresponds to English "go" and Japanese "kuru" corresponds to English "come". However, there usages are opposite in the following cases.

- (1) When the speaker comes to the listener, you use "iku" in Japanese.
- (2) When other people come to the listener, you use "ku" in Japanese, however, you may use "kuru" as well.
- (3) When the speaker or the listener comes to interesting places, you use "ku" in Japanese.

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how to use "iku" and "kuru"

Case 1a

- (K): わたしがあなたのペンションにいきます。
- (J): Watashi ga anata no pension ni iki-masu.
- (E): I come to your pension. (= I move to your pension.)

Case 1b

- (K): わたしがあなたのペンションにきます。
- (J): Watashi ga anata no pension ni iki-masu.
- (E): I come to your pension. (= I return to your pension.)

Case 1c

- (K): わたしがあなたのペンションにきました。
- (J): Watashi ga anata no pension ni iki-mashita.
- (E): I came to your pension. (= I moved to your pension.)

Case 1d

- (K): わたしがあなたのペンションにきました。
- (J): Watashi ga anata no pension ni ki-mashita.
- (E): I came to your pension. (= I arrived at your pension.)

Case 2a

- (K): わたしがステファンニーのペンションにいきます。
- (J): Watashi ga Sutefanihi no pension ni iki-masu.
- (E): I go to Stephanie's pension. (= I move to Stephanie's pension.)

Case 2b

- (K): わたしがステファンニーのペンションにきます。
- (J): Watashi ga Sutefanihi no pension ni ki-masu.
- (E): I come to Stephanie's pension. (= I return to Stephanie's pension.)

Case 2c

- (K): わたしがステファンニーのペンションにきました。
- (J): Watashi ga Sutefanihi no pension ni ki-mashita.
- (E): I went to Stephanie's pension. (= I moved to Stephanie's pension.)

Case 2d

- (K): わたしがステファンニーのペンションにきました。
- (J): Watashi ga Sutefanihi no pension ni ki-mashita.
- (E): I came to Stephanie's pension. (= I arrived at Stephanie's pension.)

Case 3a

- (K): あなたがわたしのペンションにきます。
- (J): Anata ga watashi no pension ni ki-masu.
- (E): You come to my pension. (= You move to my pension.)

Case 3b

- (K): あなたがわたしのペンションにきました。
- (J): Anata ga watashi no pension ni ki-mashita.
- (E): You came to my pension. (= You arrived at my pension.)

Case 4a

- (K): あなたがステファンニーのペンションにいきます。
- (J): Anata ga Sutefanihi no pension ni iki-masu.
- (E): You go to Stephanie's pension. (= You move to Stephanie's pension.)

Case 4b

- (K): あなたがステファンニーのペンションにきました。

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- (J): Anata ga Sutefanihi no pension ni iki-mashita.

- (E): You went to Stephanie's pension. (= You moved to Stephanie's pension.)

Case 5a

- (K): ステファンニーがわたしのペンションにきます。

- (J): Sutefanihi ga watashi no pension ni ki-masu.

- (E): Stephanie comes to my pension. (= Stephanie moves to my pension.)

Case 5b

- (K): ステファンニーがわたしのペンションにきました。

- (J): Sutefanihi ga watashi no pension ni ki-mashita.

- (E): Stephanie came to my pension. (= Stephanie arrived at my pension.)

Case 6a

- (K): ステファンニーがあなたのペンションにきます。

- (J): Sutefanihi ga anata no pension ni iki-masu.

- (E): Stephanie comes to your pension. (= Stephanie moves to your pension.)

Case 6b

- (K): ステファンニーがあなたのペンションにきます。

- (J): Sutefanihi ga anata no pension ni ki-masu.

- (E): Stephanie comes to your pension. (= Stephanie moves to your pension.)

Case 6c

- (K): ステファンニーがあなたのペンションにきました。

- (J): Sutefanihi ga anata no pension ni ki-mashita.

- (E): Stephanie came to your pension. (= Stephanie moved to your pension.)

Giving Verbs ("ageru", "yaru" and "kureru")

Japanese has several verbs in order to express giving. It uses different verbs for each directions, from the speaker to the listener, from the listener to the speaker.

the diagram of the giving verbs

English	"give" →		"give" →	
Japanese	"ageru" →	the speaker's side (*1)	"ageru" →	the listener
English	← "give"		← "give"	
Japanese	← "ageru"		← "kureru" (*2)	other people

"Ageru" is conjugated as a weak verb. "kureru" is conjugated as weak verb, too. The meaning of both is "to give". Another giving verb, "yaru", who is a strong verb, has the same usage with "ageru". However, the honorific level is different: you should use "ageru" for general usages. You should not use the verb "yaru" at least when respectable people are the subject of this verb.

- (*1) the speaker's side means the people who are near to the speaker. Generally, they are the member of the speaker's family and the intimate friends.
- (*2) When other people give something to the listener, he/she is dealt with the speaker's side. "Ageru" is still valid in this case.

how to use "ageru" and "kureru"

Case 1a

- (K): わたしがあなたにペンチをあげます。
- (J): Watashi ga anata ni baggu o age-masu.

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- (E): I give you a bag.

Case 1b

- (K): わたしがバックをあげました。
- (J): Watashi ga fianse ni baggu 'o age-mashita.
- (E): I gave my fianse a bag.

Case 1c

- (K): わたしがアシュリーにバックをあげません。
- (J): Watashi ga Ashurithi ni baggu 'o age-masen.
- (E): I do not give Ashley a bag.

Case 2a

- (K): アシュリーがわたしにバックをくれます。
- (J): Fianse ga watashi ni baggu 'o kure-masu.
- (E): My fianse gives me a bag.

Case 2b

- (K): わたしのアシュリーがわたしにバックをあげました。
- (J): Watashi no fianse ga anata ni baggu 'o age-mashita.
- (E): My fianse gave you a bag.

Case 2c

- (K): わたしのアシュリーがアシュリーにバックをあげません。
- (J): Watashi no fianse ga Ashurithi ni baggu 'o age-masen.
- (E): My fianse does not give Ashley a bag.

Case 3a

- (K): あなたがわたしにバックをくれます。
- (J): Anata ga watashi baggu 'o kure-masu.
- (E): You give me a bag.

Case 3b

- (K): あなたがわたしのアシュリーにバックをくれました。
- (J): Anata ga watashi no fianse ni baggu 'o kure-mashita.
- (E): You gave my fianse a bag.

Case 3c

- (K): あなたがアシュリーにバックをあげません。
- (J): Anata ga Ashurithi ni baggu 'o age-masen.
- (E): You do not give Ashley a bag.

Case 4a

- (K): アシュリーがわたしにバックをくれます。
- (J): Ashley ga watashi baggu 'o kure-masu.
- (E): Ashley gives me a bag.

Case 4b

- (K): アシュリーがわたしのアシュリーにバックをくれました。
- (J): Ashurithi ga watashi no fianse ni baggu 'o kure-mashita.
- (E): Ashley gave my fianse a bag.

Case 4c

- (K): アシュリーがあなたにバックをあげません。
- (J): Ashurithi ga anata ni baggu 'o age-masen.
- (E): Ashley does not give you a bag.

Case 4d

- (K): アシュリーがあなたにバックをくれます。

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- (J): Ashurithi ga anata ni baggu 'o kure-masen.
- (E): Ashley does not give you a bag.

Verbs, Adjectival Verbs, Auxiliary Verbs

Supplemental Verbs

Supplemental verbs are ordinary verbs themselves. They have dependent usages as well as independent usage. Their meanings are different between them. When they are used as dependent verbs, they append aspects, wills and benefits to main verbs. They follow the present participle of verbs or verbal nouns.

[the list of the supplemental verbs following the present participle of verbs](#)

	supplemental verb	conjugation type	verb as the independent	verb as the supplemental
	iru	weak verbs	to be	to be doing, to have done
	aru	strong verbs	to be	to have been done
	na-i	adjectival verbs	not to be	not to have been done
aspects	shimau	strong verbs	to finish	to end by doing
	iku	strong verbs	to go	to go on doing to future
	kiru	irregular verb K	to come	to go on doing till now
	miru	weak verbs	to see	to try doing
	oku	strong verbs	to put	to leave done
wills	yo-i/i-i	adjectival verbs	to be good	may
	hoshi-i	adjectival verbs	to want	to want to do
	yaru	strong verbs	to give	to do for
	ageru	weak verbs	to give	to do for
	kureru	weak verbs	to give	to do for
benefits	morau	strong verbs	to receive	to get to do

The aspects

how to use "iru"

Case 1a

- (K): ジョシュアがドアをペイントしています。
- (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite imasu.
- (E): Joshua is painting the door.

Case 1b

- (K): ジョシュアがドアをペイントしました。
- (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite imashita.
- (E): Joshua has done the door.

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- (E): Joshua was painting the door.

Case 1c

- (K): ジョシュアがドアをペイントしていません。はい、していません。いっえ、していません。
- (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite i-masu ka? Hai, shite i-masu. Iie, shite i-masen.
- (E): Is Joshua painting the door? Yes, he is. No, he isn't.

Case 1d

- (K): ジョシュアがなにをペイントしていましたか。ドアをペイントしていました。
- (J): Joshua ga nani 'o peinto-shite i-mashita ka? Doa 'o peinto-shite i-mashita.
- (E): What was Joshua painting the door? He was painting the door.

how to use "aru"

Case 1a

- (K): ドアがペイントされています。
- (J): Doa ga peinto-shite ar-i-masu.
- (E): The door has been painted.

Case 1b

- (K): ドアがペイントされました。
- (E): The door had been painted.

Case 1c

- (K): ドアがペイントされていますか。はい、してあります。いっえ、してありません。
- (J): Doa ga peinto-shite ar-i-masu ka? Hai, shite ar-i-masu. Iie, shite ar-i-masen.
- (E): Has the door been painted? Yes, it has. No, it hasn't.

Case 1d

- (K): なにがペイントされましたか。ドアがペイントされました。
- (J): Nani ga peinto-shite ar-i-mashita ka? Doa ga peinto-shite ar-i-mashita.
- (E): What had been painted? The door had.

how to use "na-i"

Case 1a

- (K): ドアがペイントされています。(*1)
- (J): Doa ga peinto-shite na-i-deu. (*1)
- (E): The door has not been painted.

Case 1b

- (K): ドアがペイントされたです。(*2)
- (J): Doa ga peinto-shite na-katta desu. (*2)
- (E): The door had not been painted.

- (*1) Formally, "ar-i-masen(ありません)" should be used instead of "na-i-desu(ないです)".
- (*2) Formally, "ar-i-masen deshita(ありませんでした)" should be used instead of "na-katta desu(なかつたです)".

how to use "shimau" (*1)

Case 1a

- (K): ジョシュアがドアをペイントしてしまいました。
- (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite shimai-masu.
- (E): Joshua ends by painting the door.

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Case 1b

- (K): ジョシュアがドアをペイントしてしまいました。
- (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite shimai-mashita.
- (E): Joshua ended by painting the door.

Case 1c

- (K): ジョシュアがドアをペイントしてしまいますか。はい、してしまいます。いっえ、してしません。
- (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite shimai-masu ka? Hai, shite shimai-masu. Iie, shite shimai-masen.
- (E): Does Joshua end by painting the door? Yes, he does. No, he doesn't.

Case 1d

- (K): ジョシュアがなにをペイントしてしまいましたか。ドアをペイントしてしまいました。
- (J): Joshua ga nani 'o peinto-shite shimai-mashita ka? Doa 'o peinto-shite shimai-mashita.
- (E): What did Joshua end by painting? He ended by painting the door.

- (*1) "Shimau" is used when unwilling events happen.

how to use "iku" and "kuru" (*1)

Case 1a

- (K): ジョシュアがレストランをマネージしてきます。
- (J): Joshua ga resutoran 'o maneiji-shite iki-masu.
- (E): Joshua goes on managing his restaurant.

Case 1b

- (K): ジョシュアがレストランをマネージしてきました。
- (J): Joshua ga resutoran 'o maneiji-shite ki-mashita.
- (E): Joshua went on managing his restaurant.

Case 1c

- (K): ジョシュアがレストランをマネージしてきますか。はい、してきます。いっえ、していません。
- (J): Joshua ga resutoran 'o maneiji-shite iki-masu ka? Hai, shite iki-masu. Iie, shite iki-masen.
- (E): Does Joshua go on managing his restaurant? Yes, he does. No, he doesn't.

Case 1d

- (K): ジョシュアがなにをマネージしてきましたか。レストランをマネージしてきました。
- (J): Joshua ga nani 'o maneiji-shite ki-mashita ka. Resutoran 'o maneiji-shite ki-mashita.
- (E): What did Joshua go on managing. He went on managing a restaurant.

- (*1) "Iku" is used for the term from now to future, while "kuru" is used for the term from past to now.

The wills

how to use "miru"

Case 1a

- (K): ジョシュアがドアをペイントします。
- (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite mi-masu.
- (E): Joshua tries painting the door.

Case 1b

- (K): ジョシュアがドアをペイントしました。
- (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite mi-mashita.
- (E): Joshua tried painting the door.

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- Case 1c
- (K): ジョシユアがドアをペイントしてみませんか、はい、してみます。いいえ、してみません。
 - (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite mi-masu ka? Hai, shite mi-masu. Iie, shite mi-masen.
 - (E): Does Joshua try painting the door? Yes, he does. No, he doesn't.
- Case 1d
- (K): ジョシユアがなにをペイントしてみましたか、ドアをペイントしてみました。
 - (J): Joshua ga nani 'o peinto-shite mi-mashita ka? Doa 'o peinto-shite mi-mashita.
 - (E): What did Joshua try painting? He tried painting the door.

how to use "aku"

- Case 1a
- (K): ジョシユアがドアをペイントしておきます。
 - (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite oki-masu.
 - (E): Joshua leaves the door painted.
- Case 1b
- (K): ジョシユアがドアをペイントしておきました。
 - (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite oki-mashita.
 - (E): Joshua left the door painted.
- Case 1c
- (K): ジョシユアがドアをペイントしておきますか、はい、しておきます。いいえ、しておきません。
 - (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite oki-masu ka? Hai, shite oki-masu. Iie, shite oki-masen.
 - (E): Does Joshua leave the door painted? Yes, he does. No, he doesn't.
- Case 1d
- (K): ジョシユアがなにをペイントしておきましたか、ドアをペイントしておきました。
 - (J): Joshua ga nani 'o peinto-shite oki-mashita ka? Doa 'o peinto-shite oki-mashita.
 - (E): What did Joshua leave painted? He left the door painted.

how to use "i-i" and "yo-i" (21)

- Case 1a
- (K): ジョシユアがドアをペイントしていいです。
 - (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite i-i desu.
 - (E): Joshua may paint the door.
- Case 1b
- (K): ジョシユアがドアをペイントしてよかったです。
 - (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite yo-katta desu.
 - (E): Joshua may have painted the door.
- Case 1c
- (K): ジョシユアがドアをペイントしていいですか、はい、していいです。いいえ、してよくないです。
 - (J): Joshua ga doa 'o peinto-shite i-i desu ka? Hai, shite i-i desu. Iie, shite yo-ku na-i desu.
 - (E): May Joshua paint the door? Yes, he may. No, he mustn't.
- Case 1d
- (K): ジョシユアがなにをペイントしてよかったですか、ドアをペイントしてよかったです。
 - (J): Joshua ga nani 'o peinto-shite yo-katta desu ka? Doa 'o peinto-shite yo-katta desu.
 - (E): What may Joshua have painted? He may have painted the door.

- (*1) "i-i" is used for the present tense, while "yo-i" is used for the past tense.

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how to use "hoshi-i"

- Case 1a
- (K): わたしはジョシユアにドアをペイントしてほしいです。
 - (J): Watashi wa Joshua ni doa 'o peinto-shite hoshi-i desu.
 - (E): I want Joshua to paint the door.
- Case 1b
- (K): わたしはジョシユアにドアをペイントしてほしいかったです。
 - (J): Watashi wa Joshua ni doa 'o peinto-shite hoshi-katta desu.
 - (E): I wanted Joshua to paint the door.
- Case 1c
- (K): あなたはジョシユアにドアをペイントしてほしいですか、はい、してほしいです。いいえ、してほしくありません。
 - (J): Anata wa Joshua ni doa 'o peinto-shite hoshi-i desu ka? Hai, shite hoshi-i desu. Iie, shite hoshi-ku ari-masen.
 - (E): Do you want Joshua to paint the door? Yes, I do. No, I don't.
- Case 1d
- (K): あなたはジョシユアになにをペイントしてほしいかったですか、ドアをペイントしてほしいかったです。
 - (J): Anata wa Joshua ni nani 'o peinto-shite hoshi-katta desu ka? Doa 'o peinto-shite hoshi-katta desu.
 - (E): What did you want Joshua to paint? I wanted him to paint the door.

The benefits

how to use "ageru" and "yaru" (*1)

- Case 1a
- (K): ジョシユアが あなたに ドアをペイントあげます。
 - (J): Joshua ga anata ni doa 'o peinto-shite age-masu.
 - (E): Joshua paints the door for you.
- Case 1b
- (K): ジョシユアが あなたに ドアをペイントあげました。
 - (J): Joshua ga anata ni doa 'o peinto-shite age-mashita.
 - (E): Joshua painted the door for you.
- Case 1c
- (K): ジョシユアが あなたに ドアをペイントあげますか、はい、してあげます。いいえ、してあげません。
 - (J): Joshua ga anata ni doa 'o peinto-shite age-masu ka. Hai, shite age-masu. Iie, shite age-masen.
 - (E): Does Joshua paint the door for you? Yes, he does. No, he doesn't.
- Case 1d
- (K): ジョシユアが あなたに なにをペイントあげましたか、ドアをペイントあげました。
 - (J): Joshua ga anata ni doa 'o peinto-shite age-mashita ka. Doa 'o peinto-shite age-mashita.
 - (E): What did Joshua paint for you. He painted the door.

- (*1) "Ageru" is used better than "yaru" because of courtesy.

how to use "kureru" (*1)

- Case 1a
- (K): ジョシユアが わたしに ドアをペイントしてくれます。
 - (J): Joshua ga watashi ni doa 'o peinto-shite kure-masu.
 - (E): Joshua paints the door for me.

Case 1b

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- (K): ジョシユアが わたしに ドアを ペイントして くれました。
 - (J): Joshua ga watashi ni doa 'o peinto-shite kure-mashita.
 - (E): Joshua painted the door for me.
- Case 1c
- (K): ジョシユアが わたしに ドアを ペイントして くれましたか。はい、して くれます。いいえ、して くれません。
 - (J): Joshua ga watashi ni doa 'o peinto-shite kure-masu ka. Hai, shite kure-masu. Iie, shite kure-masen.
 - (E): Does Joshua paint the door for me? Yes, he does. No, he doesn't.
- Case 1d
- (K): ジョシユアが わたしに ぬいこを ペイントして くれましたか。ドアを ペイントして くれました。
 - (J): Joshua ga watashi ni doa 'o peinto-shite kure-mashita ka. Doa 'o peinto-shite kure-mashita.
 - (E): What did Joshua paint for me. He painted the door.

- (*1) The rule of the different usage between "ageru" and "kureru" is based on their independent usage.

how to use "moraru" (*1)

Case 1a

- (K): わたしは ジョシユアに ドアを ペイントしてもらいます。
- (J): Watashi 'wa Joshua ni doa 'o peinto-shite morai-masu.
- (E): I get Joshua to paint the door.

Case 1b

- (K): わたしは ジョシユアに ドアを ペイントしてもらいました。
- (J): Watashi 'wa Joshua ni doa 'o peinto-shite morai-mashita.
- (E): I got Joshua to paint the door.

Case 1c

- (K): あなたは ジョシユアに ドアを ペイントしてもらいますか。はい、して もらいます。いいえ、して もらいせん。
- (J): Anata 'wa Joshua ni doa 'o peinto-shite morai-masu ka. Hai, shite morai-masu. Iie, shite morai-masen.
- (E): Do you get Joshua to paint the door? Yes, I do. No, I don't.

Case 1d

- (K): あなたは ジョシユアに ぬいこを ペイントしてもらいましたか。ドアを ペイントしてもらいました。
- (J): Anata 'wa Joshua ni nani 'o peinto-shite morai-mashita ka. Doa 'o peinto-shite morai-mashita.
- (E): What did you get Joshua to paint. I got him to paint the door.

the list of the supplemental verbs following verbal nouns

supplemental verb	conjugation type	verb as the independent	verb as the supplemental
suru	irregular verb S	to do	to do
dekiru	weak verbs	to be able to do	to be able to do

Supplemental verbs "suru" and "dekiru" frequently appeared in the previous chapters. These verbs provide the conjugations of verbs to verbal nouns which do not have their natural conjugation.

how to use "suru"

Case 1a

- (K): ジョシユアが ワルツを ダンスします。
- (J): Joshua ga warutsu 'o dansu-shi-masu.
- (E): Joshua dance the waltz.

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Case 1b

- (K): ジョシユアが ワルツを ダンスしました。
- (J): Joshua ga warutsu 'o dansu-shi-mashita.
- (E): Joshua danced the waltz.

Case 1c

- (K): ジョシユアが ワルツを ダンスしますか。はい、します。いいえ、しません。
- (J): Joshua ga warutsu 'o dansu-shi-masu ka? Hai, shi-masu. Iie, shi-masen.
- (E): Does Joshua dance the waltz? Yes, he does. No, he doesn't.

Case 1d

- (K): ジョシユアが ぬいこを ダンスしましたか。ワルツを ダンスしました。
- (J): Joshua ga nani 'o dansu-shi-mashita ka? Warutsu 'o dansu-shi-mashita.
- (E): What did Joshua dance? He danced the waltz.

how to use "dekiru"

Case 1a

- (K): ジョシユアが ワルツを ダンスできます。
- (J): Joshua ga warutsu 'o dansu-deki-masu.
- (E): Joshua can dance the waltz.

Case 1b

- (K): ジョシユアが ワルツを ダンスできました。
- (J): Joshua ga warutsu 'o dansu-deki-mashita.
- (E): Joshua was able to dance the waltz.

Case 1c

- (K): ジョシユアが ワルツを ダンスできますか。はい、できます。いいえ、できません。
- (J): Joshua ga warutsu 'o dansu-deki-masu ka? Hai, deki-masu. Iie, deki-masen.
- (E): Can Joshua dance the waltz? Yes, he can. No, he can't.

Case 1d

- (K): ジョシユアが ぬいこを ダンスできましたか。ワルツを ダンスできました。
- (J): Joshua ga nani 'o dansu-deki-mashita ka? Warutsu 'o dansu-deki-mashita.
- (E): What was Joshua able to dance? He was able to dance the waltz.

Particles

Particles are very important elements in Japanese, although they generally have a few syllables less than three and no inflections. They provide grammatical and emotional meanings to words and sentences. If you change some of particles into another particles, the meaning of a sentence is quite different from the original sentence. However, after you understand behaviors of particles, you can compose many Japanese sentences naturally and you comprehend most of sentences.

Types of Particles

There are 6 types of particles to compose sentences.

case particles:

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They provide the definitions of cases to each nouns and phrases correspondent to nouns.

- ga, 'o, ni, 'e, de, yori

nominal particles:

They provide the definitions of cases to each nouns and phrases correspondent to nouns. Also they provide the normalization.

- no, na, to, ya, ka
- na-no, e-no, de-no

topical particles:

They provide the function that controls all over the sentence. They affect the form of predicates.

- wa, mo, koso, sae, shika, demo, datte
- koso-'wa, sae-'mo

conjunctive particles:

They provide the behaviors like conjunctions to each verbs and phrases correspondent to verbs.

- shi, keredomo, ga, to, node, noni

adverbial particles:

They provide the behaviors like adverbs to each nouns and phrases correspondent to nouns. The words followed by these postposition can take copulas after themselves.

So they behave like predicates.

- made, bakari, dake, gurai, nado, nari, yara, kara, nagara, hodo

interjective particles:

They provide the behaviors like interjections.

- naa, nee, sa
- zo, yo, wa (only connect the end of sentences)

Conjunction of Particles

	↓ Preceding Word	Particles →	adverbial	nominal	case	topical	conjunctive	interjective
	Nouns Demonstrative	↓ Example →	gurai	no	'e	sae	shi	nee
	Adjectival Nouns		kore	OK	OK	OK		OK
			suki	OK	(*4)			OK
Verbs	present		suru	OK		(*7)	OK(*8)	OK
	past		shita	OK	OK		OK	OK
	present		na-i	OK	OK		OK(*8)	OK
	past		na-katta	OK	OK		OK	OK
The Copula "da"	present		da	OK	(*5)		OK(*8)(*9)	OK
	past		atta	OK	OK		OK	OK
"-masu"	present		-masu				OK	OK
	past		-mashita				OK	OK
Verbs	present		shi	(*1)		(*6)	OK	OK
	past		shite	(*2)			OK	OK
	negative present		sezu			(*6)	OK	OK
Adjectival Verbs	present	participle	shina-i	de			OK	OK
	past		na-ku				OK	OK
	present		na-kute				OK	OK

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The Copula "da"	present	ni					OK
	past	de					
Particles	adverbial	gurai	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
	nominal	no	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
	case	'e	OK(*3)		OK(*3)		OK
	topical	sae					OK
	conjunctive	shi					OK
	interjective	nee					OK

- (*1) "Nagara" connects the present participle like "shi" if it follows verbs.
- (*2) "Kari" connects the past participle like "shite" if it follows verbs.
- (*3) Case particle "ga" and "'o" are not followed by any particles except interjective ones.
- (*4) "Na" and "ka" follow nominal nouns.
- (*5) Case particle "o" follows the present of the copula.
- (*6) "ni" can follow the present participle of verbs like "shi", "sezu".
- (*7) "shika" only follows the present of verbs. It does not follow the other conjugation forms of verbs, adjectival verbs and the copula.
- (*8) Conjunctive particle "o" can only follow the present forms of verbs, adjectival verbs and the copula.
- (*9) "Noni" and "node" usually follow "na", because they are originated from "no" followed by "ni" or "de".
- Compound particles "na-no", "de-no", "e-no", "koso-'wa" and "sae-no" have the same connections as their first particles when they follow the preceding words, and the same connections as their last particles when they are followed by the next words.

Particles

Case Particles

Japanese has 6 case particles. 4 case particles among 6 are very important to construct sentences. They have so many various meanings that you have many choices to mater them. In this chapter, I introduce the relation to when, where, who and what. This helps you to understand the relation between these 4 case particles for your first step.

Basic Meanings

Particle	Meaning	English	Japanese
ni	time	when	itsu (ni)
de	place	where	doko de
ga	subject	who	dare ga
'o	object	what	nani 'o

Japanese Basic Sentence

- (K): いつ、どこで だれが なにを しますか。
- (J): Itsu, doko de dare ga nani 'o shi-masu ka?

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- (E): (?) When who does what where?

Dictionaries

Japanese	Kana	English	Japanese	Kana	English	Japanese	Kana	English
ichi-gatsu(1)	いちがつ	January	nichi-youbi	にちようび	Sunday	ichi-ji(4)	いちじ	one o'clock
ni-gatsu	にがつ	February	gatsu-youbi	がつようび	Monday	ip-pun(5)	いっぷん	one minute
san-gatsu	さんがつ	March	ke-youbi	かようび	Tuesday	ni-tun(6)	にふん	two minutes
shi-gatsu(2)	しがつ	April	su-youbi	すいようび	Wednesday	san-tun	さんふん	three minutes
go-gatsu	ごがつ	May	moku-youbi	もくようび	Thursday	yon-tun	よんふん	four minutes
roku-gatsu	ろくがつ	Jun	kin-youbi	きんようび	Friday	go-tun	ごふん	five minutes
shichi-gatsu(3)	しちがつ	July	do-youbi	どようび	Saturday	roku-tun	ろくふん	fix minutes
hachi-gatsu	はちがつ	August	kinou	きのう	Yesterday	nana-tun	ななふん	seven minutes
ku-gatsu	くがつ	September	kyou	きょう	today	hachi-tun	はちふん	eight minutes
juu-gatsu	じゅうがつ	October	ashita	あした	tomorrow	kyuu-tun	きゅうふん	nine minutes
juu-ichi-gatsu	じゅういちがつ	November				ip-pun	いっぷん	ten minutes
juu-ni-gatsu	じゅうにがつ	December				ichi-byou(7)	いちびょう	one second

- (1) "Gatsu" is the classifier to represent months.
- (2) "Shi" is the formal reading originated from Chinese for 4. It is idiomatically chosen instead of "yon", which is the popular reading for 4. "Yon-gatsu" is still intelligible but not preferable.
- (3) "Shichi" is the formal reading originated from Chinese for 7. It is idiomatically chosen instead of "nana", which is the popular reading for 7. "Nana-gatsu" is still intelligible but not preferable.
- (4) "Ji" is the classifier to represent o'clock.
- (5) "Pun" is the special classifier to represent minutes, it is only used when following 1 and 10, such as "ip-pun" (1 minute), "jip-pun" (10 minutes), "ju-ip-pun" (11 minutes), "ni-jiip-pun" (20 minutes) and so on.
- (6) "Fun" is the general classifier to represent minutes except the case (5).
- (7) "Byou" is the classifier to represent seconds.

How to use the case particle "ga", "'o", "ni" and "de".

Case 1a

- (K): にちようびに スクールで テニスが テニスを プレレします。
- (J): Nichi-youbi ni sukuu'ru de Maiku ga tennis 'o purei shi-masu.
- (E): Mike plays tennis in the school on Sunday.

Case 1b

- (K): いっ、スクールで テニスが テニスを プレレしますか。 にちようびに プレレします。
- (J): Iku, sukuu'ru de Maiku ga tennis 'o purei shi-masu ka? Nichi-youbi ni purei shi-masu.
- (E): When does Mike play tennis in the school? He does on Monday.

Case 1c

- (K): どこで、 にちようびに テニスが テニスを プレレしますか。 スクールで プレレします。
- (J): Doko de, nichi-youbi ni Maiku ga tennis 'o purei shi-masu ka? Sukuu'ru de purei shi-masu.
- (E): Where does Mike play tennis on Sunday? He does in the school.

Case 1d

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- (K): だれが にちようびに スクールで テニスが テニスを プレレしますか。 テニスが プレレします。
- (J): Dare ga nichi-youbi ni sukuu'ru de tennis 'o purei shi-masu ka? Maiku ga purei shi-masu.
- (E): Who plays tennis in the school on Sunday? Mike does.

Case 1e

- (K): だにを にちようびに スクールで テニスが プレレしますか。 テニスを プレレします。
- (J): Nani 'o nichi-youbi ni sukuu'ru de Maiku ga purei shi-masu ka? Tennis 'o purei shi-masu.
- (E): What does Mike play in the school on Sunday? He plays tennis.

You can not use "ni" when you use "kinou", "kyou" and "ashita" to represent time directly. On the other hand, you can use "ni" when you use them as modifiers to other words.

Case 2a

- (K): きょう スクールで テニスが テニスを プレレしました。
- (J): Kinou sukuu'ru de Maiku ga tennis 'o purei shi-mashita.
- (E): Mike played tennis in the school yesterday.

Case 2b

- (K): きょうの さんにに スクールで テニスが テニスを プレレしました。
- (J): Kinou no san-ji ni sukuu'ru de Maiku ga tennis 'o purei shi-mashita.
- (E): Mike played tennis in the school at 3 o'clock yesterday.

Case 2c

- (K): きょう スクールで テニスが テニスを プレレしました。
- (J): Kyou sukuu'ru de Maiku ga tennis 'o purei shi-mashita.
- (E): Mike played tennis in the school today.

Case 2d

- (K): きょうの ぐじに スクールで テニスが テニスを プレレしました。
- (J): Kyou sukuu'ru de Maiku ga tennis 'o purei shi-mashita.
- (E): Mike played tennis in the school at 9 o'clock today.

Case 2e

- (K): あした スクールで テニスが テニスを プレレします。
 - (J): Ashita sukuu'ru de Maiku ga tennis 'o purei shi-masu.
 - (E): Mike plays tennis in the school tomorrow.
- Case 2f
- (K): あしたの にじさんじつさんに スクールで テニスが テニスを プレレします。
 - (J): Ashita no ni-ji san-jiip-pun ni sukuu'ru de Maiku ga tennis 'o purei shi-masu.
 - (E): Mike plays tennis in the school at 2:30 tomorrow.

Derivative Meanings

Particle	Basic Meaning	Derivative Meaning	English
ni	time	spotting objects including human, place	for, to
de	place	means, reasons	by, with
ga	subject	possible, preferable, desirable objects	
o	object	objects passed by	along, through

How to use "ni" as the derivative meanings

Case 3a. spotting objects as human being or animate objects

- (K): テニスが テニスが テニスを あげます。

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- (J): Maiku ga Maria ni baggu 'o age-masu.
 - (E): Mike gives Maria a bag.
 - (E): Mike gives a bag to Maria.
- Case 3b: spotting objects as human being or animate objects
- (K): マイクが マリアに バッグを かい ます。
 - (J): Maiku ga Maria ni baggu 'o kai-masu.
 - (E): Mike buys Maria a bag.
 - (E): Mike buys a bag for Maria.
- Case 3c: spotting objects as places
- (K): わたし が スクールに い きます。
 - (J): Watashi ga sukuh'ru ni iki-masu.
 - (E): I go to school.

How to use "de" as the derivative meanings

Case 4a: means

- (K): マリアが ナイフで オレンジを カット しました。
- (J): Maria ga naifu de orenji 'o katto shi-mashita.
- (E): Maria cut the orange with a knife.

Case 4a: reasons

- (K): ヤンキーズが ホームランで 勝ちました。
- (J): Yankin zu ga hounnu ran de kachi-mashita.
- (E): Yankees won by home runs.

How to use "ga" as the derivative meanings

Case 5a: possible objects

- (K): ボックスから ボールが だ せます。
- (J): Bokkusu kara bohu'ru ga dase-masu. Bokkusu kara bohu'ru 'o dase-masu.
- (E): It is possible to put the ball out of the box. I can put the ball out of the box.

Case 5b: preferable objects

- (K): ハンバーガーが すき です。
- (J): Hanbah'gah' ga suki desu.
- (E): A hamburger is preferable. I like a hamburger.

Case 5c: desirable objects

- (K): サイダーが のみ たい です。
- (J): Saidah' ga nomi-tai desu. Saidah' 'o nomi-tai desu.
- (E): Cider is desired to drink. I want to drink cider.

How to use "o" as the derivative meanings

Case 6a: objects passed by

- (K): サイカーが を い きます。
- (J): Saido-woh'ku 'o iki-masu.
- (E): I go along the sidewalk.

Basic Meanings

Particle	Basic Meaning	English

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'e	the target direction	to
yori	comparing, more than	than

How to use "'e"

Case 7a:

- (K): マイクが マリアへ バッグを あげ ます。
- (J): Maiku ga Maria 'e baggu 'o age-masu.
- (E): Mike gives Maria a bag.
- (E): Mike gives a bag to Maria.

Case 7b:

- (K): わたし が スクールへ い きます。
- (J): Watashi ga sukuh'ru 'e iki-masu.
- (E): I go to school.

How to use "'yori"

Case 8a:

- (K): ニューヨークは ボストンより ビッグ です。
- (J): Nyuh' YoH'ku 'wa Bosuton yori biggu desu.
- (E): New York is bigger than Boston.

Case 8b:

- (K): ジャパンで シルバーは ゴールドより エクスペンシブ でした。
- (J): Japan de shirubah' 'wa goh'rudo yori ekusupenshibu deshita.
- (E): Silver was more expensive than gold in Japan.

Particles

Nominal Particles

Japanese has five nominal particles. They modify nouns (excluding adjectival nouns) directly, then construct noun clauses which can be used as subjects, objects and so on. This feature is different from the other kinds of particles. Three particles, 'no', 'to' and 'ka' are essential among them. They decide logical relations between noun clauses. 'Na' and 'ya' provide similar functions to 'no' and 'to' respectively. In addition, there are three complex nominal particle, 'na-no', 'de-no' and 'e-no'. 'Na', 'de' and 'e' are not be followed by any particle except 'no'. They inherit their meanings from their leading particles.

Basic Meanings

Particle	Japanese	English
no	A no B	B of A
to	A to B	A and B
ka	A ka B	A or B

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How to use nominal particle "no"

Case 1a

- (K): ライオンのキング
- (J): raion no kingu
- (E): the king of lions

How to use nominal particle "to"

Case 2a

- (K): ライオンとタイガー
- (J): raion to taigah
- (E): lions and tigers

How to use nominal particle "ka"

Case 3a

- (K): ライオンかタイガー
- (J): raion ka taigah
- (E): lions or tigers

'Na follows adjectival nouns, while 'no' follows nouns. 'Ya has almost the same meaning with 'to'. The difference is that 'ya' adds the meaning as 'and so on' while 'to' does not.

How to use nominal particle "na"

Case 4a

- (K): ストロングなライオン
- (J): sutorongu na kingu
- (E): strong lions

How to use nominal particle "ya"

Case 5a

- (K): ライオンやタイガー
- (J): raion ya taigah
- (E): lions, tigers and so on

All of them can be used as noun phrase in sentences.

How to use nominal particle "no"

Case 1b

- (K): あれがライオンのキングです。
- (J): Are ga raion no kingu desu.
- (E): That is the king of lions

How to use nominal particle "to"

Case 2b

- (K): ライオンとタイガーをみました。
- (J): Raion to taigah 'o mi-mashita.
- (E): I saw lions and tigers.

How to use nominal particle "ka"

Case 3b

- (K): ライオンかタイガーを見たかったです。
- (J): Raion ka taigah 'o mi-ta-katta desu.
- (E): I wanted to see lions or tigers.

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How to use nominal particle "na"

Case 4b

- (K): ストロングなライオンになる。
- (J): Sutorongu na kingu ni naru.
- (E): He becomes a strong lion.

How to use nominal particle "ya"

Case 5b

- (K): ライオンやタイガーをみよう。
- (J): Raion ya taigah 'o miyou.
- (E): Let's see lions, tigers and so on.

"No", "to" and "ka" can be used as noun phrases when they are followed by other particles or copulas.

How to use nominal particle "no"

Case 1c

- (K): あれがライオンのです。
- (J): Are ga raion no desu.
- (E): That is lions' possession.

How to use nominal particle "to"

Case 2c

- (K): ライオンとタイガーとをみました。
- (J): Raion to taigah' to 'o mi-mashita.
- (E): I saw both lions and tigers.

How to use nominal particle "ka"

Case 3c

- (K): ライオンかタイガーかをみたかったです。
- (J): Raion ka taigah' ka 'o mi-ta-katta desu.
- (E): I wanted to see either lions or tigers.

Normalizers

Nominal particles "no", "to" and "ka" have a very interesting feature besides modifying nouns. It is a normalizer. A normalizer means that it changes a sentence into a noun clause, which can be used like a noun to construct complex sentences. Generally, "no" changes a sentence into a object represented by the sentence, "to" changes a sentence into information described by the sentence, and "ka" changes a sentence into alternation. "No", "to" and "ka" are roughly correspondent to "what", "that" and "whether" respectively. Subordinate clauses do not have polle suffixes in these cases.

How to use normalizer "no"

Case 1a

- (K): カレがライオンを見たのをしりません。
- (J): Kare ga raion 'o mita no 'o shiri-mashita.
- (E): I do not know (the thing / the information) that he saw a lion.

Case 1b

- (K): カレがライオンをみるのがイベントです。
- (J): Kare ga raion 'o miru no ga Ivento desu.
- (E): It is a event that he sees a lion.

How to use normalizer "to"

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Case 2a

- (K): *かれがライオンを みたしりません。*
- (J): *Kare ga raion 'o mita to shiri-masen.*
- (E): *I do not know that he saw a lion.*

Case 2b

- (K): *かれがライオンを みるどの スピーチです。*
- (J): *Kare ga raion 'o mita to no suphi'chi desu.*
- (E): *It is a speech that he sees a lion.*

How to use normalizer "Ka"

Case 3a

- (K): *かれがライオンを みたか しりません。*
- (J): *Kare ga raion 'o mita ka shiri-masen.*
- (E): *I do not know whether he had seen a lion.*

Case 3b

- (K): *かれがライオンを みるかが カウエスチョンです。*
- (J): *Kare ga raion 'o mita ka ga kuwesu'chion desu.*
- (E): *It is a question whether he sees a lion.*

"Ka" is also used as a question marker, derived from a selection particle and a normalizer. It can follow polite suffixes in this case.

How to use question marker "Ka"

Case 1a

- (K): *それはライオンですか、ライオンではありませんか。*
- (J): *Sore wa raion desu ka (, raion de arimasen ka)?*
- (E): *Is it a lion (or not a lion)?*

Case 1b

- (K): *かれがライオンを みましたか、みたかったですか。*
- (J): *Kare ga raion 'o mi-mashita ka (, mita-katta desu ka)?*
- (E): *Did he see a lion (or not see a lion)?*

Compound Nominal Particles

"De-no" and "e-no" are compound nominal particles, which inherit the meaning of the leading particle and modify nouns.

How to use compound nominal particle "de-no"

Case 1a

- (K): *ホテルでのライナー*
- (J): *hoteru de-no dinah'*
- (E): *dinner in a hotel*

Case 1b

- (K): *ギターでの パフォーマンス*
- (J): *gitarh' de-no pafonh' mansu*
- (E): *a performance with guitar*

Case 1c

- (K): *オイルでの ウォー*
- (J): *oilru de-no woh'*

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- (E): *a war by oil*

How to use compound nominal particle "e-no"

Case 2a

- (K): *ボストンへの ハイウェイ*
- (J): *Bosuton 'e-no haiwei*
- (E): *a highway to Boston*

"Na-no" is the special combination when the copula "da" is used in subordinate clauses with normalizer "no".

How to use compound nominal particle "na-no"

Case 1a

- (K): *それがライオンなのを しりません。*
- (J): *Sore ga raion na-no 'o shiri-masen.*
- (E): *I do not know that it is a lion.*

Case 1b

- (K): *それがライオンなのが ナチュラールです。*
- (J): *Sore ga raion na-no ga nachuraru desu.*
- (E): *It is natural that it is a lion.*

This page is still under construction.

Particles

Topical Particles

A sample sentence.

- (K): *ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサが ロンへ キャンデアを あげました。*
- (J): *Valendain-Dei ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi 'o age-mashita.*
- (E): *Lisa gave candies to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.*

Topic	Time	Location	Subject	Direction	Object	Verb
	Valendain-Dei ni	sukuh'ru de	Risa ga	Ron 'e	kyandi 'o	age-mashita.
Time	Valendain-Dei ni- wa	sukuh'ru de	Risa ga	Ron 'e	kyandi 'o	age-mashita.
Location	Valendain-Dei ni	sukuh'ru de- wa	Risa ga	Ron 'e	kyandi 'o	age-mashita.
Subject	Valendain-Dei ni	sukuh'ru de	Risa wa	Ron 'e	kyandi 'o	age-mashita.
Direction	Valendain-Dei ni	sukuh'ru de	Risa ga	Ron 'e- wa	kyandi 'o	age-mashita.
Object	Valendain-Dei ni	sukuh'ru de	Risa ga	Ron 'e	kyandi wa	age-mashita.

How to use topical particle "'wa"

Case 1a

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- (K): ヴァレンタインデーには スクールでリサが ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni-wa sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): As for Valentine Day, Lisa gave candies to Ron at the school then.
- Case 1b
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールではリサが ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de-'wa Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): As for the school, Lisa gave candies to Ron there on Valentine Day.
- Case 1c
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサは ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de Risa 'wa Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): As for Lisa, she gave candies to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.
- Case 1d
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサが ロンへは キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e-'wa kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): As for Ron, Lisa gave him candies at the school on Valentine Day.
- Case 1e
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサが ロンへ キャンデスはあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' wa age-mashita.
 - (E): As for candies, Lisa gave it to him at the school on Valentine Day.

Basic Meanings

Particle	Japanese	English
mo	A mo	A also
koso	A koso	Very A
sae	A sae	even A
shika	A shika	no other but A
demo	A demo	even A
datte	A datte	even A

How to use topical particle "mo"

- Case 2a
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーにも スクールでリサが ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni-mo sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Lisa gave candies to Ron at the school on Valentine Day also.
- Case 2b
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでもリサが ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de-mo Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Lisa gave candies to Ron at the school also, on Valentine Day.
- Case 2c
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサも ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de Risa mo Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Lisa also gave candies to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.
- Case 2d
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサが ロンへも キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e-mo kyandi' o age-mashita.

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- (E): Lisa gave candies to Ron also, at the school on Valentine Day.
- Case 2e
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサが ロンへ キャンデスもあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' mo age-mashita.
 - (E): Lisa gave candies also, to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.

How to use topical particle "koso"

- Case 3a
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーにこそ スクールでリサが ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni-koso sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Valentine Day is the very day when Lisa gave candies to Ron at the school.
- Case 3b
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールこそリサが ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de-koso Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): The school is the very place where Lisa gave candies to Ron on Valentine Day.
- Case 3c
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサこそ ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de Risa koso Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Lisa is the very person who gave candies to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.
- Case 3d
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサが ロンへこそ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e-koso kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Ron is the very person whom Lisa gave candies at the school on Valentine Day.
- Case 3e
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサが ロンへ キャンデーこそあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' mo age-mashita.
 - (E): Candies are the very things which Lisa gave to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.

How to use topical particle "sae"

- Case 4a
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーにさえ スクールでリサが ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sae sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Lisa gave candies to Ron at the school even on Valentine Day.
- Case 4b
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでさえリサが ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sae sukuh'ru de-sae Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Lisa gave candies to Ron even at the school on Valentine Day.
- Case 4c
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサさえ ロンへ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sae sukuh'ru de Risa sae Ron 'e kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Even Lisa gave candies to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.
- Case 4d
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサが ロンへさえ キャンデスをあげました。
 - (J): Valentin-Day ni sae sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e-sae kyandi' o age-mashita.
 - (E): Lisa gave candies even to Ron, at the school on Valentine Day.
- Case 4e
- (K): ヴァレンタインデーに スクールでリサが ロンへ キャンデーさえあげました。

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- (J): Valendain-Dei ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi sae age-mashita.
- (E): Lisa gave even candies to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.

How to use topical particle "shika"

Case 5a

- (K): ヴァレンドゥイノコトニシカ スクールでリサがロンへキャンディをあげました。
- (J): Valendain-Dei ni-shika sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi 'o age-masen deshita.
- (E): Lisa did not give candies to Ron at the school even on any other day but Valentine Day.

Case 5b

- (K): ヴァレンドゥイノコトニ スクールでしかリサがロンへキャンディをあげませんでした。
- (J): Valendain-Dei ni sukuh'ru de-shika Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi 'o age-masen deshita.
- (E): Lisa did not give candies to Ron even at any other place but the school on Valentine Day.

Case 5c

- (K): ヴァレンドゥイノコトニ スクールでリサがロンへキャンディをあげませんでした。
- (J): Valendain-Dei ni sukuh'ru de Risa shika Ron 'e kyandi 'o age-masen deshita.
- (E): No other person but Lisa gave candies to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.

Case 5d

- (K): ヴァレンドゥイノコトニ スクールでリサがロンへしかキャンディをあげませんでした。
- (J): Valendain-Dei ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e-shika kyandi 'o age-masen deshita.
- (E): Lisa dit not give candies to any other person but Ron at the school on Valentine Day.

Case 5e

- (K): ヴァレンドゥイノコトニ スクールでリサがロンへキャンディしかあげませんでした。
- (J): Valendain-Dei ni sukuh'ru de Risa ga Ron 'e kyandi shika age-masen deshita.
- (E): Lisa did not give any other thing but candies to Ron at the school on Valentine Day.