文法第7課

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1. Formulations with Adjectives

1.1 Partial Description with N_1 は N_2 が ADJです。

sample sentences:

マリアは目がきれいです。

Maria wa me ga kirei desu. Maria has beautiful eyes.

ドイツはビールがおいしいです。

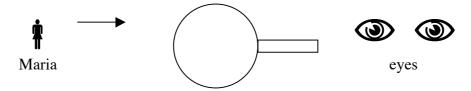
Doitsu wa biiru ga oishii desu. Germany has tasty beer.

These two very different sample sentences have one thing in common. In both cases a topic, i.e. Maria and Germany, is mentioned. After that *one specific quality* or particular feature of the foregoing topic is highlighted. Not Maria as a whole person but one part of her (her eyes) is qualified. Not Germany as a whole nation but its special product (the beer), i.e. one small part (in the widest sense) of it is evaluated.

In such cases where a part of a whole is qualitatively described the following structure is used:

 N_1 は N_2 が Adjectiveです。

As we already know, ** has the function of laying an extremely strong emphasis on the marked noun. So this phenomenon is comparable with the enlargement of a part of the whole by a magnifying glass:



Although you can change the word order and start the sentence with the subject instead of the topic $(N_2 \gg N_1 \approx Adjective > 0)$, the most popular structure of a partial (selective) qualification is to start with the topic.

sample sentences:

スイスは山が高いです。 Switzerland has high mountains.

学食はご飯が安いです。 The canteen has cheap meals.

秋は天気が良いです。 In autumn the weather is good. (Autumn has a good weather.)

日本は夏が暑いです。 In Japan the summer is hot. (Japan has a hot summer.)

森さんは目が小さいです。 Ms Mori has small eyes.

notice 1:

If you want to express that the qualitatively highlighted part of the whole is the *only* noteworthy positive or negative feature, you can replace the が with a は as a delimination: The harmless appearing sentence マリアは目<u>は</u>きれいです。 means that only her eyes are beautiful. And the sentence ドイツはビール<u>はおいしいです。</u> means contextually that the rest of the nation is not remarkable...

notice 2:

The above mentioned structure $N_1 \bowtie N_2 \bowtie \dots$ is also used to characterize the ability, aptness, aversion or a wish as a "part" of a person in sentences like *We can speak Japanese*. *She likes sports*. *Children dislike vegetables*. *I wish I had more money*. etc. This grammar is introduced in lesson 9.

Quiz 1: Build sentences with the help of following words.



森さん 目 小さい 彼 手 大きい 日本語 漢字 難しい 日本 夏 暑い ドイツ 冬 寒い マリアさん 目 青い あの方 髪 黒い 私 目 悪い 彼女 発音 きれいだ 母 背 低い 父 背 高い 日本語 文法 かんたんだ 夏は 果物が 安い ドイツ ビール 有名だ 日本 何 有名だ

1.2 Adverbial Form of Adjectives

Examples:

安く買う

yasuku kau to buy cheap

きれいに書く

kirei ni kaku to write tidy

Not only nouns but also verbs can be modified by an adjective. In cases like *to buy something cheap* an adjective, i.e. a qualifier describes the way of doing something. The adjective plays the role of an appendix of the verb. The grammatical term used for the phenomenon of doing something in a particular way is the **adverbial form**.

As we already know from the attributive form (lesson 5,6), we have to fulfil the requirement: **the elucidating word is followed by the elucidated word**, or in our case the adjective that is used as an appendix is followed by the dominating verb:

This general structure covers adverbial form. Both groups of adjectives (VA and NA) have different adverbial forms.

1.2.1 Adverbial Form of the VA

If a VA elucidates a verb, the link $\sim \zeta$ has to be attached to the stem. The structure is as follows:

$$VA \leftarrow V$$

While an attributive form of a VA is modifiable (E.g. $VA \sim \langle t_k \rangle$, N), the adverbial form of a VA can never be modified. (So you cannot say for instance *I bought it not cheap*.) The modification occurs only on the verb (E.g. $VA \sim \langle V \notin L \rangle$).

早く食べます

(I will) eat fast

大きく書きました

(I) wrote it big

高く買いません

(I will) not buy it for a high price.

遅く起きますか

Will you get up late / wake up late?

1.2.2 Adverbial Form of the NA

The adverbial form of the NA is marked by the link $\sim \kappa$. So the structure is as follows:

$$NA \mathcal{E} + V$$

The adverbial form of a NA is also not modifiable.

静かに寝ます (I will) sleep quietly

きれいに書きましたか did you write it tidy?

元気に話します (I will) talk vividly

かんたんに包みました (I) wrapped it simply

Quiz 2: Translate the following sequences.



to sleep well

to write small

to speak fast

to wake up early

to buy cheap

to sleep long

to sleep quietly, peacefully

to eat quietly, noiseless

to talk easily

to study diligently

1.2.3 Adverbial Form in a sentence

マイケルはネットでカメラを安く買いました。

Maikeru wa netto de kamera o yasuku kaimashita. In the net Michael bought a camera cheap.

Theoretically speaking, the adverbial form of VA and NA as an appendix of the verb can go in every position where a verb can stay. Though, at our stage of knowledge the position is limited to the surrounding of a *verbal predicate*. In the sample sentence the adjective $\not\in V$ is placed immediately before the verb. But this position is not absolutely binding. It is sufficient if the adjective is placed *before* the verb. Therefore you can build following similar sentences:

マイケルはネットで安くカメラを買いました。 マイケルは安くネットでカメラを買いました。 女くマイケルはネットでカメラを買いました。

As you can see, the distance between the adverbial determination and the verb is getting longer and longer. An extreme separation can sometimes cause misunderstanding. So it is recommendable to hold the distance between the adverbial units short.

Interrogative どう

The interrogative for the adverbial form is $\mathcal{E}_{\mathfrak{I}}$ (how):

どう買いましたか。 **How** did you buy it? What kind of a book did you read? 安く買いました。 I bought it **cheap**. I read a famous book. Quiz 3: Answer the following questions by using an attribute or an adverbial form.



どんなカメラを買いましたか。(安い) どう買いましたか。

どんな漢字を書きますか。 (きれい) どう書きますか。

どんな仕事をしますか。(長い) どうしますか。

どんなビールを飲みましたか。 (おいしい) どう飲みましたか。

どんな部屋で勉強をしますか。 (静かだ) どうしますか。

どんな歌を歌いますか。 (かんたんだ) どう歌いますか。

1.2.4 Adverbial Connection with なる and する

子供が大きくなります。

Kodomo ga ookiku narimasu. The child is growing up. (The child is getting bigger.)

部屋をあたたかくします。

Heya o atatakaku shimasu. I will make the room warm. (I will heat the room.)

The verbs \$\frac{1}{2}\$ (to become, to get) and \$\frac{1}{2}\$ (to make) have special characteristics if you use them in combination with adverbial forms of VA and NA:

VA C なる / NA になる

to become is confined within the subject, and does not pass over to any object. So ኔኔ is used regularly with a subject, i.e. with a noun that is usually marked by the particle ታ፤:

Nが VAくなる。 or Nが NAになる。

果物が安くなります。 Fruits are getting cheaper. 勉強がおもしろくなりました。 The study is getting interesting. 字がきれいになりました。 My handwriting became better.

The usage of && in combination with the adverbial form of an adjective shows us that the status of the subject is changing by degrees and in a **natural** or **logical** way *without* the assistance of a visible initiator. All sample sentences mentioned above reveal this phenomenon:

A child is growing gradually and naturally by himself.

Seasonally, fruits are getting cheap and that happens in a natural or logical way according to the system of supply and demand of the free-market economy.

Through deepening of knowledge the study is getting naturally or logically more interesting. In the course of time or through steady practice the handwriting is getting naturally better. In cases like it's getting cold 寒くなりました。 the subject (the climate) is not definitively mentioned, but is implied.

VA(ta/NActa

to an object, it takes a **direct object** to complete the sense. In other words to requires a visible direct object marked by the particle \mathbf{z} :

Nを VAくする。 or Nを NAにする。

(私は) 部屋**を**あたたかく**します**。

I will make the room warm.

マリアはズボンを短くしました。

Maria shortened her trousers.

(お医者さんが)私を元気にしました。

The doctor helped me to recover.

As you can see from the sample sentences, there is not only an object that is getting changed. In addition to that, the **initiator** (causer) of this action is explicitly mentioned (私、マリア、お医者さん), or he is not definitively mentioned but is latent, because any conscious action always needs someone who is doing it. (The initiator should not be always a human being. And likewise the object should not be always a non-human. Sentences like *The stress made me sick*. ストレスが私を病気にしました。 are also possible.)

Quiz 4: Build sentences including \$5 or \$5 with the help of following words.



森さん きれい

彼 背が高い

家 大きい

仕事 速い

髪 長い

彼女 有名だ

部屋 きたない

問題 かんたん

notice:

Instead of an adjective, a **noun** can also be put into the sentence structures:

 N_1 が N_2 になる。

子供が大人になります。

Children are getting to be grown-ups.

Children are growing up.

(父は) 私を医者にしました。 My father made me a doctor.

2. Adverbs of Degree and Quantity

In lesson 4 the adverbs as a grammatical group were already introduced. In this lesson adverbs related to degree and quantity will be introduced. Although adverbs are nothing but words and they have to be learnt as a part of a vocabulary, some notes to each new adverb might be helpful for learning.

2.1 Adverb とても very

Predicate:

Attribute:

古い車を買いました。 → **とても**古い車を買いました。 I bought an old car. I bought a *very* old car.

Adverbial:

2.2 Adverbs 非常に and 大変 very

These adverbs are synonyms of $\&\tau \&$ (very) but it is used in more formal context. The nearest correspondence would be achieved by translations like *exceedingly*, *extraordinary*, *extremely*, *etc*. Both words are also used as modifying words for predicates, attributes and adverbial segments:

Predicate:

Attribute:

古い車を買いました。 → **非常に/大変** 古い車を買いました。 I bought an old car. I bought a *very* old car.

Adverbial:

マリアは電話をよくかけます。→ Maria often speaks by phone.

マリアは電話を **非常に/大変** よくかけます。 Maria *very* often speaks by phone. (M. is *constantly* speaking by phone.)

2.3 Adverb たくさん many, much

The adverb to the (many, much, numerous) is used at our state of knowledge only as a modifying word for **verbal predicates**:

As a typical attribute of all adverbs its position in a sentence is often arbitrary. The following position is also acceptable:

森さんはご飯を**たくさん**食べます。 **たくさん**森さんはご飯を食べます。

2.4 Adverbs 少し and ちょっと a little, a bit, a few

少し (a little, a few) and ちょっと (a bit, a little) are synonyms but 少し is universally used while ちょっと is used in more colloquial context. Both words function as a modifying words for **verbal** predicates, and **adjectival** predicates, attributes and adverbial segments:

Predicate:

私は少し日本語を話します。私は日本語を少し話します。少し私は日本語を話します。 私はちょっと日本語を話します。私は日本語をちょっと話します。ちょっと私は日本語を話します。 I speak *a little* Japanese.

問題が少し難しかったです。 少し問題が難しかったです。 問題がちょっと難しかったです。 ちょっと問題が難しかったです。 The task was a bit difficult.

Attribute:

これは**少し**古い車です。 これは**ちょっと**古い車です。 This is a car that is a bit old.

Adverbial:

カメラを**少し**安く買いました。 **少し**カメラを 安く買いました。 カメラを**ちょっと**安く買いました。**ちょっと**カメラを安く買いました。 I bought a camera a little cheaper.

notice:

The last sample sentences are ambiguous, because the adverbs $\mathfrak{P} \mathfrak{l}$ and $\mathfrak{h} \mathfrak{s} \mathfrak{p} \mathfrak{l}$ can either refer to the predicate (to *buy* few cameras cheap) or the adverbial sequence (to buy a *camera* a bit cheaper than usual). Only the context can clarify the meaning.

2.5 Adverbs あまり+negation and そんなに+negation not so, not very

The adverbs ** nand ** are synonyms. Both are normally used in **negative** constructions. They function as modifying words for **verbal** predicates, **adjectival** predicates, attributes and adverbial segments:

Predicate:

私は**あまり**ビールを飲みません。/ 私はそんなにビールを飲みません。 私はビールを**あまり**飲みません。/ 私はビールをそんなに飲みません。 **あまり**私はビールを飲みません。/ そんなに私はビールを飲みません。 I do *not* drink *so* much beer.

カメラは**あまり**高く**な**かったです。 カメラは**そんなに**高く**な**かったです。 **あまり**カメラは高く**な**かったです。 **そんなに**カメラは高く**な**かったです。

The camera was *not very* expensive.

Attribute:

これは**あまり**新しい車ではあり**ません**。これは**そんなに**新しい車ではあり**ません**。 This is *not* a *very* new car.

Adverbial:

カメラを**あまり**安く買い**ません**でした。 カメラを**そんなに**安く買い**ません**でした。 I did *not* buy the camera *very* cheap.

2.6 Adverb ぜんぜん+negation not at all

The adverb ぜんぜん (Kanji: 全然) is normally used in a **negative** constructions. The meaning of this word is *(not) at all*. It functions as a modifying word for **verbal** predicates, **adjectival** predicates, attributes and adverbial segments:

Predicate:

私はぜんぜんお酒を飲みません。/私はお酒をぜんぜん飲みません。/ ぜんぜん私はお酒を飲みません。 I do *not* drink alcohol *at all*.

旅行は**ぜんぜん**おもしろく**な**かったです。 / **ぜんぜん**旅行はおもしろく**な**かったです。 The trip was *not* interesting *at all*.

Attribute:

今日は**ぜんぜん**良い天気ではあり**ません**。 / **ぜんぜん**今日は良い天気ではあり**ません**。 Today the weather is *not* good *at all*.

Adverbial:

ぜんぜん早く起きませんでした。 I did *not* get up early *at all*.

notice: In a very casual conversation ぜんぜん is nowadays used in the meaning of *very*, *totally*, or *completely*: これぜんぜん良い。*That's very jazzy*.

2.7 Adverb なかなか quite, rather

なかなか with an adjective

The adverb & b in combination with **adjectives** is only **positively** used. In this case it functions as a modifying word for predicates, attributes and adverbial segments:

Predicate:

旅行は**なかなか**おもしろかったです。 / **なかなか**旅行はおもしろかったです。 The trip was *quite* interesting.

Attribute:

今日は**なかなか**良い天気です。**/なかなか今**日は良い天気です。 Today the weather is *rather* good.

Adverbial:

(彼は)**なかなか**きれいに歌いました。 He sang *quite* pretty.

notice:

Positive refers to the inflection and not to the meaning of the adjective. Adjectives like *bad* 悪い, *terrible* 大変だ, *dirty* 汚い, or *difficult* 難しい can also be in a combination with なかなか.

なかなか with a verb

In a **verbal** construction **&****** can only be used **negatively**. It means a delay of an expected state (*not rather*). So **&***** functions as a modifying word for negative **verbal** predicates:

電車がなかなか来ません。/なかなか電車が来ません。

The train (the tram) does not rather come.

マイケルは**なかなか**起き**ません**。**/なかなか**マイケルは起き**ません**。 Michael does not rather get up.

2.8 Adverb 特に especially

The adverb 特定 (especially) is used as a modifying word for **verbal** predicates, **adjectival** predicates, attributes and adverbial segments. It can be used in both positive and negative structures:

Predicate:

週末は**特に**本を読みます。**/特に**週末は本を読みます。 Especially on weekends I read books.

ドイツはビールが特においしいです。 /ドイツは 特にビールがおいしいです。/ 特にドイツはビールがおいしいです。 *Especially* beer is in Germany tasty.

Attribute:

マリアは**特に**まじめな学生です。**/特に**マリアはまじめな学生です。 *Especially* Maria is a diligent student.

Adverbial:

(彼女は)**特に**まじめに勉強をします。 **/ 特に** (彼女は) まじめに勉強をします。 *Especially* she is going to study diligently.

2.9 Adverb たとえば for example, for instance

The adverb たとえば (Kanji: 例えば) means for example or for instance or among others and it is a universally and often used word which is usually placed at the **beginning** of the sentence. All kind of sentences (N, V, VA, NA) and segments (predicate, attribute, adverbial etc.) can be accompanied with no restriction by たとえば:

Nominal: たとえばパンは食べ物です。 Bread is, for example, a food.

Verbal: たとえば週末には本を読みました。On weekend I read, for instance, a book.

Adjectival: たとえばマリアは親切です。 Maria is, for instance, kind.

2.10 Combination of Adverbs

Two or even more adverbs can appear in one sentence, though most of the adverbs are incompatible due to their opposed characters (e.g. たくさん versus 少し). Only the following combinations of adverbs are often seen:

- 1. Following adverbs together with the adverb tくさん but exclusively in verbal sentences. とてもたくさん、非常にたくさん、大変たくさん、(たくさんたくさん)、あまりたくさん、そんなにたくさん、なかなかたくさん、特にたくさん
- 2. たとえば plus all in this lesson mentioned adverbs (with exception of たとえば itself).
- 3. たとえば plus the doubled adverbs mentioned in point 1 (e.g. たとえばとてもたくさん)

sample sentences:

とてもたくさん買い物をしました。I bought plenty of things.

マリアはなかなかたくさん漢字を書きます。Maria writes quite a lot of Kanji.

あまりたくさん食べません。 I do not eat so much.

たとえば特にたくさん 日本人が来ます。For instance, especially many Japanese will come.

Quiz 5: Put the adverb into the sentences:



町はにぎやかです。とても 町はにぎやかです。少し 町はにぎやかです。あまり 町はにぎやかです。特に 町はにぎやかです。そんなに 町はにぎやかです。ぜんぜん 町はにぎやかです。なかなか 町はにぎやかです。たとえば

Quiz 6: Which of the two adverbs fits to the sentence?

町は(とても たくさん)にぎやかです。
(そんなに 大変)新しい車を買いました。
彼は(とても ぜんぜん)よく本を読みます。
車は(そんなに 特に)古くないです。
私は(たくさん あまり)ご飯を食べます。
(少し とても)問題が難しいです。
(あまり たくさん)安くなかったです。
(そんなに 非常に)早く起きました。
(少し たくさん)日本語を話しました。
(特に たとえば)山が高いです。
旅行は(あまり 少し)おもしろくなかったです。
たの家は(ぜんぜん そんなに)古くないです。
彼は(特に たとえば)大きいです。

Quiz 7: Build sentences with help of following words:



英語 なかなか 難しい 漢字 非常に 複雑 飲む そんなに お酒 本 ぜんぜん 読む 大きい とても りんご 買う 昨日 勉強 する ちょっと 早い あまり 起きる 今日 寒い あまり そんなに 目 悪い 長い 寝る 週末 たとえば 友だち とても 来る たくさん かんたん そんなに ぜんぜん ひらがな 難しい 漢字 あまり かんたん 日本語 少し 話す 昨日 有名 ドイツ ビール 特に ワイン

3. Comparison with Comparative and Superlative

In Japanese comparison cannot be formed by using grammatical appendix like in western languages. The comparative (bigger, smaller, darker etc.) and superlative (biggest, smallest, darkest etc.) are formed with help of adverbs as a periphrasis. Both the comparative and superlative are used not only with adjectives, but also with verbs (to eat – to eat more – to eat most).

3.1 Comparative degree with もっと

もっと大事です it is more important

もっと寝ます

I will sleep more

The **comparative degree** is built with help of the adverb \$>\&2\$. This expression means *more*. Verbs and adjectives can be transformed into a comparative form by this word. Usually the comparative expresses a *higher* degree of the quality or action denoted by the simple word:

もっと食べます。 to eat more 食べます

→ **もっと**早いです。 it is earlier, it is more early 早いです

Sample sentences:

大阪は大きいです。 東京はもっと大きいです。 Osaka is big. Tokyo is bigger.

ひらがなはきれいです。 漢字はもっときれいです。

Hiragana is beautiful. Kanji are more beautiful.

おとといはもっと早く起きました。 昨日早く起きました。 Yesterday I got up early. The day before yesterday I got up earlier.

マリアはビールを飲みます。 マイケルはもっと飲みます。

Maria drinks beer. Michael drinks more (beer).

昨日テレビを見ました。 今日はもっと見ます。 Yesterday I watched TV. Today I am going to watch more.

3.2 Superlative degree with 一番

→番大事です

it is most important

一番寝ます I will sleep the

The superlative degree is built with help of the adverbially used nouns -(いち) and 番(ばん). It is a combination of the number *one* and the numeral -ban. So 一番(いちばん) literally means number one. It is used to compare a number of things, to express the highest degree of the quality or action denoted by the simple word. Verbs and adjectives can be transformed into the superlative by 一番:

→ **一番**食べます。 to eat the most 食べます

一番早いです。 it is the earliest, it is most early 早いです

Since the superlative degree emphasizes the quality or action of the concerning noun in an extremely strong way, the noun which is involved into this comparison is often marked by the לא instead of the topic marker ול.

In most cases, the superlative degree is used as the last part of a three-parted comparison:

みかんは安いです。

Tangerines are cheap.

バナナはもっと安いです。

Bananas are cheaper.

りんご**が一番**安いです。

Apples are the cheapest.

森さんは歌を歌います。

Ms Mori is going to sing songs.

本田さんはもっと歌います。

Ms Honda is going to sing more (songs).

鈴木さんが一番歌います。

Ms Suzuki sings the most (songs).

かたかなはきれいな文字です。

Katakana are beautiful characters.

ひらがなはもっときれいな文字です。

Hiragana are more beautiful characters.

漢字が一番きれいな文字です。

Kanji are the most beautiful characters.

パンをよく食べます。

I eat often bread.

野菜をもっとよく食べます。

I eat more often vegetables.

肉を一番よく食べます。

I eat most often meat.

Quiz 8: Transform the sentences into comparatives and superlatives:



英語は難しいです。 (フランス語、日本語)

森さんは手がきれいです。 (本田、鈴木)

私はビールを飲みます。(母、父)

ドイツ人は優しいです。 (中国人、日本人)

彼は発音が良いです。 (彼女、私)

私は本を読みます。 (祖母、おじ)

野菜は高いです。 (魚、肉)

マイケルはびんぼうです (マリア 私)

野菜を食べました。 (魚、肉) かんたんに話します。 まじめに勉強をします。 (彼、彼女) これは新しい車です。 (それ、あれ) 昨日テレビを見ました。 (今日、明日) この問題は難しいです。 (その、あの) 兄は背が高いです。 (父、私)

Quiz 9: Answer the questions:

何が一番高いですか。 一番おいしい食べ物は何ですか。 たとえば何が一番白いですか。 一番赤い果物は何ですか。 だれが一番お金を持っていますか。 一番速い車は何ですか。 どなたが一番背が高いですか。 何が一番楽しみですか。 何が一番楽しみですか。 どなたが一番背が低いですか。 となたが一番背が低いですか。 となたが一番さな国はどこですか。 どなたが一番お酒を飲みますか。