

文法第 2 課

Grammar Notes for Lesson 2

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文法第2課

Grammar Notes for Lesson 2

1. The Verb (part 2)

For general information about the **Japanese verbs**, see **lesson 1**. Following chapters deal with further modifications (inflexions) of the verb.

1.1 The Ordinary Polite Negative Form ～ません

Taking the masu-form as a starting point, it is very easy to build other modifications of the verb. We first start with the **negation**:

Example:

ビールを飲みますか。 Biiru o nomimasu ka. Do you drink beer?

いいえ、飲みません。 Iie, nomimasen. No, I don't (drink).

To build the **ordinary polite negative form** of verbs (*not* to do something), just replace the already introduced ending ~masu with ~**masen**.

(The i-sound of the example 飲む already shows that the negation also belongs to the same type of inflection as the masu-form. ~masen belongs to the *second* column.)

Word Formation:

STEM + masen (ません)

The negation of 弱V is built as follows:

<u>examples of 弱V</u>	<u>masu-form</u>	<u>negative form</u>
見る miru	見ます mimasu	見ません mimasen
起きる okiru	起きます okiimasu	起きません okimasen
食べる taberu	食べます tabemasu	食べません tabemasen
開ける akeru	開けます akemasu	開けません akemasen

The negation of 強 V is built as follows:

examples of 強V		masu-form		negative form	
買う	kau	買います	kaimasu	買いません	kaimasen
行く	iku	行きます	ikimasu	行きません	ikimasen
飲む	nomu	飲みます	nomimasu	飲みません	nomimasen
帰る	kaeru	帰ります	kaerimasu	帰りません	kaerimasen
etc. etc.					

The negation of $\neg V$ is built as follows:

examples of 不V		masu-form		negative form	
来る	kuru	来ます	kimasu	来ません	kimasen
する	suru	します	shimasu	しません	shimasen

More sample sentences with ～ません :

本を読みますか。	いいえ、読みません。
Hon o yomimasu ka.	Iie, yomimasen
Do you read books?	No, I don't (read books).

テレビを見ますか。	いいえ、見ません。
Terebi o mimasu ka.	Iie, mimasen.
Do you watch TV?	No, I don't (watch TV).

家で勉強をしますか。	いいえ、しません。
Uchi de benkyoo o shimasu ka.	Iie, shimasen.
Do you learn at home?	No, I don't do that.

大学まで行きますか。 いいえ、行きません。
Daigaku made ikimasu ka. Iie, ikimasen.
Do you go (as far as) to the college? No, I don't (go to the college).

家でコーヒーを飲みますか。	いいえ、飲みません。
Uchi de koohii o nomimasu ka.	Iie, nomimasen.
Do you drink coffee at home?	No, I don't (drink coffee at home).

Quiz 1: At first transform the following verbs to the masu-form. Then build the negation.

Example: 書く kaku → 書きます kakimasu → 書けません kakimasen

見る	miru	→
起きる	okiru	→
着る	kiru	→
食べる	taberu	→
開ける	akeru	→
閉める	shimeru	→
買う	kau	→
行く	iku	→
飲む	nomu	→
話す	hanasu	→
帰る	kaeru	→
書く	kaku	→
聞く	kiku	→
来る	kuru	→
する	suru	→



The answers will be discussed during the grammar lesson.

Quiz 2: Answer the following questions.

仕事をしますか。いいえ、	Shigoto o shimasu ka. Iie,...
家へ帰りますか。いいえ、	Uchi e kaerimasu ka. Iie,...
ワインを飲みますか。いいえ、	Wain o nomimasu ka. Iie,...
フランスへ行きますか。いいえ、	Furansu e ikimasu ka. Iie,...
買い物をしますか。いいえ、	Kaimono o shimasu ka. Iie,...
本を読みますか。いいえ、	Hon o yomimasu ka. Iie,...
スペイン語を話しますか。いいえ、	Supein-go o hanashimasu ka. Iie,...
中国語を話しますか。いいえ、	Chugoku-go o hanashimasu ka. Iie,...
レストランで魚を食べますか。いいえ、	Resutoran de sakana o tabemasu ka. Iie,...



The answers will be discussed during the grammar lesson.

1.2 Negation of the Past 〜ませんでした

Example :

新聞を読みましたか。 Shinbun o yomimashita ka. Did you read the papers?

いいえ、読みませんでした。 Iie, yomimasen deshita. No, I did not read.

In order to build the **ordinary polite negative form of a verb in the past tense** ("did not do something"), replace the ending ~masu with **~masen deshita**.

Word Formation:

STEM + masen deshita (ませんでした)

The negation of the past form of **弱V** is built as follows:

<u>examples of 弱V</u>	<u>masu-form</u>		<u>negative past</u>	
見る miru	見ます	mimasu	見ませんでした	mimasen deshita
起きる okiru	起きます	okiimasu	起きませんでした	okimasen deshita
食べる taberu	食べます	tabemasu	食べませんでした	tabemasen deshita
開ける akeru	開けます	akemasu	開けませんでした	akemasen deshita

The negation of the past form of **強V** is built as follows:

<u>examples of 強V</u>	<u>masu-form</u>		<u>negative past</u>	
買う kau	買います	kaimasu	買いませんでした	kaimasen deshita
行く iku	行きます	ikimasu	行きませんでした	ikimasen deshita
飲む nomu	飲みます	nomimasu	飲みませんでした	nomimasen deshita
帰る kaeru	帰ります	kaerimasu	帰りませんでした	kaerimasen deshita
etc. etc.				

The negation of the past form of 不V is built as follows:

<u>examples of 不V</u>		<u>masu-form</u>	<u>negative past</u>		
来る	kuru	来ます	kimasu	来ませんでした	kimasen deshita
する	suru	します	shimasu	しませんでした	shimasen deshita

More sample sentences with ～ませんでした：

ニュースを聞きましたか。
Nyuusu o kikimashita ka.
Did you listen to the news?

いいえ、聞きませんでした。
Iie, kikimasen deshita.
No, I did not (listen to the news).

家でご飯を食べましたか。
Uchi de go-han o tabemashita ka.
Did you eat at home?

いいえ、食べませんでした。
Iie, tabemasen deshita.
No, I did not (eat at home).

買い物をしましたか。
Kaimono o shimashita ka.
Did you go shopping?

いいえ、しませんでした。
Iie, shimasen deshita.
No, I did not (go shopping).

ビールを飲みましたか。
Biiru o nomimashita ka.
Did you drink beer?

いいえ、飲みませんでした。
Iie, nomimasen deshita.
No, I did not (drink beer).

雑誌を買いましたか。
Zasshi o kaimashita ka.
Did you buy a magazine?

いいえ、買いませんでした。
Iie, kaimasen deshita.
No, I did not (buy a magazine).

本を読みましたか。
Hon o yomimashita ka.
Did you read a book?

いいえ、読みませんでした。
Iie, yomimasen deshita.
No, I did not (read a book).

学校に行きましたか。
Gakkoo ni ikimashita ka.
Did you go to school?

いいえ、行きませんでした。
Iie, ikimasen deshita.
No, I did not (go to school).

漢字を忘れましたか。
Kanji o wasuremashita ka.
Did you forget the Kanji?

いいえ、忘れませんでした。
Iie, wasuremasen deshita.
No, I did not (forget the Kanji).

ひらがなを書きましたか。
Hiragana o kakimashita ka.
Did you write Hiragana?

いいえ、書きませんでした。
Iie, kakimasen deshita.
No, I did not (write Hiragana).

Quiz 3: Transform the following phrases to the negative past form.

Example: 手紙を書く tegami o kaku → 手紙を書きませんでした tegami o kakimasen deshita

本を忘れる	hon o wasureru	→
お茶を飲む	o-cha o nomu	→
デパートで買う	depaato de kau	→
図書館で読む	toshokan de yomu	→
日本で買う	Nihon de kau	→
家に帰る	uchi ni kaeru	→
駅まで行く	eki made iku	→
かたかなを書く	katakana o kaku	→
英語を話す	ei-go o hanasu	→
郵便局へ行く	yuubinkyoku e iku	→
イタリアまで行く	Itaria made iku	→
日本語を教える	Nihon-go o oshieru	→
ギターをひく	gitaa o hiku	→



The answers will be discussed during the grammar lesson.

Quiz 4: Answer the questions with **hai** or **iie**.

Example: 手紙を書きましたか tegami o kakimashita ka → はい、書きました hai, kakimashita

駅まで行きましたか。	Eki made ikimashita ka.	→	はい、
飲み屋へ行きましたか。	Nomi-ya e ikimashita ka.	→	いいえ、
ワインを飲みましたか。	Wain o nomimashita ka.	→	いいえ、
勉強をしましたか。	Benkyoo o shimashita ka.	→	はい、
ピアノをひきましたか。	Piano o hikimashita ka.	→	はい、
ギターをひきましたか。	Gitaa o hikimashita ka.	→	いいえ、
漢字を忘れましたか。	Kanji o wasuremashita ka.	→	いいえ、



The answers will be discussed during the grammar lesson.

2. Other Particles

In this chapter you will become acquainted with some new particles.

2.1 が as Subject Marker

Example :

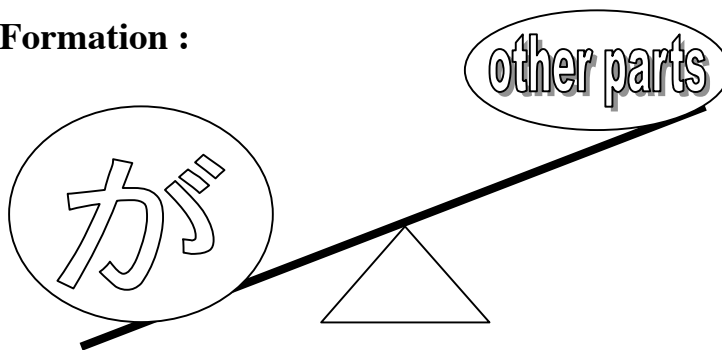
どなたが日本へ行きすか。 **Donata ga** Nihon e ikimasu ka.
Who is going to Japan? (Who is the person who is going to Japan?)
 マイケルが行きます。 **Maikeru ga** ikimasu.
 It's **Michael**. (It is Michael who is going to Japan.)

In Japanese to mark the **subject** of a sentence the particle が is used. This marker, however, is not regularly used, because in the common usage of the language the noun which is marked with a が is **emphasized extremely strong**. So if you like to emphasise the noun in sentences like “*Nobody else but me* can do that.”, or “It is *Michael* who is going to eat sushi in that new Japanese restaurant.”, you can or even have to use this particle.

But if you use a が, all other parts of the sentences like the object (sushi) or the predicate (is going to eat) or the information of the place (restaurant) lose their usual efficacy and weight. They become automatically unstressed and less important.

Ergo: が not only **marks** a **subject**, but also **emphasizes** it and, at the same time, **weakens** the expressiveness of all other parts of the sentence. Because of these specific features が is understandably seldom used.

Word Formation :



Other sample sentences with the subject marker が

私がひきます。 **Watashi ga** hikimasu.

I will play (the instrument)! (It is me who will play.) (not somebody else!)

本田さんがワインを買います。 **Honda-san ga** wain o kaimasu.

Ms. Honda is going to buy wine. (It is Ms.Honda who is going to buy wine.) (not another person)

私が本を読みます。 **Watashi ga** hon o yomimasu.

I will read a book. (It is me who will read a book.) (not someone else)

だれが書きましたか。
Dare ga kakimashita ka.

彼女が書きました。
Kanojo ga kakimashita.

Who wrote it.

(Who is the person who wrote it?)

She wrote it. (not someone else)

(She is the person who wrote it.)

notice 1:

For a translation it is important to recognize the が as an extreme emphasis. Sometimes it is even necessary to supplement it with expressions like “nobody else than...”, “ exactly”, or “ herself / himself”.

notice 2:

Because of its strong emphasis が, is often used in **wh-questions** (these are sentences including interrogative words like who, when, what, where etc. For more information about wh-questions, see lesson 1).

notice 3:

You can not replace the object marker を with a が ! In other words, a sentence like “Hon o yomimasu.” (I will read books.) can **not** be transformed to “Hon ga yomimasu.”. This means “The book will read.” In similar ways none of previously mentioned particles should be replaced by が !

To give more emphasis to the other parts of the sentence than the subject, you can place the most important information at the beginning of the sentence. Instead of “ Maikeru ga Nihon e ikimashita.” (Michael went to Japan.), you can also formulate “ Nihon e Maikeru ga ikimashita.” As for oral communication, the accentuation will also be helpful to stress the designated parts.

Quiz 4: Fill up the gap with the right particle.

Example: 私...書きました。Watashi ... kakimashita. → 私が書きました。Watashi **ga** kakimashita.

私...飲みます。	Watashi...nomimasu.	→
ビール...買いました。	Biiiru ... kaimashita.	→
森さん...ビール...買います。	Mori-san ... biiru ... kaimasu.	→
レストラン...ご飯...食べます。	Resutoran...gohan...tabemasu.	→
仕事...します...	Shigoto...shimasu....	→
ドイツ...日本...行きます。	Doitsu...Nihon...ikimasu.	→
学生...漢字...覚えます。	Gakusei...Kanji...oboemasu.	→
先生...日本語...教えます。	Sensei...Nihon-go...oshiemasu.	→



The answers will be discussed during the grammar lesson.

2.2 は as a Marker of the Topic

Example :

あなたは日本へ行きすか。 **Anata wa** Nihon e ikimasu ka.
Are you going to Japan?

はい、行きます。 Hai, ikimasu.
Yes, I am (going to Japan).

Besides the subject marker, there is another particle which specifies the **topic** (the theme) of a sentence. First of all this topic marker is written with the Hiragana は but its pronunciation is exceptionally “**wa**” (and not “ha“!).

(In linguistics the term *topic* or *theme* signifies a word or clause within a sentence, usually providing information from the previous discourse or shared knowledge that the rest of the sentence elaborates or comments on. The subject of a sentence must not always be a topic!)

The best way to distinguish the function of the particle は from this of the particle が is to compare them:

2.3 は versus が

Example :

森さんはスーパーでワインを買います。

Mori-san wa suupaa de wain o kaimasu.

Ms Mori will buy wine in the supermarket.

Unlike the particle が which can emphasize only the subject of a sentence, は as the particle of the topic, is able to accentuate **all** other parts of the sentence.

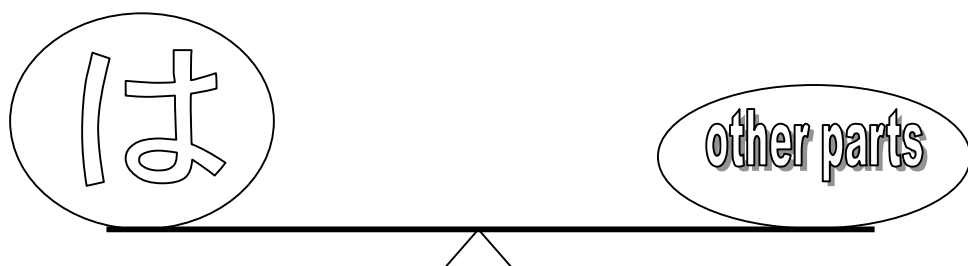
The example sentence *Mori-san wa suupaa de wain o kaimasu.* can be understood as:

- Ms Mori (and no one else) will buy. (similar as the emphasis on the **person** made by が)
- shopping in the supermarket and not somewhere else. (emphasis on the **place**)
- shopping of wine and not another liquor (emphasis on the **object**)
- it is a shopping and not a shoplifting (emphasis on the **action**)

It depends on the context and the intention of the speaker or writer which part of the sentence should be emphasized. At the same time the usage of は can be understood as an **equal emphasis** on all parts of the sentence or, reversely, as a **neutralisation** of the emphasis.

Roughly speaking: は is a far more flexible and universal particle than が!

Formation :



In usual situations, a sentence with は is to be understood as a **neutral statement** without emphasis. It gives us more the image of a status, which can be a **regular or habitual action**. (Ms Mori buys her wine regularly in a supermarket. It is nearly a custom.)

If you replace the は in this sentence with a が, it would indicate more a **specific and unique situation**. (In this special case, it is Ms Mori who buys wine in the supermarket. But next time it will be someone else.)

More sample sentences with the topic marker は:

私はピアノをひきます。Watashi **wa** piano o hikimasu.

I will play the piano.

本田さんはワインを買います。Honda-san **wa** wain o kaimasu.

Ms. Honda is going to buy wine.

私は本を読みます。Watashi **wa** hon o yomimasu.

I will read a book.

森さんは魚を食べません。Mori-san **wa** sakana o tabemasen.

Ms Mori does not eat fish.

彼は来ませんでした。Kare **wa** kimasen deshita.

He did not come.

友だちは日本へ帰りました。Tomodachi **wa** Nihon e kaerimashita.

My friend went back to Japan.

notice:

Because of its neutralizing character は can *not* be used in **wh-questions**.

Sentences starting with interrogative words like 何、どこ、どなた、だれ、いつ are connected with が but *never* with は!

Quiz 5: は or が or both ??

私...ビールを飲みます。	Watashi...nomimasu.	→
森さん...ビールを買います。	Mori-san ... biiru ... kaimasu.	→
何...来ましたか。	Nani...kimashita ka.	→
彼...家で勉強をします。	Kare...uchi de benkyoo o shimasu.	→
だれ...書きましたか。	Dare...kakimashita ka.	→
学生...漢字を覚えます。	Gakusei...Kanji o oboemasu.	→
先生...日本語を教えます。	Sensei...Nihon-go o oshiemasu.	→



The answers will be discussed during the grammar lesson.

2.4 は as Delimitation

Examples :

ビールは飲みます。 I drink beer .	Biiru wa nomimasu.
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森さんは肉は食べません。 Ms Mori does not eat meat .	Mori-san wa niku wa tabemasen.
--	---------------------------------------

Apart from its function as a pure topic marker, は has another meaning. It can be used as a particle of **delimitation**. The contextual meaning of delimitation is to select one special topic (a noun, or in this case the beer) out of a group of similar topics (nouns, or in this special case the rest of alcoholic drinks), whereby this topic gains an **isolated exceptional position**.

If you look at the first example sentence, you will soon recognize that the usual object marker を has been replaced by は. *Biiru o nomimasu* is a statement about the fact that you drink beer, nothing more. But the sentence *Biiru wa nomimasu* indicates also an additional information about the habit of drinking. The speaker prefers beer as beverage and at the same time dislikes other liquors. (I drink beer, **but...**)

Generally speaking, this は is able to distinguish and **separate** one noun from others. Although the other things of the group stay verbally unmentioned, these objects always *latently* exist.

The second example shows a sentence with **two** topics. The first は in this sentence is to be understood as a marker of a neutral statement. Mori-san is just the theme. The second は functions as a marker of delimitation. This delimitation is a *reverse* one because this sentence is formulated as a negation. *niku wa tabemasen* indicates, so to say, the information about the habit of not eating. The speaker (Mori-san) refuses meat (a special object out of a group of similar objects) and latently she prefers other nourishments. (I don't eat meat, **but.../although...**)

Most of the sentences with different particles we have built since lesson 1 can be transformed to sentences which reveal an additional shade of meaning by using this は.

In order to express a delimitation, some of the particles must be followed by は i.e. the corresponding noun gets **two** particles. (Lesson 1: Particles can be used in combination.) In other cases the primary particle will be **superimposed** by は. In this case the former particle is **hidden** but its function still remains. Following rules are obligatory:

Combination of particles:

に	→	には
へ	→	へは
で	→	では
から	→	からは
まで	→	までは

Superimposition:

を	→	は
が	→	は
は	→	は

notice 1

It is not possible to change the order of the combined particles. (はに or はから does not exist !)

notice 2

The superimposition of は by は looks tautological. But it means that a simple neutral statement like *watashi wa tabemasu*. (I will eat.) can be transformed to a delimitation depending on the condition of the context. *watashi wa tabemasu*. (As for me, I can say that I will eat, **but** I can't say anything about the action of other people.)

More sample sentences with the “delimitative” は :

会社に行きます。 Kaisha ni ikimasu.

I will go to the firm.

会社には行きます。 Kaisha **ni wa** ikimasu.

I will go to the firm, **but**.... (not somewhere else)

家へ帰りません。 Uchi e kaerimasen.

I will not go back home.

家へは帰りません。 Uchi **ewa** kaerimasen.

I will not go back home, **but**... (I will go somewhere else)

デパートで買い物をしました。 Depaato de kaimono o shimashita.

I made shopping in the department store.

デパートでは買い物をしました。 Depaato **de wa** kaimono o shimashita.

I made shopping in the department store, **but**.... (not somewhere else)

本を読みました。 Hon o yomimashita.

I read a book.

本は読みました。 Hon **wa** yomimashita.

I read a book, **but**... (no other reading matter)

森さんがします。 Mori-san ga shimasu.

(Nobody else but) Ms Mori does that.

森さんはします。 Mori-san wa shimasu.

Ms Mori does that, **but**... (I don't know whether other people also do that)

Quiz 6: Explain the particularities of the following sentences.

魚は食べました。 Sakana wa tabemashita.

ひらがなは覚えます。 Hiragana wa oboemasu.

家では勉強をします。 Uchi de wa benkyoo o shimasu.

デパートへは行きました。 Depaato e wa ikimashita.



The answers will be discussed during the grammar lesson.

2.5 は as Interrogative Particle

Example :

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| A: | ビールを飲みますか。 | Biiru o nomimasu ka. |
| | Do you drink beer? | |
| B: | はい、飲みます。 | Hai, nomimasu. |
| | Yes, I do. | |
| A: | ワインは。 | Wain wa. |
| | And what about wine? | |
| B: | はい、飲みます。 | Hai, nomimasu. |
| | Yes, I do. | |

This is the third and last function of は . In order to use は as an **interjective particle**, a quite unique situation is required. During **an interview-like** conversation where several similar questions are to be asked, you can use this abbreviated form of a question after you have specified the topic of the conversation. Actually **N は.** is the rest of the interrogative sentence **And what about N ?** (**N は Vますか.**) Normally questions in the form of **N は** build a sequence similar to a string of beads, i.e.: **N₁ は.** (answer). **N₂ は.** (answer). **N₃ は.** (answer). **N₄ は.** (answer)....

- A: 何を買いますか。 Nani o kaimasu ka. What are you going to buy ?
 B: 本を買います。 Hon o kaimasu . I will buy books.
 A: **食べ物**は。 **Tabemono wa.** And what about food?
 B: はい、買います。 Hai, kaimasu. Yes, I will buy (it too).
 A: **飲み物**は。 **Nomimono wa ?** And what about drinks?
 B: はい、買います。 Hai, kaimasu. Yes, I will buy (them too).
 A: **カメラ**は。 **Kamera wa ?** And what about camera ?
 B: はい、買います。 Hai, kaimasu. Yes, I will buy (it too).
 A: **花**は。 **Hana wa ?** And what about flowers ?
 B: はい、買います。 Hai, kaimasu. Yes, I will buy (them too).
 etc.etc.

Similarly, you can make conversations by using different probe questions.

For instance asking about travel to different countries:

- A: どこへ行きますか。 Where are you going to ? B: 日本へ行きます。 To Japan.
 A: **中国へ**は。 And what about China ? (B: はい、行きます。)
 A: **アメリカへ**は。 And what about the USA ? (B: はい、行きます。)
 A: **カナダへ**は。 And what about Canada ? (B: はい、行きます。) etc. etc.

As you can see from the last conversation, it is very important to remind of possibility to combine the particles if necessary. The markers of the place like へ、に、から、まで should be transformed according to chapter 2.4 to the combinations へは、には、からは、までは and, correspondingly, で should be transformed to では.

By the way, this kind of は used as a question is stressed like the か (as we have learned in lesson 1, chapter 3.6.) Please listen carefully to the intonation of the instructors in the classroom.

Quiz 7: Interview Mori-san about different topics:

本を買いましたか。 Hon o kaimashita ka. (飲み物、パン、雑誌、新聞、魚、肉)

お茶を飲みましたか。 O-cha o nomimashita ka. (お酒、ジュース、ワイン、ビール)

外国に行きますか。 Gaikoku ni ikimasu ka. (フランス、スペイン、イタリア、アメリカ)

家で勉強をしますか。 Uchi de benkyoo o shimasu ka. (大学、図書館、喫茶店、飲み屋)



The answers will be discussed during the grammar lesson.

3. Conjunction

This new category of uninflectable words is necessary to **connect** two and more sentences.

Words like *but, and then, after that, although, since then, even so* etc. are conjunctions.

Without a conjunction the sentences you write or speak would appear disjointed as if they were drifting solitarily in the space. So, conjunctions are important to build a logical coherence between sentences.

There are **two** formal types of conjunctions.

The **first** type connects two or more sentences together in a way that these sentences are **linked** but not mingled. Schematically represented, this type would look like:

1st sentence.

Conjunction 1 + 2nd sentence.

Conjunction 2 + 3rd sentence.

etc. etc.

In this case conjunctions are set like in western languages at the very **beginning** of the respective sentences.

The **second** type of conjunction combines two sentences together so that they form a complex sentence (compound sentence); i.e. the connection is more strong and tight. The scheme of this type of conjunction is:

1st segment + **conjunction** , 2nd segment.

Such conjunctions are set at the **end** of the first clause or, to be more precise, at the end of the first segment of the compound sentence.

This part of the sentence is explicitly separated by a **comma** from the following clause (second segment). The conjunction is definitely not a part of the second segment. So, this phenomenon is a remarkable contrast to western languages and of course a source of errors.

Two conjunctions of the first type (それから and そして) and one conjunction of the second type (か) will be introduced in the following subchapter.

3.1 それから and そして

Example of それから :

ビールを飲みます。	それからワインを飲みます。
Biiru o nomimasu.	Sorekara wain o nomimasu.
I will drink beer.	And then I will drink wine.

The conjunction それから shows in sentences with a verb as predicate that the first mentioned action has been completed. Afterwards another action follows. It is a so-called **consecutive** conjunction. (それから can also be connected with adjectives and nouns.)

それから can be translated as **then, and then, after that** or with similar words.

More sample sentences with the conjunction それから :

日本に行きます。それから中国に行きます。
Nihon ni ikimasu. **Sorekara** Chuugoku ni ikimasu.
I will go to Japan. **After that** I will go to China.

私たちは魚を食べます。それから肉を食べます。それからコーヒーを飲みます。
Watashitachi wa sakana o tabemasu. **Sorekara** niku o tabemasu. **Sorekara** koohii o nomimasu.
We will eat fish. **Then** we will eat meat. **And then** we will drink coffee.

町で買い物をしました。それから家へ帰りました。
Machi de kaimono o shimashita. **Sorekara** uchi e kaerimashita.
We went shopping in the town. **And then** we went home.

それから can also be understood as an **enumeration** of similar things and facts. In this case you can also use the expressions **besides, in addition, further** or similar words.

森さんはドイツ語を話します。それからフランス語を話します。
Mori-san wa doitsu-go o hanashimasu. **Sorekara** furansu-go o hanashimasu.
Ms Mori speaks German. **Further** she speaks French. / After that she will speak in French.

彼女はピアノをひきます。それからギターをひきます。
Kanojo wa piano o hikimasu. **Sorekara** gitaa o hikimasu.
She plays the piano. **In addition** she plays guitar. / After that she will play the guitar.

These examples are ambiguous, because the actions can either be interpreted as actions done in the very near future (remember the basic meaning of the masu-form) **or** both actions are habits or

abilities of the acting person (further meaning of the masu-form). If you want to express the habit, the sentences should be translated by using **besides, in addition, further** or similar words.

notice 1:

Since there are no strict or obligatory rules for punctuation marks in Japanese, a **comma** between the conjunction and the rest of the sentence is **optional**. In longer sentences a comma is recommendable, because it indicates a separation of ideas or elements within the structure of a sentence.

notice 2:

Normally the two actions of the connected sentences are done by the **same actor(s)**. All sample sentences mentioned above are formulated according to this principle. (Even the sentence with 私たち is a reproduction of actions done by the same actors of one group.)

A very special situation is necessary to say 私はビールを飲みます。それから森さんはワインを飲みます。(I will drink beer. And then Ms Mori will drink wine.) I.e. person A is doing something. After he has finished the action, person B appears and does something. This sentence suggests either that Mori and I are waiting in a queue for a drink, or that we are drinking in turns...

Example of そして:

ビールを飲みます。そしてワインを飲みます。

Biiru o nomimasu. **Soshite** wain o nomimasu.
I will drink beer. And then I will drink wine.

The conjunction そして is called a **coordinative conjunction**. As for sentences with a verb as predicate, there is actually no remarkable difference between そして and それから . At the most the actions of the sentences connected with そして follow more directly one after another, although the temporal aspect is not dominant. In this respect the そして tends to be translated rather as **and (then)** than **after**.

In order to connect two sentences with *different* acting persons そして fits much better than それから . But in daily usage they can be regarded in most of the cases as synonyms. Instead of repeating the same conjunction constantly like a child, you can use them alternately in sense of a stylistic device.

More sample sentences with the conjunction そして:

日本に行きます。そして中国に行きます。
Nihon ni ikimasu. **Soshite** Chuugoku ni ikimasu.
I will go to Japan. **And then** I will go to China.

私たちは魚を食べます。そして肉を食べます。そしてコーヒーを飲みます。
Watashitachi wa sakana o tabemasu. **Soshite** niku o tabemasu. **Soshite** koohii o nomimasu.
We will eat fish. **And then** we will eat meat. **And then** we will drink coffee.

町で買い物をしました。そして家へ帰りました。
Machi de kaimono o shimashita. **Soshite** uchi e kaerimashita.
We went shopping in the town. **And then** we went home.

昨日漢字を覚えました。そして今日忘れました。
 Kinoo Kanji o oboemashita. **Soshite** kyoo wasuremashita.
 Yesterday I memorized Kanji. **And then** I forgot them today.

As well as それから, そして can also be used for the purpose of enumeration of similar things and facts. In this case the translation is **besides, in addition, further** or similar words:

森さんはドイツ語を話します。そしてフランス語を話します。
 Mori-san wa doitsu-go o hanashimasu. Soshite furansu-go o hanashimasu.
 Ms Mori speaks German. Further she speaks French. / And then she will speak in French.

彼女はピアノをひきます。そしてギターをひきます。
 Kanojo wa piano o hikimasu. Soshite gitaa o hikimasu.
 She plays the piano. In addition she plays guitar. / And then she will play the guitar.

As already mentioned, there is no problem to use そして to connect actions done by **two** different persons. 私はビールを飲みます。そして森さんはワインを飲みます。(I will drink beer. And Ms Mori will drink wine.)

More sample sentences with the conjunction そして involving two different acting persons:

森さんはドイツ語を話します。そして本田さんはフランス語を話します。
 Mori-san wa doitsu-go o hanashimasu. Soshite Honda-san wa furansu-go o hanashimasu.
 Ms Mori speaks German. And Ms Honda speaks French.

彼女はピアノをひきます。そして彼はギターをひきます。
 Kanojo wa piano o hikimasu. Soshite kare wa gitaa o hikimasu.
 She plays the piano. And he plays the guitar.

3.2 Conjunction が

Example:

ビールを飲みます**が**、ワインは飲みません。
 Biiru o nomimasu **ga**, wain wa nomimasen.
 I will drink beer, **but** I will not drink wine.

First of all this example sentence shows us, that the conjunction が blends **two** sentences into **one** fused structure, in which the **comma** clearly indicates that this が belongs to the **first** segment of the sentence and not to the second one.

Word Formation:

1st segment + が、 2nd segment.

The conjunction が is responsible for the fusion of two **contrasting** or two mutually limiting statements and it can usually be translated as **but**.

Although it depends on the context how to interpret it in detail, in most of the cases が means a strong contrast if the connected sentences share the same acting person, i.e. there is only one person who is doing both actions:

森さんはピアノをひきますが、ギターはひきません。
Mori-san wa piano o hikimasu **ga**, gitaa wa hikimasen.
Ms Mori plays the piano, **but** not a guitar.

マイケルは日本へ行きますが、中国へは行きません。
Maikeru wa Nihon e ikimasu **ga**, Chuugoku e wa ikimasen.
Michael will go to Japan, **but** he will not go to China.

肉を食べましたが、魚は食べませんでした。
Niku o tabemashita **ga**, sakana wa tabemasen deshita.
I eat meat, **but** I did not eat fish.

読みますが、書きません。
Yomimasu **ga**, kakimasen.
I read, **but** I do not write.

新聞は読みませんが、雑誌は読みます。
Shinbun wa yomimasen **ga**, zasshi wa yomimasu.
He reads no papers, **but** he reads magazines.

If **two** persons are involved, が can still mean a **contrast** if the actions have **opposite** meanings:

森さんはピアノをひきますが、私はひきません。
Mori-san wa piano o hikimasu **ga**, **watashi** wa hikimasen.
Ms Mori plays the piano, but I do not (play the piano).

マイケルは日本へ行きますが、ピーターは行きません。
Maikeru wa Nihon e ikimasu **ga**, **Piitaa** wa ikimasen.
Michael will go to Japan, but Peter will not (go to Japan).

彼は肉を食べましたが、彼女は食べませんでした。
Kare wa niku o tabemashita **ga**, **kanojo** wa tabemasen deshita.
He ate meat, but she did not (eat meat).

But in a sentence like the following one, where two persons are doing not opposite but **different** actions:

森さんはピアノをひきますが、私はギターをひきます。
Mori-san wa piano o hikimasu **ga**, **watashi** wa gitaa o hikimasu.
Ms Mori plays the piano **and I** play the guitar. / **while I** am playing the guitar.

が is rather to be understood as an **enumeration** of different actions done by **two** persons. With other words, が has at the most an extremely weak contrasting meaning. It is more an **and** or even a **while**. In such cases the difference between が and そして is blurred.

notice 1:

Never mix up the conjunction が with the particle が !

notice 2:

At our stage が can not go in initial position. This is a further remarkable contrast to western languages and, of course, it is a further source of errors.

error: 森さんはピアノをひきます。がギターはひきません。 Mori-san wa piano o hikimasu. **Ga** gitaa wa hikimasen.
Ms Mori plays the piano. **But** not a guitar.

notice 3:

The nouns in sentences fused by the conjunction が can always be marked by the delimiting は. To be more precise, the nouns either in the first or in the second clause can be marked by this は. For instance, there are exactly **four** possibilities to form a sentence like the sample sentence about beer and wine:

ビールを飲みますが、	ワインは飲みません。	wine is delimited
ビールを飲みますが、	ワインを飲みません。	no delimitation
ビールは飲みますが、	ワインを飲みません。	beer is delimited
ビールは飲みますが、	ワインは飲みません。	both beer and wine are delimited

The use of delimitation depends simply on what the speaker or writer intends to express. Use は if you like to delimit, and do not use it if you do not intend to delimit.

Quiz 8: Connect sentences using conjunctions それから、そして and が: Transform the sentences if necessary. (Hide the keys!)



ご飯を食べます。コーヒーを飲みます。
Go-han o tabemasu. Koohii o nomimasu.

ご飯を食べました。コーヒーを飲みました。
Go-han o tabemashita. Koohii o nomimashita.

ご飯は食べません。コーヒーは飲みません。
Go-han wa tabemasen. Koohii wa nomimasen.

ご飯を食べます。コーヒーは飲みません。
Go-han o tabemasu. Koohii wa nomimasen.

ご飯は食べません。コーヒーは飲みます。
Go-han wa tabemasen. Koohii wa nomimasu.

日本へ行きます。中国へ行きます。
Nihon e ikimasu. Chuugoku e ikimasu.

日本へ行きます。中国へは行きません。
Nihon e ikimasu. Chuugoku e wa ikimasen.

私は日本へ行きます。彼は中国へ行きます。
Watashi wa Nihon e ikimasu. Kare wa Chuugoku e ikimasu.

私は日本へ行きます。彼は日本へは行きません。
Watashi wa Nihon e ikimasu. Kare wa Chuugoku e wa ikimasen.

私は日本へは行きます。中国へは行きません。
 Watashi wa Nihon e ikimasu. Chuugoku e wa ikimasen.

大学で勉強をします。家で勉強をします。
 Daigaku de benkyoo o shimasu. Uchi de benkyoo o shimasu.

大学で勉強をします。家ではしません。
 Daigaku de benkyoo o shimasu. Uchi de wa shimasen.

彼は大学で勉強をします。私は家でします。
 Daigaku de benkyoo o shimasu. Watashi wa uchi de shimasu.

彼は大学で勉強をしません。私は家でしません。
 Kare wa daigaku de benkyoo o shimasen. Watashi wa uchi de shimasen.

大学で勉強をしました。会社で仕事をします。
 Daigaku de benkyoo o shimashita. Daigaku de shigoto o shimasu.

彼は大学で勉強をします。私は会社で仕事をします。
 Kare wa daigaku de benkyoo o shimasu. Watashi wa kaisha de shigoto o shimasu.

4. Adverbial usage of 昨日、今日、明日

Example:

明日フランスへ行きます。

Ashita Furansu e ikimasu.

Tomorrow I will go to France.

The fact that the words 昨日 (きのう) **yesterday**, 今日 (きょう) **today**, and 明日 (あした) **tomorrow** can be marked by particles indicates them as **nouns**. In your list of vocabularies you find two more temporal nouns: おととい (一昨日) **the day before yesterday** and あさって (明後日) **the day after tomorrow**.

On the other hand all these nominal words can be used in the function of **adverbs**.

(Adverbs belong to a grammatical group of uninflectable words that modify a verb, adjective, a noun or other adverb. Such words as *very*, *sometimes*, *a little*, *more*, *maybe*, *surely* and *now* are examples of “true“ adverbs.)

But some words of other groups, for instance nouns, can be used as adverbs. This function is called **adverbial**. (More systematic and detailed introduction to the adverb will be made in **lesson 4**.)

The temporal nouns mentioned above can be used adverbially, i.e. they can play a role as adverbs without being genuine adverbs. Generally speaking, the function of adverbs, including words used as adverbs, is to modify words or expressions in order to give more variety (additional shades of meaning) to a sentence.

In case of the above mentioned words this variety means a **temporal precision**.

A sentence like フランスへ行きます。 Furansu e ikimasu. (I will go to France.) can be more precisely formulated by adding the information concerning the time, namely 今日 (きょう) . 明日 (あした) or

あさって :

今日フランスへ行きます。 **Kyoo** Furansu e ikimasu. (**Today** I will go to France.)

明日フランスへ行きます。 **Ashita** Furansu e ikimasu. (**Tomorrow** I will go to France.)

あさってフランスへ行きます。 **Asatte** Furansu e ikimasu. (**The day after tomorrow** I will go to France.)

Obviously, nouns in function of an adverb are normally used **without** a particle.

Adverbs in general can go in different positions in the sentence. (It is even possible to position the adverb in poetical surrounding at the end of the sentence, i.e. after the predicate!)

The first original sentence mentioned above (フランスへ行きます。) has at least following *two* variations:

今日フランスへ行きます。 Kyoo Furansu e ikimasu. (Today I will go to France.)

フランスへ今日行きます。 Furansu e kyoo ikimasu. (To France I will go today.)

and as in a more poetical way:

フランスへ行きます、今日。 Furansu e ikimasu, kyoo. (I will go to France, today I will.)

Maybe another longer sample sentence (with more components) can assure this phenomenon:

The original sentence 森さんは 家で 魚を 食べました。 Mori-san wa uchi de sakana o tabemashita. (Ms Mori eats fish at home.) will be expanded by the adverb 昨日 (きのう) (yesterday).

昨日 森さんは 家で 魚を 食べました。

森さんは 昨日 家で 魚を 食べました。

森さんは 家で 昨日 魚を 食べました。

森さんは 家で 魚を 昨日 食べました。

Although all these sentences are correct and acceptable because of the non-existing restriction concerning the position of adverbs, the most natural position is at **beginning** of the sentence. Simply speaking, the emphasis is usually layed on the first word in a sentence.

More sample sentences with temporal nouns used as adverbs:

おとといかたかなを覚えました。

Ototoi katakana o oboemashita.

The day before yesterday I learned Katakana.

明日友だちが日本から来ます。

Ashita tomodachi ga Nihon kara kimasu.

Tomorrow a friend of mine will come from Japan.

森さんは昨日ピアノをひきました。

Mori-san wa **kinoo** piano o hikimashita.

Yesterday Ms Mori played the piano.

今日図書館で本を読みます。

Kyoo toshokan de hon o yomimasu.

Today I will read a book in the library.

あさって町で買い物をします。

Asatte machi de kaimono o shimasu.

The day after tomorrow I will go shopping in the town.

昨日お酒を飲みませんでした、今日飲みます。

Kinoo o-sake o nomimasen deshita ga, kyoo nomimasu.

Yesterday I did not drink alcohol, but today I will do that.

notice 1:

Although adverbs can go in different positions in a clause (sentence), it is not allowed to separate the units of noun and particle. So, it is not possible to build sentences like *Furansu ashita e ikimasu*.

notice 2:

As you can see from all previous sample sentences, the nouns used in the function of adverbs appear without a particle. But in a context, it is generally possible to use the delimiting は . All foregoing adverbs can be marked by は :

おとといはかたかなを覚えました。 **Ototoi wa** katakana o oboemashita. (but not on other days)

明日は友だちが日本から来ます。 **Ashita wa** tomodachi ga Nihon kara kimasu. (but not on another day)

森さんは昨日はピアノをひきました。 **Mori-san wa kinoo wa** piano o hikimashita. (but not on other days)

今日は図書館で本を読みます。 **Kyoo wa** toshokan de hon o yomimasu. (but not on other days)

あさっては町で買い物をします。 **Asatte wa** machi de kaimono o shimasu. (but not on other days)

昨日はお酒を飲みませんでした、今日は飲みます。

Kinoo wa o-sake o nomimasen deshita ga, **kyoo wa** nomimasu.

It was yesterday and not another day when I did not drink alcohol, but today I will do that indeed.

Quiz 9: Vary the following sentence with 昨日(は)、今日(は)、明日(は)、おととい(は) and あさって(は) .
Care about the tense!



マイケルは日本で着物を買います。

Maikeru wa Nihon de kimono o kaimasu.

Michael will buy a Kimono in Japan.

30 variations !!