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文法第12課

Grammar Notes for Lesson 12

1. Politeness-neutral Negation of the V

As we already know our textbook is held consistently in the so-called **ordinary polite level**. But sometimes grammatical situations make it necessary to borrow forms from other levels. In lesson 5 and 6 we had to build the attributive form of VA and NA by omitting the information of politeness. The reason was to avoid the overlapping of the information of politeness. Since a structure like 静かでした部屋 was *not* acceptable, we borrowed the politeness form ~だった from the so-called **politeness-neutral level**.

In this lesson we are going to borrow the politeness-neutral **negation** to be able to build the negation of the request ~てください. The expression *please do not...* is formulated as ~ないでください and this borrowed form ~ない is absolutely necessary because a structure like ~ませんでください which would have been easily built unfortunately does *not* exist.

How to build the nai-form:

As already mentioned, we know already the politeness-neutral negation of VA, NA, and N from the attributive forms mentioned in lesson 5, 6, and 8:

VA: VA～くない (examples: 古くない 大きくない 新しくない etc.)

NA: NA～で(は)ない (examples: 静かで(は)ない 便利で(は)ない きれい(は)でない etc.)

N: N ～で(は)ない (examples: 国で(は)ない 学生で(は)ない 本で(は)ない etc.)

The politeness-neutral negation (the **nai-form**) of verbs is differently made according to the verbal groups:

1.1 The Formation of the nai-form of 弱V

The nai-form of the 弱V is made by adding the ending ~ない to the stem:

弱V ～ない

Examples:

見る	→	見ない	not to see
あげる	→	あげない	not to give
起きる	→	起きない	not to get up
いる	→	いない	not to be
覚える	→	覚えない	not to memorize
着る	→	着ない	not to wear
忘れる	→	忘れない	not to forget

1.2 The Formation of the nai-form of 不V

The nai-form of the 不V is made by adding the ending ~ない to the stem:

来(こ)～ない

し ～ない

Examples:

来る (くる)	→ 来ない (こない)	not to come
する	→ しない	not to do
買い物をしない	→ 買い物をしない	not to go shopping
勉強をしない	→ 勉強をしない	not to study

1. 3 The Formation of the nai-form of 強V

The structure of the nai-form of the 強V depends on the last sound of the stem. 9 different 強V-endings exist. Consequently we have 9 different nai-forms. The formation of the nai-form is:

STEM (a-sound units) + ない

強V endings	linkage to ない	examples
～す	→ ～さ	話す→話さない
～く	→ ～か	書く→書かない
～ぐ	→ ～が	泳ぐ→泳がない
～う	→ ～わ	買う→買わない
～つ	→ ～た	待つ→待たない
～る	→ ～ら	乗る→乗らない
～ぬ	→ ～な	死ぬ→死なない
～ぶ	→ ～ば	遊ぶ→遊ばない
～む	→ ～ま	読む→読まない

notice 1:

All verbs ending with an ~う (会う, 買う, 歌う, 言う, 使う, 手伝う, 扱う, 拾う) have the nai-form ~わない and *not* ~あない!

Examples:	会う → 会わない
	買う → 買わない
	歌う → 歌わない
	言う → 言わない
	使う → 使わない
	手伝う → 手伝わない
	扱う → 扱わない
	拾う → 拾わない

notice 2:

The nai-form of the 強V ある of is simply ない and *not* あらない !!

Quiz 1: Build the nai-form of the following verbs.

読む	書く
話す	聞く
あげる	もらう
くれる	歌う
待つ	持つ
上げる	開ける
出る	始める
帰る	閉める
住む	遊ぶ
休む	呼ぶ
働く	扱う
習う	飛ぶ
立つ	頼む
使う	行く
死ぬ	飲む
食べる	かぶる
来る	する
捨う	買う
着る	はく
送る	起こす
泳ぐ	押す
咲く	壊す

2. Negative Request with ～ないでください

The negative request, i.e. *please do not...* is expressed by ～ないでください. As mentioned in the foregoing chapter, the connecting point between the verb and this auxiliary is represented by the **nai-form**.

Sample sentence:

ここでたばこを吸わないでください。
Please do not smoke at this place!

More sample sentences:

あまり仕事をしないでください。
Please do not work too much.

私の部屋に入らないでください。
Please do not enter my room.

試験は鉛筆で書かないでください。
Please do not write examinations with a pencil.

More polite variation of ～ないでください

Even if a negative request is not a prohibition, it is generally seen as not very polite to say ～ないでください directly to a socially higher-ranking person or to a stranger or a person you do not know well.

In unavoidable cases you can use the following simple structure as a temporary solution:

～ないでくださいませんか。

Despite of an enhanced politeness this expression sounds still somehow clumsy and dumpy. A negatively formulated sentence evokes a negative mood and it usually offends your Japanese interlocutor.

Quiz 2: Build negative requests.



私の鉛筆を使う。

ドイツ語で話す。

安い物を買う。

ここで泣く。

教室の中で寝る。

私を忘れる。

子どもを連れてくる。

川の近くで遊ぶ。

答えを間違える。

ここに車を止める。

Quiz 3: Answer the questions with *please do not...*

コーヒーを飲んでもいいですか。
 シャワーを浴びてもいいですか。
 良く考えてもいいですか。
 ひらがなで書いてもいいですか。
 そのケーキを食べてもいいですか。
 ここに車を止めてもいいですか。
 家へ帰ってもいいですか。
 歌を歌ってもいいですか。
 洗濯機で洗ってもいいですか。
 たくさん買い物をしてもいいですか。
 少し休んでもいいですか。
 部屋をかたづけてもいいですか。
 本屋でアルバイトをしてもいいですか。
 じゃまをしてもいいですか。
 パーティーに来てもいいですか。

Quiz 4: Try to build a fitting question to the following answers.

for instance

いいえ、飲まないでください。
 いいえ、見ないでください。
 いいえ、入らないでください。
 いいえ、着ないでください。
 いいえ、しないでください。
 いいえ、しないでください。
 いいえ、しないでください。
 いいえ、読まないでください。
 いいえ、乗らないでください。
 いいえ、話さないでください。
 いいえ、とらないでください。
 いいえ、焼かないでください。
 いいえ、払わないでください。
 いいえ、連れてこないでください。

3. Suggestion with ~ませんか

Sample sentences:

- a. 森さん、ビールを飲みませんか。
Ms Mori, shall we drink a beer?
- b. ちょっと窓を開けませんか。
Shall we open the window?
- c. 私の部屋に来ませんか。
Why don't you come to my room?

These sample sentences show us that there is no new words in this grammar. It is a combination of a negative verb **V~ません** and the particle **か**. Nevertheless it is a really useful expression to ask someone if he/she would like to have something or to do something.

It is neither a demand nor a command but a **careful invitation** or a **suggestion** of doing something. Normally this formulation implies a *shared action* like in the sample sentence **a**. So if you say **~ませんか** it means in most cases a harmless '*are you interested in doing this together with me?*'. I.e. it will be an action that includes the speaker *and* the interlocutor.

But there are also cases pictured in the sample sentence **b**, where the speaker (the initiator) persuades somebody to an action without doing anything by himself. He is just interested to let someone do an action. In such cases the same **~ませんか** means *do you want to do it for me*. In the third case **c** the action can definitely be done exclusively by the interlocutor. In such cases **~ませんか** means without any hidden agenda *are you interested in doing this*. Contextually the translations **shall we...** or **don't you want to...** or **why don't you...** can be used. The most important characteristic of **~ませんか** is the fact that the person who is asked can still *refuse*. **~ませんか** is only a suggestion.

Examples of offering to do something together:

町へ行きませんか。
Shall we go to the town?

お茶を飲みませんか。
Shall we drink (a cup of) tea?

二人でサッカーの話をしませんか。
Shall we talk together about soccer?

友だちを呼んで、パーティーをしませんか。
Shall we invite some friends and celebrate a party?

Examples of offering someone to do something alone:

起きませんか。
Don't you want to get up?

今日は赤いセーターを着ていませんか。
Why don't you wear the red sweater today?

明日私の家に来ませんか。
Why don't you come to my home tomorrow?

How to reject an invitation including ～ませんか

Generally speaking, to say **No** is always difficult in Japanese. The grammatically correct answer いいえ、...ません。 is a too vehement rejection. Instead of using a negation, evading expressions like

残念ですが、今日はちょっと...

I am sorry, but today is a bit...

残念ですが、今日は時間がありません。

I am sorry, but today I am in hurry.

are suitable. (see Situational Exercise Lesson 5)

In the majority of cases it would be enough to use the second example to express the rejection.

Quiz 5: Build sentences with . ～ませんか



コーヒーを飲む。

学食へ行く。

スカートをはく。

家へ帰る。

旅行をする。

ドアを閉める。

バスで行く。

めがねをかける。

私の車に乗る。

マリアの部屋に行く。

この魚を食べる。

日本語の練習をする。

テレビを見る。

私の家に泊まる。

少し休む。

町へ行って映画を見る。

部屋を片付ける。

ここに座る。

私の隣に座る。

窓を開ける。

ぼうしをかぶる。

パーティーをする。

一人です。

二人です。

かさをさす。

単語を覚える。

ネクタイをしめる。

日本に行く。

もう寝る。

4. Initiative with ~ましょう

Sample sentences:

a. ビールを飲みましょう。

Let's drink a beer!

b. 私が窓を開けましょう。

Let me open the window!

V~ましょう is more than a suggestion. The speaker uses this strong expression to **invite** or **demand** from someone to act with him. It is a peremptory and vigorous offer.

Normally this expression implies also like ~ませんか a *shared action*. The sample sentence **a** show us an *energetic* speaker who takes the initiative to do something. So if you say ~ましょう, the interlocutor has less chance to say *no*. It is justly a rousing initiative. The translation of ~ましょう in this context is **let us...**

Frequently ~ませんか and ~ましょう are used **in pairs** in dialogues. The speaker starts with an careful suggestion of doing something with ~ませんか hoping that the interlocutor will accept it. After that, the interlocutor can agree with this energetic ~ましょう:

ビールを飲みませんか。 はい、飲みましょう。

But there are also cases pictured in the sample sentence **b**, where the speaker (the initiator) is the only acting person. In such cases the same ~ましょう means *I will do that on behalf of you!* In other words the speaker initiates himself to a deed that looks like a favour for others, but not seldom also for himself. Such actions can have a *hypocritical* touch and for the Japanese taste the speaker can be too spotlighted: 私が**V**~ましょう is to be translated as **let me...** with the hidden meaning *it's ME (backslapping) who is doing that job!* or *I'm sacrificing for that hard business!*

But the most important characteristic of ~ましょう is the fact that the person who is asked can hardly *disagree*.

Examples of peremptory invitations:

町へ行きましょう。

Let's go to the town!

友だちを呼んで、パーティーをしましょう。

Let's invite some friends and give a party!

Examples for an answer to a careful suggestion:

町へ行きませんか。

Would you like to go to the town with me?

はい。行きましょう。

Yes, let's go!

お茶を飲みませんか。

Would you like to drink (a cup of) tea with me?

はい。飲みましょう。

Yes, let's drink!

Examples with a hypocritical touch:

おばあさん。その重いかばんは私が持ちましょう。

Grandmother, let me carry that heavy bag!

notice 1:

In dialogues used ～ましょう can be replaced by the fixed expression いいですね。
That's a good idea!:

日本に行きませんか。 はい。行きましょう。
 日本に行きませんか。 いいですね。

notice 2:

Since ～ましょう is more than an invitation, it is hardly possible to reject such demands. But also in this case you can use the above mentioned evading expressions with 残念ですが... or again you show your hesitation.

Quiz 6: Build sentences with ～ましょう

ドアを閉める。
 この喫茶店でケーキを食べる。
 かさをさしていく。
 たくさん漢字を書く。
 部屋をかたづける。
 少し休む。
 アルバイトをして、旅行をする。
 そこに座る。
 辞書を持っていく。
 静かに話す。
 日本語で話す。
 町へ行って、買い物をする。
 字はきれいに書く。
 新しい文法を覚える。

Quiz 7: Answer the questions with ～ませんか

コーヒーを飲みませんか。
 学食へ行きませんか。
 家へ帰りませんか。
 旅行をしませんか。
 ドアを閉めませんか。
 バスで行きますか。
 日本語の練習をしませんか。
 少し休みませんか。
 町へ行って映画を見ませんか。
 窓を開けませんか。
 日本に行きませんか。
 もう寝ませんか。

5. Final Interjectional Particles

In this chapter we will learn few more particles. These particles are placed at the end of a sentence (or a segment) with an interjectional function, i.e. these particles are able to give emotional or exclamatory character to the whole sentence. Japanese interjectional particles are not grammatically isolated, as it is often the case in other languages, but they are a fully integrated component of a sentence.

5.1 Interjectional Particle ね

Sample sentence:

今日は天気が悪いですね。
Today the weather is bad, isn't it?

As we can see from this sample sentence, the particle ね has the function of a **confirmation**. The speaker wants to have his statement confirmed from the point of view of his interlocutor. Without this the sentence will sound like a categorical proclamation or even an irrevocable verdict.

With the help of ね, which is used very frequently, a statement sounds moderated and communicative. ね corresponds to **isn't it (so)?** or **am I right?**, but it has a stronger character of a **assurance** than a real question. Mostly it is a rhetorical question where the answer is *yes*. But in some cases the speaker really wants to make sure if he is right or not (*Today is Monday, isn't it so?*) or he wants to have a binding confirmation. (*You are really coming tomorrow?*)

Generally speaking, ね is something like a lubrication oil for the communication.

寒いですね。

It is cold, isn't it?

あなたが森さんですね。

You are Ms Mori, am I right?

明日必ず来ますね。

You are coming definitely tomorrow, isn't it so ?

今日は本当に月曜日ですね。

Today we have really Monday, am I right ?

Quiz 8: Build sentences by using ね.



これはあなたのかさです。

マイケルは背が高いです。

マリアはやせています。

このバスは駅に行きます。

本当に手紙を読んでもいいです。

ここに来ないでください。

あなたはマリアの妹です。

5.2 Interjectional Particle ねえ

Sample sentence:

今日は天気が悪いですねえ。
Today the weather is really bad, isn't it?

The particle ねえ has also the function of a confirmation. But it is far more an *emotional* statement. It is an **exclamation**. The speaker is strongly impressed by something.

ねえ corresponds to ...really...isn't it (so)? or ...really...aren't you (so)?.

Further nuances we had in case of ね like to *make sure* or to *confirm* cannot be found in this expression.

In other words you can still say 寒いですねえ。 (It is *really* cold, isn't it?), but sentences like ここが食堂ですねえ。 (This is *really* the dining room!) or like 明日来ますねえ。 (You are *really* coming tomorrow!) are **nonsense**.

Although *verbal* and *nominal* sentences can be connected with a ねえ ,

彼は良く食べますねえ。 (He is *really* eating a lot!)

もう春ですねえ。 (It is *really* springtime now!)

adjectival sentences harmonize the best with ねえ, because an emotional expressiveness arises often during a qualitative estimation:

ここはとても静かですねえ。

It is *really* calm here, isn't it?

今日はあたたかいですねえ。

It is *really* warm today, isn't it?

このりんごはおいしいですねえ。

This apple is *really* tasty, isn't it?

汚いですねえ。

It is *really* dirty, isn't it?

つまらないですねえ。

It is *really* boring, isn't it?

Quiz 9: Build sentences by using ~ねえ.

 for instance

マイケルは背が高いです。

マリアはやせています。

マリアの子どもはかわいいです。

この肉は本当に柔らかいです。

彼はサッカーが好きです。

日本語が上手です。

発音が変です。

5.3 Interjectional Particle よ

Sample sentence:

急いでください。バスが来ますよ。
Hurry up please ! The bus is coming !

よ as an assertion

The particle よ underlines in its first function an **assertion** of the speaker. He makes a statement that is based on his knowledge or experience. As an act of *courtesy* he wants to share his knowledge with the interlocutor. Sometimes the statement contains a *warning*, sometimes it is an useful *hint* or just a not categorized type of (universally valid) *information*. It depends on the context if the speaker is asked by someone and he gives this emphatic answer or he pronounces his assertion without being asked. Since the interlocutor plays in any case more a passive role as a recipient of the information, the speaker does not expect any confirmations in respect of his assertion. Anyhow よ in this function corresponds to an **exclamation mark**.

Generally speaking, a sentence with よ is accentuated (*The bus is coming !*), while the same sentence without よ is not accentuated, what means that it is still acceptable as a regularly functioning sentence:

よ as a warning:

授業が始りますよ。
The lesson is beginning!

ここでたばこを吸ってはいけませんよ。
It is not allowed to smoke here!

この料理はとても辛いですよ。
This dish is very spicy!

気をつけてください。その道は危ないですよ。
Be careful! That street is dangerous!

よ as a hint:

今日はバナナが安いですよ。
Today bananas are cheap!

夕方雨が降りますよ。
In the late afternoon it will rain!

来週の試験はかんたんですよ。
The test the next week will be easy!

よ as a not categorized type of information:

マリアはそこにいますよ。
Maria is over there!

おはようございます。もう3時ですよ。
Good morning! It is already 3 o'clock!

よ as a sarcastic /an ironic comment

As a more secondary function よ can also be used as **an ironic reply**. The speaker makes his more or less sarcastic comments on a unsuitable statement of his interlocutor.
よ in this function corresponds also to an **exclamation mark**.

いいえ、火曜日ではありません。今日は月曜日ですよ。
No, it is not Tuesday. Today is Monday!

いいえ、そこはトイレではありませんよ。台所ですよ。
No, it is not the lavatory! It is the kitchen!

映画はいつ始まりますか。もう始まっていますよ。
When does the film start? It has started already!

おいしいですねえ。いいえ、とてもまずいですよ。
It is really tasty, isn't it? No, it is extremely unpleasant!

Quiz 10: Portray a situation and explain the meaning of the following sentences with よ. (warning, hint, general information, sarcastic/ironic comment)



for instance

いいえ、私は先生じゃありませんよ。

ドアが開きますよ。

このコーヒーはおいしいですよ。

行きますよ。

この子どもはまだ3つですよ。

この漢字は2課の漢字ですよ。

ここは駐車場ではありませんよ。

ドアの前ですよ。

外は寒いですよ。

ドアを閉めますよ。

今日は雨が降りますよ。

明日試験ですよ。

チョコレートが安いですよ。

それは私のですよ。

今日は日曜日ですよ。

時計が止まっていますよ。

このお店は高いですよ。

5.4 Combination of よ and ね

Sample sentence:

このバスは駅まで行きますよね。
This bus does go to the station, doesn't it?

The particles よ and ね can be used together in this order. The meaning of よね is an **accentuated (emphasized) confirmation**. The speaker is not absolutely sure that what he says is true. So he asks as a precaution the interlocutor if his assumption is right or wrong. As you can see, the difference between a simple ね and this よね is usually very slight. よね is just more enforced and it has a stronger character of a **question** than of assertion. よね corresponds also to the expressions **isn't it so?** or **am I right?** or **aren't you?**

あの方は日本人ですよね。

That person over there is Japanese. Am I right?

まだこの新聞を読みますよね。

You are still going to read this newspaper, aren't you?

明日必ず来ますよね。

You are coming definitely tomorrow, aren't you?

今日は本当に月曜日ですよね。

Today we have really Monday. Isn't it so?

かさを持っていきますよね。

You are taking the umbrella with you, aren't you?

サラはマリアの妹ですよね。

Sarah is Maria's younger sister, isn't she?

qualitative evaluation

In case of a *qualitative* evaluation (mostly adjectival sentence) you can ascertain a clear differentiation between ね and よね. In sentences like このりんごはおいしいですね。

(*This apple is tasty, isn't it so?*) or マイケルは背が高いですね。 (*Michael is tall, isn't it so?*) the speaker has already his own safe and stable opinion in respect of the quality.

But in cases like このりんごはおいしいですよね。 or マイケルは背が高いですよね。 the speaker does *not* have a final opinion of the quality. Either he has a weak power of judgement although he is well informed about the matter of the talk, or he has not yet got information about the topic, i.e. he has not yet eaten the apple or he has not yet met Michael. In such situations よね corresponds more to expressions like

am I right in thinking that... ? or **am I right if I say ?**

マリアはやせていますね。

Maria is really skinny, isn't she?

日本も今寒いですね。

It is also cold in Japan now. Am I right?

この家は丈夫ですね。

This house is robust, isn't it?

マリアはやせていますよね。

Am I right in thinking that Maria is skinny?

日本も今寒いですね。

Am I right in thinking that it is cold now in J.?

この家は丈夫ですね。

Am I right if I say that this house is robust?

Quiz 11: Which of the interjections ね, ねえ, ょ, and ょね can be used in the following sentences? Explain your choice(s).



for instance

いいえ、私は学生です。
 バスが来ます。
 高いです。
 コーヒーはおいしいです。
 コーヒーが嫌いです。
 ここは駐車場ではありません。
 寒いです。
 あなたが森さんです。
 彼も来ます。
 今日は本当に月曜日です。
 電車が駅に着きます。
 雨が降りません。
 このスーパーは安いです。
 彼は良く寝ます。
 たくさん買い物をします。
 家へ帰ってもいいです。
 この新聞を読んでもいいです。
 ここでたばこを吸ってもいいです。
 この仕事は来週でもいいです。
 これは昨日の新聞です。
 外は寒いです。
 この問題は複雑です。
 ボーイフレンドは外国人です。
 家に帰ります。
 窓が開いています。
 お風呂に入りました。
 あなたの部屋に泊まっています。
 良い辞書を使っています。
 家へ帰ってください。
 その新聞を読んではいけません。
 ここでたばこを吸ってはいけません。
 ひらがなで書いてもいいです。

6. Transitive and Intransitive Verbs

私は車を止めました。

I stopped the car.

車が止まりました。

The car stopped.

The distinction between a transitive verb 他動詞 (たどうし) and an intransitive verb 自動詞 (じどうし) is a general problem. There are no striking features like visual differences between them to identify an unknown verb as an element of one of these two groups. This means that you have to learn the classification of each verb.

Some rules of thumb are:

A **transitive verb** is incomplete without a *direct object*. Hence in sentences with a transitive verb you find usually a noun marked by the particle を. In most cases sentences with a transitive verb an **initiator** of this action (marked by は or が) is mentioned.

An **intransitive verb**, on the other hand, *cannot* take a direct object. In sentences with an intransitive verb you can often find a noun marked by the particle が, but you will *never* find a noun marked by を. Finally in a sentence with an intransitive verb you cannot spot an initiator which is normally a human, i.e. a person who completes the action.

But unfortunately many verbs are either transitive or intransitive, depending on their context in the sentence.

In the following table you find a comparison of some *structurally* unequivocal transitive and intransitive verbs from our textbook:

transitive V 他動詞 (with を)	Intransitive V 自動詞 (with が)
止める to stop	止まる to stop
集める to gather	集まる to gather
決める to decide	決まる be decided
始める to begin	始まる to begin
閉める to close	閉まる to close
こわす to destroy	こわれる to destroy
開ける to open	開く to open
入れる to put into	入る to enter
出る to go out	出す to send
起こす to wake up	起きる to wake up
落とす to drop	落ちる to fall
消す to extinguish	消える to be extinguished

sample sentences:

(私は)くるまを家の前で止めました。
I stopped the car in front of my house.

くるまが家の前で止まりました。
I stopped the car in front of my house.

彼は切手を集めています。
He collects stamps.

学生が教室に集まっています。
Students are gathered in the class room.

先生は日本語の授業を始めました。
The teacher started the Japanese lesson.

日本語の授業が始まりました。
The Japanese lesson has started.

子どもが洗濯機をこわしました。
The child ruined the washing machine.

古い洗濯機がこわれました。
The old washing machine broke down.

私は部屋の電気を消しました。
I switched off the room light.

部屋の電気が消えました。
The room light erased.

森さんは子どもをお風呂に入れます。
Ms Mori will bathe her children.

森さんはお風呂に入ります。 *
Ms Mori will take a bath.

* お風呂に入ります。 *to take a bath* is a fixed expression which is marked with に.

notice:

The verbs なる (to become) and する (to make) were already mentioned in lesson 7, chapter 1.2.4.

なる is accompanied by に and it is normally used in structures like $N_1がN_2になる$. It is an *intransitive verb* (something is changing its state without the interference of a visible initiator): 子どもが大人になります. *A child is becoming an adult.*

する is also accompanied by the particle に and it is used in the ideal structure $N_1はN_2をN_3にする$. In this case a visible initiator consciously brings something to a new state. So する is a *transitive verb*: 森さんは子どもを医者にします. *Ms Mori is going to make her child a doctor.*