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Japanese Grammar

JLPT N3

132 grammar points · Intermediate

Meaning · formation · example sentences with furigana

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About this book

This book collects all 132 JLPT N3 Japanese grammar points from Hanabira, a free and open-source Japanese learning platform. Each entry gives the meaning, the formation pattern, example sentences with furigana and English translations, and a longer explanation of usage.

Every grammar point title in this book is a live link — tap it to open the full lesson online, complete with native-speaker audio, interactive quizzes, and a free spaced-repetition review system.

Browse all JLPT N3 grammar online: hanabira.org/japanese/grammarlist

How to use this book

Every example sentence is written with furigana — the small hiragana printed above each kanji show how it is read:

> 日本語(にほんご)が少(すこ)し分(わ)かります。
> I understand a little Japanese.

Readings sit above the kanji; the English translation follows below. No romaji crutch — just real Japanese, the way you'll meet it in the wild.

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A その上 B (A sono ue B)

Used to express 'in addition to', 'besides', or 'furthermore' when adding information or making a suggestion.

FORMATION

A [sentence/clause] + その上 + B [sentence/clause]

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は頭(あたま)が良(よ)い。その上(うえ)、スポーツも得意(とくい)だ。
He is smart. In addition, he is also good at sports.

このカフェは雰囲気(ふんいき)がいい。その上(うえ)、料理(りょうり)も美味(おい)しい。
This cafe has a nice atmosphere. Besides, the food is delicious.

このアパートは駅(えき)に近(ちか)い。その上(うえ)、家賃(やちん)も安(やす)い。
This apartment is close to the station. Furthermore, the rent is also cheap.

彼女(かのじょ)は仕事(しごと)ができる。その上(うえ)、誰(だれ)とでも仲良(なかよ)くなれる。
She is competent at work. In addition, she can get along with anyone.

USAGE NOTES

The grammar point A その上 B is used to connect two statements, where B is an additional piece of information, a suggestion or reason that is related to statement A. The expression can be translated as 'in addition to', 'besides', or 'furthermore'.

～うちに (～uchi ni)

Express 'while', 'before', or 'during' a certain condition or situation.

FORMATION

Verb-てform + いる + うちに, い-Adjective + い + うちに, な-Adjective + な + うちに

EXAMPLES

若(わか)いうちに、いろいろな経験(けいけん)をしておくことが大切(たいせつ)です。
It is important to have various experiences while you are young.

雨(あめ)が降(ふ)っていないうちに、買(か)い物(もの)に行(い)こう。
Let's go shopping before it starts raining.

料理(りょうり)が熱(あつ)いうちに食(た)べましょう。
Let's eat while the food is still hot.

休(やす)みのうちに、旅行(りょこう)の計画(けいかく)を立(た)てたいです。
I want to plan a trip during the holidays.

USAGE NOTES

The ～うちに grammar point is used to express the idea of doing something while a certain condition or situation is still present or before it changes. It can be translated as 'while', 'before', or 'during' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, or な-adjective.

～うとした (～uto shita)

Express an action someone tried to do but couldn't; 'tried to', 'attempted to'.

FORMATION

Verb-う stem + とした

EXAMPLES

電話(でんわ)に出(で)ようとしたが、相手(あいて)は切(き)ってしまった。
I tried to answer the phone, but the other person hung up.

彼(かれ)は大声(おおごえ)で話(はな)そうとしたが、言葉(ことば)が出(で)なかった。
He tried to speak loudly, but no words came out.

ケーキを作(つく)ろうとしたが、材料(ざいりょう)が足(た)りなかった。
I tried to make a cake, but I didn't have enough ingredients.

彼女(かのじょ)は泳(およ)ごうとしたが、怖(こわ)くて水(みず)に入(い)れなかった。
She tried to swim, but she was scared and couldn't get in the water.

USAGE NOTES

The ～うとした grammar point is used to express an action that someone tried to do but couldn't complete, for various reasons. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with verbs. This grammar point can be translated as 'tried to' or 'attempted to' in English.

～おかげで (～okagede)

Expresses gratitude or shows a positive result due to a certain factor; 'thanks to', 'because of'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + おかげで, い-Adjective + おかげで, な-Adjective + だおかげで, Noun + のおかげで

EXAMPLES

お母(かあ)さんのおかげで、私(わたし)は元気(げんき)になりました。
Thanks to my mother, I became healthy.

先生(せんせい)の助(たす)けのおかげで、試験(しけん)に合格(ごうかく)しました。
Thanks to the teacher's help, I passed the exam.

日本語(にほんご)の勉強(べんきょう)のおかげで、この映画(えいが)が理解(りかい)できました。
Thanks to studying Japanese, I was able to understand this movie.

晴(は)れた天気(てんき)のおかげで、ピクニックが楽(たの)しかったです。
Thanks to the sunny weather, the picnic was enjoyable.

USAGE NOTES
The ～おかげで grammar point is used to express gratitude or show a positive outcome resulting from a certain factor, event or person. It can be translated as 'thanks to' or 'because of' in English. The formation is straightforward and can be used with verbs, い-adjectives, な-adjectives, and nouns.

～かけ (～kake)

Expresses the meaning of being in the middle of doing something or of something being partway done.

FORMATION
Verb-ますstem + かけ

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は食事(しょくじ)を食(た)べかけです。
He is in the middle of eating his meal.

この本(ほん)は読(よ)みかけで、まだ終(お)わっていません。
This book is partway read, and it is not yet finished.

この部屋(へや)は掃除(そうじ)しかけで、まだ片(かた)づいていません。
This room is partway cleaned, and it's not yet tidied up.

プロジェクトは進行(しんこう)しかけで、来週(らいしゅう)には完了(かんりょう)する予定(よてい)です。
The project is in progress and is scheduled to be completed next week.

USAGE NOTES
The ～かけ grammar point is used to indicate that something is in the process of being done or is partway completed. This is often used with verbs to describe an action that is not yet finished or is ongoing. The verb should be in its ます-form, and かけ is added after removing the ます.

～かなあ (～kanaa)

Expressing uncertainty or a mild wish; 'I wonder', 'maybe'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + かなあ, い-Adjective + かなあ, な-Adjective + だかなあ, Noun + だかなあ

EXAMPLES

明日(あした)は晴れるかなあ。
I wonder if it will be sunny tomorrow.

このスープ、辛(つら)いかなあ。
I wonder if this soup is spicy.

彼(かれ)は静(しず)かだかなあ。
I wonder if he is quiet.

彼女(かのじょ)は医者(いしゃ)だかなあ。
I wonder if she is a doctor.

USAGE NOTES

The ～かなあ grammar point is used to express uncertainty or a mild wish. It can be translated as 'I wonder' or 'maybe' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～ないで (～naide)

Express 'without doing ～' or 'without ～ing'.

FORMATION

Verb-ない-form + で

EXAMPLES

会(あ)わないでその電話(でんわ)をかけました。
I made the phone call without meeting them.

雨(あめ)が降(ふ)るのを待(ま)たないで、家(いえ)を出(で)ました。
I left the house without waiting for it to rain.

誰(だれ)にも聞(き)かないで、その秘密(ひみつ)を知(し)りました。
I found out the secret without asking anyone.

遅(おく)れることを知(し)らないで、駅(えき)に向(む)かいました。
I headed to the station without knowing I was late.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ないで grammar point is used to express the idea of 'without doing something' or 'without ～ing' in English. It is formed by attaching the ない-form of the verb and adding で (de). This is used for expressing when an action is not taken or avoided, without interfering with the main action.

～から～にかけて (～kara ～ni kakete)

Expresses a range of something, such as time or space; 'from...to', 'between'.

FORMATION

Noun (time, place, or measure) + から + Noun (time, place or measure) + にかけて

EXAMPLES

> 午前(ごぜん)８時(じ)から午後(ごご)５時(じ)にかけて働(はたら)いています。
> I work from 8 am to 5 pm.

> この地域(ちいき)は、北(きた)から南(みなみ)にかけて狭(せま)いです。
> This area is narrow from north to south.

> １０歳(さい)から２０歳(さい)にかけて成長(せいちょう)が早(はや)いです。
> Growth is rapid from 10 to 20 years of age.

> 今年(ことし)の夏(なつ)は、６月(ろくがつ)から８月(はちがつ)にかけて雨(あめ)が多(おお)かった。
> This summer, there was a lot of rain from June to August.

USAGE NOTES

The ～から～にかけて grammar point is used to show a range, whether it is a range of time, space, or another measure. It can be translated as 'from...to' or 'between' in English. This grammar point is commonly used with nouns indicating time or place.

～かわりに (～kawari ni)

In place of; instead of; as a substitute for.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + かわりに, い-Adjective + かわりに, な-Adjective + だかわりに, Noun + だかわりに

EXAMPLES

> 映画(えいが)を見(み)るかわりに、本(ほん)を読(よ)んだ。
> Instead of watching a movie, I read a book.

> お酒(さけ)を飲(の)むかわりに、水(みず)を飲(の)んでください。
> Please drink water instead of alcohol.

> 犬(いぬ)のかわりに、猫(ねこ)を飼(か)いたいです。
> I want to keep a cat instead of a dog.

> 電車(でんしゃ)を使(つか)わないかわりに、自転車(じてんしゃ)で行(い)くことにしました。
> I decided to go by bicycle instead of using the train.

USAGE NOTES

The ～かわりに grammar point is used to express doing something in place of or as a substitute for something else. It can be translated as 'instead of', 'in place of', or 'as a substitute for' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～きり (～kiri)

Expresses the idea of 'only', 'since', or 'after'.

FORMATION

Verb-past + きり, Verb-てform + きり (less common), Noun + きり

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は出(で)かけたきり帰(かえ)ってきません。
He went out and hasn't come back since.

昨日(きのう)コーヒーを飲(の)んだきり、何(なに)も飲(の)まなかった。
I haven't had anything to drink since the coffee I had yesterday.

卒業(そつぎょう)したきり、彼女(かのじょ)に会(あ)っていません。
I haven't seen her since we graduated.

その映画(えいが)を見(み)たきり、もう一度(いちど)見(み)たいと思(おも)っています。
I've wanted to watch that movie again ever since I saw it.

USAGE NOTES

The ～きり grammar point is used to express the idea of 'only', 'since', or 'after'. It indicates that a certain action or state continues without any change since a specific point in time or after a certain event. It is commonly used with verbs in the past tense, but can also be used with other forms.

～くせに (～kuse ni)

Used to express criticism or disapproval; 'even though', 'despite', 'in spite of'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + くせに, い-Adjective + くせに, な-Adjective + な/のくせに, Noun + のくせに

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)はお金持(かねも)ちのくせに、ケチです。
Even though he's rich, he's stingy.

この部屋(へや)が汚(きたな)いくせに、文句(もんく)を言(い)うな。
Don't complain even though this room is dirty. (criticizing)

彼(かれ)は暇(ひま)なくせに、手伝(てつだ)ってくれません。
Even though he's free, he won't help me.

彼女(かのじょ)は美人(びじん)なくせに、デートが続(つづ)かない。
Even though she's beautiful, she can't keep a date going.

USAGE NOTES
The ～くせに grammar point is used to express criticism or disapproval in a sentence. It can be translated as 'even though', 'despite', or 'in spite of' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～くらい (～kurai)

Expresses an approximate quantity or degree; 'about', 'approximately', or 'to the extent of'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + くらい, い-Adjective + くらい, な-Adjective + くらい, Noun + くらい

EXAMPLES

１０分(ふん)くらい待(ま)ちましょう。
Let's wait for about 10 minutes.

彼女(かのじょ)はその映画(えいが)を５回(かい)くらい見(み)ました。
She watched that movie about five times.

その本(ほん)は面白(おもしろ)いくらい難(むずか)しいです。
That book is so difficult that it ' s interesting.

この部屋(へや)はきれいなくらい広(ひろ)いです。
This room is spacious to the extent of being beautiful.

USAGE NOTES
The ～くらい grammar point is used to express an approximate quantity, degree, or extent. It can be translated as 'about', 'approximately', or 'to the extent of' in English. The formation is straightforward and can be used with verbs, い-adjectives, な-adjectives, and nouns.

～くらい～は～ない (～kurai ～wa ～nai)

Express the least one can do; 'at least', 'the least', 'no less than'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual (non-past) + くらい + は + Verb-casual (negative), Adjective (non-past) + くらい + は + Adjective (negative)

EXAMPLES

週(しゅう)に一度(いちど)くらいはジムに行(い)かないと。
I have to go to the gym at least once a week.

毎日(まいにち)くらいは歯(は)を磨(みが)かないと。
I have to brush my teeth at least every day.

この問題(もんだい)くらいは解決(かいけつ)しないと。
I have to solve at least this problem.

彼女(かのじょ)が泣(な)いているくらいなら慰(なぐさ)めないと。
If she is crying that much, I should at least try to comfort her.

USAGE NOTES

The ～くらい～は～ない grammar point is used to emphasize the minimum expectation in a situation or the least one can do. It can be translated as 'at least', 'the least', or 'no less than' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb or an adjective.

～こそ (～koso)

Emphasizes the importance or uniqueness of something or someone; 'precisely', 'exactly', 'it is...', 'of all...'.

FORMATION

Noun + こそ, (Verb-て + こそ)

EXAMPLES

今日(きょう)こそ勉強(べんきょう)しなければなりません。
Today, of all days, I must study.

あなたこそ私(わたし)の一番(いちばん)の友達(ともだち)です。
You are precisely my best friend.

お金(かね)がないことこそ幸(しあわ)せの秘訣(ひけつ)ではないか。
Isn't not having money exactly the key to happiness?

彼(かれ)こそまさにプロの歌手(かしゅ)のように歌(うた)える。
He can sing precisely like a professional singer.

USAGE NOTES

The ～こそ grammar point is used to emphasize the importance, uniqueness, or the most suitable thing or person in a specific situation. It can be translated as 'precisely', 'exactly', or 'it is...' in English. In practice, it most often appears after a noun (e.g. 今日こそ), or with verbs in the て-form (e.g. 頑張ってこそ).

～こと (～koto)

Express an action in a nominal (noun-like) form or state fact or experience.

FORMATION

Verb-plain form + こと, Verb-phrase in plain form + こと

EXAMPLES

日本語(にほんご)を話(はな)すことができます。
I can speak Japanese.

毎日(まいにち) 運動(うんどう)することは健康(けんこう)に良(よ)いです。
Exercising every day is good for your health.

彼(かれ)はピアノを弾(ひ)くことが大好(だいす)きです。
He loves to play the piano.

映画(えいが)を見(み)ることに時間(じかん)を使(つか)いたくない。
I don't want to spend time watching movies.

USAGE NOTES

The ～こと grammar point is used to turn a verb or verb phrase into a noun or noun phrase. This allows the verb to be talked about as a general concept, fact, or experience. The formation varies slightly depending on whether it is used with a verb or a verb phrase.

～ことだ (～koto da)

Expresses advice or recommendation; 'should', 'it is important', 'it is necessary'.

FORMATION

Verb-ますstem + ことだ, い-Adjective + ことだ, な-Adjective + なことだ, Noun + のことだ

EXAMPLES

毎日(まいにち) 運動(うんどう)することだ。
You should exercise every day.

健康(けんこう)のために、野菜(やさい)をたくさん食(た)べることだ。
For your health, you should eat lots of vegetables.

勉強(べんきょう) しているとき、静(しず)かな場所(ばしょ)を選(えら)ぶことだ。
When studying, you should choose a quiet place.

辞書(じしょ)を使(つか)って、新(あたら)しい言葉(ことば)を覚(おぼ)えることだ。
You should use a dictionary to learn new words.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ことだ grammar point is used to express a piece of advice or recommendation to someone. It can be translated as 'should', 'it is important', or 'it is necessary' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～ことにしている (～koto ni shite iru)

Express a personal rule or habit; 'I make it a rule to', 'I always make sure to'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ことにしている

EXAMPLES

毎日(まいにち)運動(うんどう)することにしている。
I make it a rule to exercise every day.

夜遅(よるおそ)くまで働(はたら)かないことにしている。
I make it a rule not to work late into the night.

食事(しょくじ)の後(のち)、歯(は)を磨(みが)くことにしている。
I always make sure to brush my teeth after meals.

会議(かいぎ)には必(かなら)ず10分前(ふんまえ)に着(つ)くことにしている。
I always make sure to arrive 10 minutes early for meetings.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ことにしている grammar point is used to express a personal rule, habit, or decision that the speaker has made for themselves. It can be translated as 'I make it a rule to' or 'I always make sure to' in English. This grammar point is formed by attaching ことにしている to the casual form of a verb.

～ことになっている (～koto ni natte iru)

Describes something that is decided, arranged, or expected.

FORMATION

Verb-dictionary form + ことになっている

EXAMPLES

この会社(かいしゃ)では、20時(じ)には仕事(しごと)を終(お)えることになっている。
In this company, it is decided that work will end at 8 pm.

日本(にっぽん)では、18歳(さい)以上(いじょう)の人(ひと)が選挙(せんきょ)に投票(とうひょう)することになっている。
In Japan, it is decided that people 18 years old and above will vote in elections.

学校(がっこう)では、制服(せいふく)を着(き)ることになっている。
At school, it is decided that students will wear uniforms.

田中(たなか)さんが今回(こんかい)のプロジェクトリーダーになることになっている。
It is decided that Tanaka will be the project leader this time.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ことになっている grammar point is used to express that something has been decided or arranged, or is expected as a rule or custom. It can be translated as 'it is decided that...', 'it is arranged that...', or 'it is expected to...' in English. The formation is used with verbs in their dictionary form.

～ことは…が (～koto wa... ga)

Indicates that while something may be true or valid, there is another contrasting point.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ことは + が, い-Adjective + ことは + が, な-Adjective + だ + ことは + が, Noun + だ + ことは + が

EXAMPLES

この映画(えいが)は面白(おもしろ)いことは面白(おもしろ)いが、ちょっと長(なが)すぎる。
This movie may be interesting, but it is a bit too long.

彼(かれ)は親切(しんせつ)なことは親切(しんせつ)だが、少(すこ)し無口(むくち)だ。
He may be kind, but he is a bit quiet.

このゲームは難(むずか)しいことは難(むずか)しいが、やめられない。
This game may be difficult, but I can't stop playing.

彼女(かのじょ)は美(うつく)しいことは美(うつく)しいが、ちょっと高飛車(たかびしゃ)だ。
She may be beautiful, but she is a bit arrogant.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ことは…が grammar point is used to express that although something might be true, there is another point or fact that is being contrasted with it. It can be translated as 'it may be true but...', 'it is that... however...', etc. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～ことはない (～koto wa nai)

Expresses that something doesn't need to be done or there's no occasion to do it; 'don't have to', 'not necessary'.

FORMATION

Verb-dictionary form + ことはない, い-Adjective + ことはない, な-Adjective + であることはない, Noun + であることはない

EXAMPLES

お金があるから、無理に貯金することはない。
Since I have enough money, there's no need to force myself to save.

この本は簡単だから、辞書を使うことはない。
Since this book is easy, there's no need to use a dictionary.

彼女は海外旅行に行きたくなければ、行くことはない。
If she doesn't want to go on an overseas trip, she doesn't have to go.

寒くなければ、コートを着ることはない。
If it's not cold, there's no need to wear a coat.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ことはない grammar point is used to express that doing something is not necessary, or there's no occasion to do it. It implies that although a certain action might not be needed, it does not mean it is forbidden. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～さ (～sa)

Express the degree or extent of a quality; '-ness', 'degree of'.

FORMATION

い-Adjective (drop い) + さ, な-Adjective + さ

EXAMPLES

この料理は辛さが強い。
The spiciness of this dish is strong.

彼女の美しさは皆に憧れられる。
Her beauty is admired by everyone.

山田さんの親切さで、困っている人を助けてくれる。
Yamada-san's kindness helps people in trouble.

この部屋(へや)の広(ひろ)さは十分(じゅうぶん)だと思(おも)う。
I think the size of this room is enough.

USAGE NOTES
The ～さ grammar point is used to express the degree or extent of a certain quality or characteristic. It is often translated as '-ness' or 'degree of' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with an い-adjective or a な-adjective.

～さえ (～sae)

Emphasizes a specific item or action; 'even', 'if only', 'as long as'.

FORMATION
Noun + さえ, Verb-casual + さえ, い-Adjective + さえ, な-Adjective + でさえ

EXAMPLES

お金(かね)さえあれば、世界中(せかいじゅう)を旅行(りょこう)できる。
If only I have money, I can travel around the world.

彼(かれ)は英語(えいご)さえ話(はな)せれば、その仕事(しごと)ができるだろう。
As long as he can speak English, he can do that job.

彼女(かのじょ)は頭(あたま)がいいだけでなく、運動(うんどう)も上手(じょうず)だ。テニスさえできる。
Not only is she smart, she is also good at sports. She can even play tennis.

明(あか)るい場所(ばしょ)で本(ほん)を読(よ)むのが好(す)きだ。部屋(へや)の電気(でんき)さえつけなくても大丈夫(だいじょうぶ)だ。
I like reading books in bright places. I'm fine even if I don't turn on the room light.

USAGE NOTES
The ～さえ grammar point is used to emphasize a specific item, person, or action, implying that it alone is sufficient, remarkable, or an exception. It can be translated as 'even', 'if only', or 'as long as' in English. The formation differs slightly depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～しかない (～shika nai)

Express the idea of 'only', 'no other option but', 'nothing else but'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + しかない, い-Adjective + しかない, な-Adjective + しかない, Noun + しかない

EXAMPLES

この問題(もんだい)を解決(かいけつ)する方法(ほうほう)は一(ひと)つしかない。
There is only one way to solve this problem.

彼(かれ)が出(で)て行(い)ったら、泣(な)くしかない。
If he leaves, there's nothing else to do but cry.

彼女(かのじょ)にはあと一月(いちがつ)しかない。
She has only one month left.

僕(ぼく)には君(きみ)を信(しん)じるしかない。
I have no choice but to trust you.

USAGE NOTES
The 〜しかない grammar point is used to emphasize that there are no other options or possibilities, and the subject must follow a specified action or state. It can be translated as 'only', 'no other option but', or 'nothing else but' in English.

すこしも〜ない (sukoshimo〜nai)

Express a negative state or action; 'not at all', 'none whatsoever'.

FORMATION
すこしも + Verb-negative

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)はすこしも悲(かな)しそうに見(み)えません。
He doesn't look sad at all.

この部屋(へや)はすこしも寒(さむ)くない。
This room is not cold at all.

彼女(かのじょ)はすこしも心配(しんぱい)していない。
She is not worried at all.

まったく知(し)らない人(ひと)と話(はな)すのは怖(こわ)い。
It's scary to talk to someone I don't know at all.

USAGE NOTES
The すこしも〜ない grammar point is used to emphasize a negative state or action, indicating that something does not exist or happen even a little bit. It can be translated as 'not at all', 'none whatsoever', or 'not one bit' in English. This expression is used with negative verbs.

～ずに (～zu ni)

Express 'without doing' something or 'not doing' something.

FORMATION

Verb-ない form (Remove ない) + ずに

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は笑(わら)わずに話(はなし)を聞(き)いていました。
He was listening to the story without laughing.

食(た)べずに寝(ね)るのは良(よ)くないです。
It's not good to go to bed without eating.

コーヒーを飲(の)まずに仕事(しごと)を始(はじ)めました。
I started working without drinking coffee.

誰(だれ)にも言(い)わずに出(で)かけました。
I went out without telling anyone.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ずに grammar point is used to express the meaning of not doing something or doing an action without doing another action first. It is similar to the negative ないで form (～ないで) but ～ずに is considered slightly more formal.

～せいで (～sei de)

Indicates that something or someone caused an unfortunate result.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + せいで, い-Adjective + せいで, な-Adjective + なせいで, Noun + のせいで

EXAMPLES

雨(あめ)のせいで試合(しあい)が中止(ちゅうし)になりました。
The game was cancelled because of the rain.

彼(かれ)の遅刻(ちこく)のせいで、みんな待(ま)たされました。
Everyone had to wait because of his lateness.

病気(びょうき)のせいで休日(きゅうじつ)が台無(だいな)しになった。
My holiday was ruined due to illness.

仕事(しごと)が忙(いそが)しくて寝不足(ねぶそく)なせいで、集中(しゅうちゅう)できない。
I can't concentrate because I'm sleep-deprived due to busy work.

USAGE NOTES

The ～せいで grammar point is used to express that something or someone is the reason or cause of an unfortunate result or situation. It can be translated as 'because of' or 'due to' in English.

～せてください (～sete kudasai)

Requesting someone to allow or let you do something (causative request).

FORMATION

Verb-causative (させ) + て + ください

EXAMPLES

> もう一度(いちど)説明(せつめい)させてください。
> Please let me explain it once more.

> 帰(かえ)らせてください。
> Please let me go home.

> その本(ほん)を見(み)せてください。
> Please let me see that book.

> ここで待(ま)たせてください。
> Please let me wait here.

USAGE NOTES

The せてください grammar point is used to request permission or ask someone to allow you to do something. It is a polite way of making a request and can be translated as 'please let me...' or 'please allow me...' in English. It is formed by using the causative form of the verb (Verb-させる) in the て-form, plus ください (e.g. 帰らせる → 帰らせて → 帰らせてください).

～そのために (～sono tame ni)

For the purpose of; because of; in order to.

FORMATION

Sentence/phrase 1 + そのために + Sentence/phrase 2

EXAMPLES

> 試験(しけん)に合格(ごうかく)するために、毎日(まいにち)勉強(べんきょう)しています。そのために、早(はや)く寝(ね)て早(はや)く起(お)きるようにしています。
> I study every day to pass the exam. For that reason, I go to bed early and wake up early.

> 健康的(けんこうてき)な生活(せいかつ)を送(おく)りたい。そのために、ジムに通(かよ)って運動(うんどう)しています。
> I want to lead a healthy lifestyle. For that reason, I go to the gym and exercise.

環境を守るために、リサイクルに取り組んでいます。そのために、ゴミを分別して捨てています。
I'm working on recycling to protect the environment. Therefore, I separate and dispose of trash properly.

新しい仕事を見つけたい。そのために、履歴書を書いて応募しています。
I want to find a new job. So, I'm writing my resume and applying.

USAGE NOTES
The ～そのために grammar point is used to convey the purpose or reason behind an action or situation. It can be translated as 'for that reason', 'for the purpose of', or 'in order to' in English. It connects two sentences, where the first sentence gives a goal or reason, and the second sentence shows the resulting action.

～その結果 (～sono kekka)

Shows the result or consequence of a previous action or situation; 'as a result', 'in consequence'.

FORMATION
Situation/ACTION 1 + その結果 + RESULT

EXAMPLES

彼女は毎日練習した。その結果、試合に勝った。
She practiced every day. As a result, she won the match.

会社が倒産した。その結果、彼は仕事を失った。
The company went bankrupt. As a result, he lost his job.

私たちは遅刻した。その結果、電車に乗れなかった。
We were late. As a result, we couldn't catch the train.

彼は勉強を怠った。その結果、試験に落ちた。
He neglected his studies. As a result, he failed the exam.

USAGE NOTES
The ～その結果 grammar point is used to show the result, outcome, or consequence of a previous action or situation. It can be translated as 'as a result', 'in consequence', or 'therefore' in English. It is typically placed between two statements to link cause and effect.

～それと～ (～sore to～)

Used to link two or more items; 'and', 'also'.

FORMATION

Item1 + それと + Item2

EXAMPLES

> **買い物に行くつもりです。それと、郵便局にも行かなくては。**
> I plan to go shopping, and I also have to go to the post office.

> **今日はタコスを作りました。それと、サラダも作りました。**
> Today, I made tacos, and I also made a salad.

> **出かける前に、部屋を掃除してください。それと、ゴミを捨ててください。**
> Please clean the room before you go out, and also throw away the trash.

> **彼はフランス語が話せます。それと、スペイン語も話せます。**
> He can speak French, and he can also speak Spanish.

USAGE NOTES

The ～それと～ grammar point is used to connect two or more items or actions, similar to how 'and' or 'also' is used in English. The expression それと can appear at the start of a new sentence or between items in a list to add another point.

～？それとも～？ (～? sore tomo ～?)

Presents two alternatives or choices; 'or', 'either...or'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ？それとも + Verb-casual + ？, etc.

EXAMPLES

> **コーヒーを飲む？それとも紅茶を飲む？**
> Do you want to drink coffee? Or tea?

> **この映画は面白い？それともつまらない？**
> Is this movie interesting? Or is it boring?

> **彼は日本人だ？それとも外国人だ？**
> Is he Japanese? Or is he a foreigner?

> **寿司を食べに行く？それともラーメンを食べに行く？**
> Are we going to eat sushi? Or are we going to eat ramen?

USAGE NOTES

The ～？それとも～？ grammar point is used to present two alternatives or choices in a single sentence. It is similar to 'or' or 'either...or' in English. It can be used with verbs, adjectives, or nouns.

～だけしか (～dake shika)

Emphasizes the scarcity or insufficiency of something; 'only', 'nothing but'.

FORMATION

Noun/Quantity + だけ + しか + Negative Verb

EXAMPLES

今日(きょう)は1時間(じかん)だけしか勉強(べんきょう)できなかった。
Today, I could study for only one hour.

彼(かれ)はカレーだけしか食(た)べない。
He eats only curry.

田中(たなか)さんは5人(にん)だけしか招待(しょうたい)しなかった。
Tanaka only invited five people.

あのレストランでは野菜(やさい)だけしか売(う)っていない。
That restaurant sells only vegetables.

USAGE NOTES

The ～だけしか grammar point is used to emphasize that there is nothing except what is mentioned, and it requires a negative verb. It can be translated as 'only' or 'nothing but' in English.

だけど (dakedo)

Expresses a contrast or contradiction; 'but', 'however', 'even though'.

FORMATION

Sentence 1 + だけど + Sentence 2, or Sentence 1 + 。だけど、Sentence 2

EXAMPLES

試験(しけん)に合格(ごうかく)したけど、まだ勉強(べんきょう)しなければならない。
I passed the exam, but I still have to study.

この部屋(へや)は広(ひろ)いけど、家賃(やちん)が高(たか)いです。
This room is spacious, but the rent is high.

彼(かれ)は優(やさ)しいけど、時々(ときどき)厳(きび)しいです。
He is kind, but sometimes strict.

朝(あさ)ごはんは作(つく)りたいけど、時間(じかん)がない。
I want to make breakfast, but there's no time.

USAGE NOTES
The だけど grammar point is used to express a contrast or contradiction between two statements. In written or spoken Japanese, だけど is often placed at the start of a new sentence (after a period) to mean 'however'. Within a single sentence, speakers often just say けど without だ.

～たて (～tate)

Indicates an action that has just been completed; 'freshly', 'just'.

FORMATION
Verb-stem + たて

EXAMPLES

このパンは焼(や)きたてで、まだ温(あたた)かいです。
This bread is freshly baked and still warm.

作(つく)りたてのお弁当(べんとう)が美味(おい)しい。
A freshly made bento is delicious.

洗(あら)いたてのシャツはいい匂(にお)いがする。
Freshly washed shirts smell nice.

彼女(かのじょ)は切(き)りたての野菜(やさい)をサラダに入(い)れました。
She added freshly cut vegetables to the salad.

USAGE NOTES
The ～たて grammar point is used to express that an action has just been completed, and the result or condition is still fresh or new. This is often used with verbs like 焼く (bake), 作る (make), or 洗う (wash).

～たとえ～ても (～tatoe～temo)

Express a condition with 'even if'; 'no matter how'.

FORMATION
たとえ + Verb-casual + ても, たとえ + い-Adjective + くても, たとえ + な-Adjective + であっても, たとえ + Noun + であっても

EXAMPLES

たとえ雨(あめ)が降(ふ)っても、出(で)かけましょう。
Even if it rains, let's go out.

たとえ彼が怒っても、本当のことを言いましょう。
Even if he gets angry, let's tell the truth.

たとえ寒くても、散歩に行きたい。
Even if it's cold, I want to go for a walk.

たとえ彼が有名であっても、彼には興味がありません。
Even if he's famous, I'm not interested in him.

USAGE NOTES

The 〜たとえ〜ても grammar point is used to express a hypothetical or conditional situation where the outcome remains the same even if the condition is met. It can be translated as 'even if' or 'no matter how' in English.

〜たところ (〜ta tokoro)

Expresses the result or outcome of an action; 'after', 'just when', 'upon'.

FORMATION

Verb-た form + ところ

EXAMPLES

宿題をしたところ、先生からもう一つ課題が出された。
Just when I finished my homework, the teacher gave us another assignment.

友達に会ったところ、彼が海外に行くと言った。
Upon meeting my friend, he told me he's going abroad.

食事を食べ終わったところ、電話がかかってきた。
Just when I finished eating, I got a phone call.

机を整理したところ、忘れていたメモが見つかった。
After organizing my desk, I found a memo I had forgotten about.

USAGE NOTES

The 〜たところ grammar point is used to indicate the result or outcome right after performing an action. It can be translated as 'after', 'just when', or 'upon' in English. It is formed by attaching ところ to the past tense (た-form) of verbs.

～たとたん (～ta totan)

Express the moment something happens; 'as soon as', 'the moment', 'the instant'.

FORMATION

Verb-た form + とたん

EXAMPLES

> **ドアを開けたとたん、猫が逃げ出した。**
> As soon as I opened the door, the cat ran away.

> **電話をかけたとたん、電池が切れた。**
> The moment I made the phone call, the battery died.

> **雨が降り始めたとたん、みんなが傘をさした。**
> The instant it started raining, everyone put up their umbrellas.

> **彼に会ったとたん、彼の笑顔が消えた。**
> As soon as he met me, his smile disappeared.

USAGE NOTES

The ～たとたん grammar point is used to express that something occurs immediately at the exact moment another action is completed. It can be translated as 'as soon as', 'the moment', or 'the instant' in English. It is attached to the past tense (た-form) of a verb.

～たびに (～tabi ni)

Express 'every time' or 'whenever'.

FORMATION

Verb-dictionary form + たびに, Noun + のたびに

EXAMPLES

> **彼女に会うたびに、心が弾む。**
> Every time I meet her, my heart leaps.

> **雨が降るたびに、懐かしい思い出がよみがえる。**
> Whenever it rains, nostalgic memories come back.

> **この歌を聴くたびに、幸せな気分になる。**
> Every time I listen to this song, I feel happy.

> **家に帰るたびに、猫が出迎えてくれる。**
> Every time I return home, the cat greets me.

USAGE NOTES

The 〜たびに grammar point is used to express that an action or event occurs every time or whenever something else happens. It can be translated as 'every time', 'whenever', or 'each time' in English. Typically, you attach たびに to a verb in its dictionary form, or to a noun plus の.

〜だものだ (〜da mono da)

Express the reason or cause, often used to justify something.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + んだものだ, い-Adjective + んだものだ, な-Adjective + なんだものだ, Noun + なんだものだ (often with から as んだものだから)

EXAMPLES

疲(つか)れたんだものだから、休(やす)みたい。
I want to rest because I'm tired.

お腹(なか)が空(あ)いたんだものだから、何(なに)か食(た)べたい。
I want to eat something because I'm hungry.

忙(いそが)しいんだものだから、来(こ)られない。
I can't come because I'm busy.

彼(かれ)は親切(しんせつ)なんだものだから、誰(だれ)も彼(かれ)が好(す)きだ。
Everyone likes him because he is kind.

USAGE NOTES

The 〜だものだ grammar point is used to explain a reason or cause in a subjective, explanatory tone (e.g. 'because... after all'). Often, you'll see it used as 〜だものだから ('because... after all').

〜ちゃった (〜chatta)

Express an unintentional action or a regretful action; 'ended up doing', 'did accidentally'.

FORMATION

Verb-て/で form → ちゃった/じゃった (e.g. 食べてしまった → 食べちゃった)

EXAMPLES

忘(わす)れ物(もの)をしちゃった。
I accidentally left something behind.

寝坊(ねぼう)して遅刻(ちこく)しちゃった。
I overslept and ended up being late.

ケーキを全部食べちゃった。
I ended up eating the whole cake.

言わないつもりだったけど、言っちゃった。
I wasn't planning to say it, but I ended up saying it.

USAGE NOTES
The ～ちゃった grammar point is the informal, colloquial version of ～てしまった. It expresses unintentional or regretful actions and can be translated as 'ended up doing' or 'did accidentally'.

～ついでに (～tsuide ni)

Do something while or after completing another action; 'while', 'by the way'.

FORMATION
Verb (dictionary or た-form) + ついでに, Noun + の + ついでに, or Verb-て form + いる + ついでに

EXAMPLES

買い物に行くついでに、郵便局で手紙を出しましょう。
Let's drop off a letter at the post office while going shopping.

図書館で本を借りたついでに、友達に会いました。
I met my friend while borrowing a book from the library.

日本に来たついでに、有名な観光地を訪れたいです。
While visiting Japan, I'd like to see some famous tourist spots.

映画館に行ったついでに、新作のポスターを見ました。
While going to the movie theater, I saw a poster for a new film.

USAGE NOTES
The ～ついでに grammar point is used to express doing something 'on the occasion of' another action. It can mean 'while you're at it', 'by the way', or 'in passing'.

～っけ？ (～kke?)

Used to express that one is trying to recall some information.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + っけ?, い-Adjective + かったっけ?, な-Adjective/Noun + だっけ?

EXAMPLES

彼は何時に来るっけ？
What time is he coming again?

この映画(えいが)、面白(おもしろ)かったっけ？
Was this movie interesting?

彼女(かのじょ)は学生(がくせい)だっけ？
She was a student, right?

すし屋(や)はどこだっけ？
Where was the sushi place again?

USAGE NOTES
The ～っけ？ grammar point is added at the end of a sentence when the speaker is trying to recall something or confirm a memory. It can be used with verbs, adjectives, or nouns in casual form.

～っぱい (～ppai)

Expresses fullness or completeness; 'full', 'full of', 'filled with'.

FORMATION
Noun + で + いっぱい (Note: written as いっぱい, read as 'ippai')

EXAMPLES

部屋(へや)が荷物(にもつ)でいっぱいです。
The room is full of luggage.

彼女(かのじょ)は笑顔(えがお)でいっぱいでした。
She was full of smiles.

彼(かれ)は仕事(しごと)でいっぱいです。
He is completely busy with work.

公園(こうえん)は花(はな)でいっぱいです。
The park is filled with flowers.

USAGE NOTES
The ～っぱい grammar point is used to convey that something is filled or packed with something else. Commonly used as 『Noun + でいっぱい』 (e.g., 荷物でいっぱい) to mean 'full of X'.

～っぱなし (～ppanashi)

Indicate a state where an action is left as is (unchanged or unfinished).

FORMATION
Verb-ますstem + っぱなし

EXAMPLES

窓を開けっぱなしにすると、虫が入ってくる。
If you leave the window open, bugs will come in.

洗濯物を干しっぱなしで、雨に濡れた。
I left the laundry hanging out, and it got wet in the rain.

彼はドアを開けっぱなしにして出かけた。
He went out leaving the door open.

テレビをつけっぱなしにして寝てしまった。
I fell asleep with the TV left on.

USAGE NOTES

The ～っぱなし grammar point is used to express that an action happened and was left in that state, unattended or unchanged. It is formed by taking the ます-stem of a verb and adding ～っぱなし.

～つまり (～tsumari)

Summarizing, restating, or clarifying a point: 'in other words', 'that is to say'.

FORMATION

Sentence A + つまり + Sentence B (rephrasing)

EXAMPLES

彼は大学の教授です。つまり、専門家です。
He is a university professor. In other words, he is an expert.

今日は土曜日だ。つまり、明日は日曜日だ。
Today is Saturday. That is to say, tomorrow is Sunday.

山田さんは友達のお姉さんです。つまり、私たちの知り合いです。
Ms. Yamada is my friend's older sister. In short, she's someone we know.

彼女はフランス出身です。つまり、フランス語が話せます。
She is from France. In other words, she can speak French.

USAGE NOTES

The ～つまり grammar point is used to restate or clarify in a concise way what has been said. It can be translated as 'in other words', 'that is to say', or 'in short'.

～つもりでした (～tsumori deshita)

Expressing a past intention or plan; 'was planning to', 'meant to'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual (dictionary form) + つもりでした

EXAMPLES

> **昨日(きのう)は友達(ともだち)に会(あ)うつもりでしたが、風邪(かぜ)を引(ひ)いてしまいました。**
> I was planning to meet my friend yesterday, but I caught a cold.

> **映画(えいが)を見(み)るつもりでしたが、時間(じかん)がなくなりました。**
> I intended to watch a movie, but I ran out of time.

> **彼(かれ)らが来(く)るつもりでしたが、電話(でんわ)でキャンセルされました。**
> They were supposed to come, but they canceled by phone.

> **この本(ほん)を読(よ)むつもりでしたが、もう読(よ)み終(お)わっていました。**
> I meant to read this book, but I realized I'd already finished it.

USAGE NOTES

The ～つもりでした grammar point is used to express a past intention or plan that did not happen, or a past belief that turned out incorrect. It can be translated as 'was planning to', 'intended to', or 'meant to'.

～てくれと (～te kureto)

Quote someone's request (telling someone to do something).

FORMATION

Verb-て form + くれと (言う / 頼む / 伝える, etc.)

EXAMPLES

> **電話(でんわ)をかけてくれと言(い)われました。**
> I was told to make a phone call.

> **この荷物(にもつ)を運(はこ)んでくれと頼(たの)まれました。**
> I was asked to carry this luggage.

> **最後(さいご)まで待(ま)ってくれとお願(ねが)いされました。**
> I was asked to wait until the end.

> **休(やす)んでくれと言(い)われました。**
> I was told to please take a rest.

USAGE NOTES

The ～てくれと grammar point is used when quoting a request or command made by someone else. It literally means 'someone said “ please do … ” '. Typically used as 「～てくれと頼む/言う」 to indicate being asked or told to do something.

～てごらん (～te goran)

Suggest or invite someone to try doing something; 'Why don't you try...'.

FORMATION

Verb-て form + ごらん

EXAMPLES

> そのゲームをやってごらん。
> Why don't you try playing that game?

> 彼(かれ)に話(はな)してごらん。
> Try talking to him.

> 新(あたら)しいレシピを作(つく)ってごらん。
> Why don't you try making a new recipe?

> そのドレスを着(き)てごらん。
> Try putting on that dress.

USAGE NOTES

The ～てごらん grammar point is used to gently suggest or invite someone to try doing something. It is softer and more casual than ～てみて, and is used among friends or family.

ですから～ (desu kara)

Expresses reason or cause; 'because', 'since', 'so'.

FORMATION

Sentence A + ですから + Sentence B

EXAMPLES

> 今日(きょう)は寒(さむ)いですから、コートを着(き)てください。
> It's cold today, so please wear a coat.

> この映画(えいが)は面白(おもしろ)いですから、ぜひ見(み)てください。
> This movie is interesting, so please watch it.

> 明日(あした)は休(やす)みですから、ゆっくり休(やす)んでください。
> Tomorrow is a day off, so please take your time to rest.

彼(かれ)は親切(しんせつ)ですから、手伝(てつだ)ってくれるでしょう。
He's kind, so he'll probably help you.

USAGE NOTES
The ですから grammar point is used to indicate the reason or cause for a statement, often in polite speech. It can be translated as 'because', 'since', or 'so'.

～てはじめて (～te hajimete)

Realization or action done for the first time; 'only after', 'not until'.

FORMATION
Verb-て form + はじめて

EXAMPLES

海外(かいがい)に行(い)ってはじめて、日本(にっぽん)の良(よ)さが分(わ)かりました。
Only after going abroad did I realize how great Japan is.

彼女(かのじょ)と別(わか)れてはじめて、彼女(かのじょ)の大切(たいせつ)さに気(き)づいた。
I realized her importance only after breaking up with her.

大学(だいがく)を卒業(そつぎょう)してはじめて、学生時代(がくせいじだい)の楽(たの)しさが分(わ)かった。
I understood how fun my student days were only after graduating from university.

子供(こども)ができてはじめて、親(おや)の気持(きも)ちが分(わ)かった。
I understood how parents feel only after I had a child.

USAGE NOTES
The ～てはじめて grammar point indicates that something is realized or happens for the first time only after another action is completed. It can be translated as 'only after' or 'not until'.

～てほしい (～te hoshii)

Express a desire for someone else to do something; 'I want you to do...'.

FORMATION
Verb-て form + ほしい

EXAMPLES

子供(こども)にもっと勉強(べんきょう)してほしい。
I want my child to study more.

彼(かれ)に私(わたし)に電話(でんわ)してほしい。
I want him to call me.

友達(ともだち)に手伝(てつだ)ってほしい。
I want my friend to help me.

彼女(かのじょ)に明日(あした)ここに来(き)てほしい。
I want her to come here tomorrow.

USAGE NOTES
The ～てほしい grammar point is used to express a desire that someone else perform an action. It is formed by attaching ほしい to the て-form of a verb. It can be translated as 'I want you to...' in English.

～ても (～temo)

'Even if', 'even though', or 'although'.

FORMATION
Verb-て form + も, い-Adjective (～く) + ても, な-Adjective/Noun (～で) + も

EXAMPLES

雨(あめ)が降(ふ)っても、運動会(うんどうかい)は開催(かいさい)されます。
Even if it rains, the sports festival will be held.

忙(いそが)しくても、毎日(まいにち)勉強(べんきょう)する時間(じかん)を作(つく)る。
Even though I'm busy, I make time to study every day.

高(たか)くても、良(よ)い品質(ひんしつ)のものを買(か)います。
Even if it's expensive, I'll buy something of good quality.

彼女(かのじょ)が有名人(ゆうめいじん)でも、私(わたし)は彼女(かのじょ)のことを知(し)らない。
Even if she's famous, I don't know her.

USAGE NOTES
The ～ても grammar point expresses that even if a certain condition holds, the outcome or situation doesn't change. It can be translated as 'even if' or 'even though'.

～といいなあ (～to ii naa)

Express a wish or hope; 'it would be nice if', 'I hope that'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + といいなあ, い-Adjective + といいなあ, な-Adjective + だといいなあ, Noun + だといいなあ

EXAMPLES

明日(あした)は晴れるといいなあ。
I hope it's sunny tomorrow.

この試験(しけん)に合格(ごうかく)するといいなあ。
I hope I pass this exam.

彼女(かのじょ)が元気(げんき)だといいなあ。
I hope she is doing well.

彼(かれ)が新(あたら)しい仕事(しごと)が見(み)つかるといいなあ。
I hope he finds a new job.

USAGE NOTES

The ～といいなあ grammar point is used to express a wish or hope for something to happen or to be in a certain way. It can be translated as 'it would be nice if' or 'I hope that' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～という (～to iu)

Used for quoting, defining, or giving an example; 'called', 'that is to say', 'like'.

FORMATION

Noun + という + Noun, Verb-casual + という + Noun, い-Adjective + という + Noun, な-Adjective + という + Noun

EXAMPLES

本屋(ほんや)で「ハリー・ポッター」という本(ほん)を買(か)いました。
I bought a book called 'Harry Potter' at the bookstore.

昨日(きのう)、美味(おい)しいというケーキを食(た)べました。
Yesterday, I ate a cake that is said to be delicious.

彼(かれ)はとても親切(しんせつ)だという評判(ひょうばん)です。
He has a reputation for being very kind.

今年(ことし)の夏(なつ)、東京(とうきょう)にある「ディズニーランド」というテーマパークに行(い)きたいです。
I want to go to a theme park called 'Disneyland' in Tokyo this summer.

USAGE NOTES

The ～という grammar point is used to quote, define, or give an example of something. It can be translated as 'called', 'that is to say', or 'like' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～ということだ (～to iu koto da)

Express a conclusion or hearsay; 'I heard', 'it means', 'it can be said'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ということだ, い-Adjective + ということだ, な-Adjective + だということだ, Noun + だということだ

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は来週(らいしゅう)結婚(けっこん)するということだ。
I heard that he is getting married next week.

この試験(しけん)は難(むずか)しいということだ。
It means this exam is difficult.

彼女(かのじょ)が引(ひ)っ越(こ)したということだ。
I heard that she has moved.

彼(かれ)は仕事(しごと)がうまくいかないだということだ。
It can be said that his work is not going well.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ということだ grammar point is used to express a conclusion, summary, or hearsay about a certain situation or statement. It can be translated as 'I heard', 'it means', or 'it can be said' in English. This grammar point is often used with verbs, adjectives, and nouns.

～というと (～to iu to)

Used to provide an example or characteristic related to the topic; 'when it comes to', 'speaking of'.

FORMATION

Noun + というと

EXAMPLES

日本料理(にっぽんりょうり)というと、寿司(すし)が思(おも)い浮(う)かぶ。
When it comes to Japanese cuisine, sushi comes to mind.

パリというと、エッフェル塔(とう)を思(おも)い出(だ)す。
Speaking of Paris, I recall the Eiffel Tower.

夏休(なつやす)みというと、海(うみ)に行(い)くことが楽(たの)しみだ。
When it comes to summer vacation, I look forward to going to the beach.

彼(かれ)というと、いつも元気(げんき)な人(ひと)だと思(おも)う。
Speaking of him, I think he's always energetic.

USAGE NOTES

The ～というと grammar point is used to indicate an example, characteristic, or association related to the topic being discussed. It can be translated as 'when it comes to', 'speaking of', or 'in terms of' in English.

～というの～ (～to iu no～)

Explain or emphasize the reason for a situation or action.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + というの, い-Adjective + というの, な-Adjective + だというの, Noun + だというの

EXAMPLES

遅刻(ちこく)したのは、電車(でんしゃ)が遅(おく)れたというのだ。
The reason I was late is because the train was delayed.

この部屋(へや)が汚(きたな)いのは、掃除(そうじ)をしなかったというのだ。
The reason this room is dirty is because I didn't clean it.

彼女(かのじょ)が怒(おこ)っているのは、彼(かれ)が約束(やくそく)を破(やぶ)ったというのだ。
The reason she is angry is that he broke his promise.

彼(かれ)が成功(せいこう)したのは、努力(どりょく)して勉強(べんきょう)したというのだ。
The reason he succeeded is because he studied hard.

USAGE NOTES

The ～というの～ grammar point is used to provide an explanation or emphasize the reason for a certain situation or action. It can be translated as 'the reason is that...', or 'it's because...'.

～というのは (～to iu no wa)

Used to provide an explanation or definition; 'that is to say...', 'by that, I mean...'.

FORMATION

Phrase/sentence + というのは + explanation/definition

EXAMPLES

日本(にっぽん)に行(い)くというのは、日本(にっぽん)に旅行(りょこう)することです。
Going to Japan, that is to say, traveling to Japan.

この問題(もんだい)は難(むずか)しいというのは、解決(かいけつ)に時間(じかん)がかかるということです。
When I say this problem is difficult, I mean it takes time to solve.

彼(かれ)が怒(おこ)っているというのは、彼(かれ)が不満(ふまん)を感(かん)じているということです。
By saying that he's angry, I mean he's feeling dissatisfied.

太(ふと)るというのは、体重(たいじゅう)が増(ふ)えるということです。
Gaining weight, that is to say, increasing one's body weight.

USAGE NOTES
The ～というのは grammar point is used to provide an explanation or definition of the preceding statement or word. It can be translated as 'that is to say...', 'by that, I mean...', or 'what I mean by...'.

～というより (～to iu yori)

Express a comparison with preference; 'rather than', 'more like', 'instead of'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + というより, い-Adjective + というより, な-Adjective + だというより, Noun + だというより

EXAMPLES

この部屋(へや)は狭(せま)いというより、居心地(いごこち)がいい。
Rather than saying this room is small, it's more like it's cozy.

彼(かれ)は怖(こわ)いというより、頼(たよ)りがいがある。
Instead of saying he's scary, he's more like a reliable person.

映画(えいが)はつまらないというより、ちょっと長(なが)かった。
Rather than calling the movie boring, I'd say it was a bit long.

彼女(かのじょ)は友達(ともだち)だというより、家族(かぞく)のような存在(そんざい)だ。
Rather than a friend, she's more like family.

USAGE NOTES
The ～というより grammar point is used to express a comparison where one description is more accurate than another. Translated as 'rather than', 'more like', or 'instead of'.

～といっても (～to ittemo)

Express the meaning 'even though', 'although', 'but'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + といっても, い-Adjective + といっても, な-Adjective + だといっても, Noun + だといっても

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は有名(ゆうめい)だといっても、みんなに知(し)られているわけではありません。
Even though he's famous, it doesn't mean everyone knows him.

このスープは辛(つら)いといっても、私(わたし)にはちょうどいいです。
Although this soup is spicy, it's just right for me.

彼女(かのじょ)は若(わか)いですが、経験(けいけん)があるといっても、まだ新人(しんじん)です。
She's young, and although she has some experience, she's still a newcomer.

このレストランは高(たか)いだといっても、美味(おい)しい料理(りょうり)が食(た)べられるので価値(かち)があります。
Even though this restaurant is expensive, it's worth it because you can enjoy delicious dishes.

USAGE NOTES

The ～といっても grammar point is used to show a contrast or clarify that 'even though' something is the case, it does not necessarily lead to the expected result. It can be translated as 'even though', 'although', or 'but'.

～とおり (～toori)

Expresses that something is done 'as is', 'as stated', or 'as instructed'.

FORMATION

Verb-て form + とおり, Noun + のとおり

EXAMPLES

先生(せんせい)が言(い)ったとおり、宿題(しゅくだい)をやりました。
I did my homework exactly as the teacher said.

地図(ちず)に書(か)いてあるとおりに行(い)けば、駅(えき)に着(つ)きます。
If you follow what's written on the map, you'll arrive at the station.

レシピのとおりにケーキを作(つく)った。
I baked the cake according to the recipe.

彼女(かのじょ)は約束(やくそく)したとおりに時間通(じかんどお)りに来(き)ました。
She arrived on time, just as she promised.

USAGE NOTES

The ～とおり grammar point is used to express that something is done exactly as stated, instructed, or shown. It is commonly used with verbs and nouns, and can be translated as 'just like', 'as per', or 'according to'.

～とく (～toku)

Express doing something in advance or for future convenience (casual form of ～ておく).

FORMATION

Verb-て form + とく (e.g., 食べておく→食べとく, 読んでおく→読んどく)

EXAMPLES

夜遅くなるから、今晩のご飯を作っとく。
Since it will be late tonight, I'll prepare dinner in advance.

傘が必要かもしれないので、持っておく。
I might need an umbrella, so I'll bring one along (just in case).

試験が近いから、今から勉強しとこう。
The exam is coming up, so I'll start studying now.

明日は忙しいので、洗濯をしとく。
Since I'll be busy tomorrow, I'll do the laundry in advance.

USAGE NOTES

The ～とく grammar point (from ～ておく) is used to express doing something in advance or preparing for something. It implies you're performing an action now to avoid inconvenience later. It is a casual, colloquial contraction of ～ておく.

～ところが (～tokoro ga)

Expresses a contrast or unexpected outcome; 'however', 'but', 'even though'.

FORMATION

Phrase 1 (expected situation) + ところが + Phrase 2 (unexpected result)

EXAMPLES

彼はいつも遅刻するところが、今日は早く来ました。
He's always late, but today he arrived early.

昨日は暑かったところが、今日は寒くなりました。
Yesterday was hot, but today it got cold.

試合で負けると思ったところが、意外にも勝ちました。
I thought we would lose the match, but surprisingly we won.

決勝戦で優勝するところが、最後のポイントで負けました。
We were about to win the final, but we lost at the last point.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ところが grammar point is used to express a contrast or an unexpected outcome. It can be translated as 'however', 'but', or 'even though' in English. It emphasizes a situation that contradicts what was expected.

～ところだった (～tokoro datta)

Expresses a near miss or a situation that almost happened; 'was just about to', 'almost', 'nearly'.

FORMATION

Verb (dictionary form or ている form) + ところだった

EXAMPLES

もう少(すこ)しで遅(おく)れるところだった。
I was just about to be late.

彼(かれ)が危(あや)うく事故(じこ)にあうところだった。
He almost had an accident.

電車(でんしゃ)に乗(の)るところだったが、ドアが閉(し)まってしまった。
I was just about to get on the train, but the door closed.

忘(わす)れ物(もの)をするところだった。
I almost forgot my belongings.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ところだった grammar point is used to express a situation that almost occurred or something that the speaker was just about to do. It can be translated as 'was just about to', 'almost', or 'nearly' in English. Typically, it is formed with the dictionary form or ている form of a verb + ところだった.

ところで (tokorode)

Used for changing the topic or bringing up a new topic; 'by the way', 'speaking of'.

FORMATION

ところで + new topic or question

EXAMPLES

ところで、昨日(きのう)の宿題(しゅくだい)はもう終(お)わりましたか？
By the way, did you finish yesterday's homework?

彼(かれ)はプールで泳(およ)いでいます。ところで、お昼(ひる)ご飯(はん)は何(なに)にしますか？
He is swimming in the pool. By the way, what do you want for lunch?

昨日(きのう)は楽(たの)しかったですね。ところで、この写真(しゃしん)を見(み)ましたか？
Yesterday was fun, wasn't it? By the way, did you see this photo?

ところで、明日(あした)の会議(かいぎ)の時間(じかん)を知(し)っていますか？
By the way, do you know the time of tomorrow's meeting?

USAGE NOTES
The ところで (tokorode) grammar point is used to change the topic of conversation or introduce a new topic. It can be translated as 'by the way' or 'speaking of' in English. It is often used when the speaker wants to ask a question or share some information on a different subject. It can be placed at the beginning or in the middle of a sentence.

～としたら (～to shitara)

Express a hypothetical situation; 'if', 'suppose', 'assuming'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + としたら, い-Adjective + としたら, な-Adjective + だとしたら, Noun + だとしたら

EXAMPLES

明日(あした)雨(あめ)が降(ふ)るとしたら、傘(かさ)を持(も)って行(い)きましょう。
If it rains tomorrow, let's bring an umbrella.

このケーキが美味(おい)しくないとしたら、誰(だれ)も食(た)べないでしょう。
If this cake is not delicious, nobody will eat it.

彼(かれ)が病気(びょうき)だとしたら、すぐに病院(びょういん)に行(い)かせてあげてください。
If he is sick, please take him to the hospital right away.

彼女(かのじょ)が学生(がくせい)だとしたら、このレストランは割引(わりびき)があるでしょう。
If she is a student, there will be a discount at this restaurant.

USAGE NOTES
The ～としたら grammar point is used to express a hypothetical situation or assumption. It can be translated as 'if', 'suppose', or 'assuming' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～として (～to shite)

Indicates a role, capacity, or identity; 'as', 'in the capacity of'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + として, い-Adjective + として, な-Adjective + だとして, Noun + だとして

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は弁護士(べんごし)として働(はたら)いています。
He is working as a lawyer.

この料理(りょうり)はスナックとして食(た)べられます。
This dish can be eaten as a snack.

彼女(かのじょ)はリーダーとして尊敬(そんけい)されている。
She is respected as a leader.

この本(ほん)は参考書(さんこうしょ)として使(つか)われます。
This book is used as a reference.

USAGE NOTES

The 〜として grammar point is used to express a role, capacity, or identity in which someone or something functions. It can be translated as 'as' or 'in the capacity of' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

〜どんなに〜ことか (〜donna ni〜koto ka)

Expresses the extent of something or emphasizes the degree of a condition or situation.

FORMATION

どんなに + Adjective + ことか, どんなに + Verb + ことか

EXAMPLES

どんなに疲(つか)れたことか、言葉(ことば)では表(あらわ)せません。
I can't put into words how tired I am.

どんなに辛(つら)いことか、彼女(かのじょ)は毎日(まいにち)頑張(がんば)って働(はたら)いています。
How hard it must be, she works hard every day.

彼(かれ)の成功(せいこう)はどんなに喜(よろこ)ばしいことか。
How happy his success must be.

どんなに楽(たの)しいことか、みんなで旅行(りょこう)に行(い)く。
How fun it is to go on a trip with everyone.

USAGE NOTES

The 〜どんなに〜ことか grammar point is used to emphasize the extent of a condition or circumstance, and to express how much or to what degree something is happening. It is often translated as 'how much', 'how greatly', or 'to what extent' in English. This pattern is usually used with an adjective or verb in a sentence.

どんなに〜ても (donna ni 〜 temo)

Expresses 'no matter how much' or 'even if'; emphasizes the degree of a situation.

FORMATION

どんなに + Verb-てform + も, どんなに + い-Adjective-てform + も, どんなに + な-Adjective + でも

EXAMPLES

> **どんなに勉強(べんきょう)しても、まだわからないことがある。**
> No matter how much I study, there are still things I don't understand.

> **どんなに速(はや)く走(はし)っても、彼(かれ)には勝(か)てません。**
> No matter how fast I run, I can't beat him.

> **どんなに疲(つか)れても、仕事(しごと)を終(お)わらせるまで帰(かえ)れません。**
> No matter how tired I am, I can't go home until I finish my work.

> **どんなに美味(おい)しくても、これ以上(いじょう)食(た)べられない。**
> No matter how delicious it is, I can't eat any more.

USAGE NOTES

The どんなに〜ても grammar point is used to emphasize the degree of a situation or condition, often translated as 'no matter how much' or 'even if' in English. It can be used with verbs, い-adjectives, and な-adjectives.

〜ないことはない (〜nai koto wa nai)

Express the idea that 'it's not that it's impossible' or 'it's not that it cannot be done'.

FORMATION

Verb-ない form + ことはない

EXAMPLES

> **この問題(もんだい)を解(と)けないことはないが、時間(じかん)がかかりそうだ。**
> It's not that I can't solve this problem, but it seems like it will take time.

> **彼(かれ)に会(あ)わないことはないけど、あまり話(はな)したくない。**
> It's not that I can't meet him, but I don't really want to talk.

> **この映画(えいが)を見(み)ないことはないけれど、他(た)の映画(えいが)がもっと面白(おもしろ)いと思(おも)う。**
> It's not that I cannot watch this movie, but I think other movies are more interesting.

> **その本(ほん)を読(よ)まないことはないが、長(なが)いので気(き)をつけてください。**
> It's not that I can't read that book, but it's long, so be careful.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ないことはない grammar point is used to express that something is not impossible, or not that it cannot be done. It creates a softer, more indirect way of saying that something is possible or can be done, but not necessarily easy or preferred.

～ないと (～nai to)

Express a condition; 'if... not', 'unless', 'must'.

FORMATION

Verb-negative form + ないと

EXAMPLES

朝食(ちょうしょく)を食(た)べないと、お腹(なか)が空(す)く。

If I don't eat breakfast, I will be hungry.

宿題(しゅくだい)をしないと、先生(せんせい)に怒(おこ)られる。

If I don't do my homework, the teacher will be angry.

充電(じゅうでん)をしないと、電話(でんわ)が使(つか)えなくなる。

If I don't charge it, I won't be able to use the phone.

この事故(じこ)を報告(ほうこく)しないと、問題(もんだい)が大(おお)きくなる。

If I don't report this accident, the problem will become bigger.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ないと grammar point is used to express a condition, focusing on the negative consequences if the action is not performed. It can be translated as 'if... not', 'unless', or 'must' in English. The formation is simply attaching ないと to the negative form of a verb.

～なぜなら (～nazenara)

Express a reason or explanation; 'because', 'the reason is'.

FORMATION

Sentence/Statement + なぜなら + Reason + から/だから

EXAMPLES

このレストランが大好(だいす)きだ。なぜなら料理(りょうり)が美味(おい)しいから。

I love this restaurant because the food is delicious.

彼女(かのじょ)は試験(しけん)に合格(ごうかく)しなかった。なぜなら勉強(べんきょう)しなかったから。

She didn't pass the exam because she didn't study.

私(わたし)は映画(えいが)を見(み)に行(い)かない。なぜなら今日(きょう)は忙(いそが)しいから。
I won't go to see a movie because I am busy today.

彼(かれ)はこのプロジェクトを任(まか)せられる。なぜなら経験(けいけん)が豊富(ほうふ)だから。
He can be trusted with this project because he has a wealth of experience.

USAGE NOTES

The ～なぜなら grammar point is used to provide a reason or explanation for a preceding statement or situation. It can be translated as 'because' or 'the reason is' in English. It is often followed by から or だから to emphasize the reason or cause.

～など (～nado)

Indicates a non-exhaustive list of examples; 'such as', 'things like', 'among others'.

FORMATION

Noun + など

EXAMPLES

魚(さかな)、果物(くだもの)などを市場(しじょう)で買(か)いました。
I bought fish, fruits, and such at the market.

彼(かれ)は日本語(にほんご)、英語(えいご)、中国語(ちゅうごくご)などを話(はな)せます。
He can speak languages such as Japanese, English, and Chinese.

美術館(びじゅつかん)では絵画(かいが)、彫刻(ちょうこく)などの作品(さくひん)を見(み)ました。
At the art museum, I saw works like paintings, sculptures, and others.

この店(みせ)ではパン、ケーキなどのお菓子(かし)を売(う)っています。
This store sells sweets such as bread, cakes, and so on.

USAGE NOTES

The ～など grammar point is used to give a non-exhaustive list of examples, meaning the mentioned items are only some of many possibilities. It can be translated as 'such as', 'things like', or 'among others' in English. This grammar point can be used with nouns.

～なんか (～nanka)

Expresses the idea of 'things like' or 'something like', used for listing examples or downplaying something.

FORMATION

Noun + なんか, Verb-casual + なんか, い-Adjective + なんか, な-Adjective + なんか

EXAMPLES

お金(かね)なんかいらない。
I don't need money or anything like that.

彼(かれ)はピアノなんかも弾(ひ)けます。
He can play things like the piano.

忙(いそが)しいなんかじゃないよ。
I'm not really busy or anything like that.

彼女(かのじょ)は親切(しんせつ)なんかじゃない。
She's not kind or anything like that.

USAGE NOTES

The ～なんか grammar point is used for listing examples by indicating 'things like' or 'something like'. It can also be used to downplay or devalue something, making it seem less important or less significant than it really is.

～において (～ni oite)

Indicates the place, time, or context where an action or situation takes place.

FORMATION

Noun (Place/Time/Context) + において

EXAMPLES

日本(にっぽん)において、お盆(ぼん)は家族(かぞく)が集(あつ)まる大切(たいせつ)な行事(ぎょうじ)です。
In Japan, Obon is an important event where families gather.

会議(かいぎ)において、彼(かれ)の意見(いけん)が一番(いちばん)説得力(せっとくりょく)がありました。
In the meeting, his opinion was the most persuasive.

科学(かがく)の分野(ぶんや)において、研究(けんきゅう)が日々(ひび)進(すす)んでいます。
In the field of science, research is advancing daily.

幼少期(ようしょうき)において、子供(こども)たちは勢(いきお)いよく物(もの)を覚(おぼ)えます。
During early childhood, children learn things rapidly.

USAGE NOTES

The ～において grammar point is used to indicate where an action or situation occurs. It can often be translated as 'in', 'at', or 'on' in English. In some cases, it can also express a specific context or aspect. This grammar point can be used with verbs, adjectives, and nouns.

～にかわって (～ni kawatte)

Expresses 'in place of', 'on behalf of', or 'instead of'.

FORMATION

Noun + にかわって

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)が病気(びょうき)なので、私(わたし)が会議(かいぎ)に出席(しゅっせき)することになりました。私(わたし)が彼(かれ)にかわって会議(かいぎ)に出席(しゅっせき)します。

He is sick, so I will attend the meeting. I will attend the meeting on his behalf.

母(はは)は忙(いそが)しいので、私(わたし)が母(はは)にかわって料理(りょうり)を作(つく)ります。

My mother is busy, so I will cook the meal instead of her.

今度(こんど)の旅行(りょこう)は妹(いもうと)にかわって、私(わたし)が一緒(いっしょ)に行(い)きます。

For this trip, I will go together instead of my younger sister.

先生(せんせい)が出張(しゅっちょう)中(ちゅう)でいないので、助手(じょしゅ)が先生(せんせい)にかわってクラスを担当(たんとう)します。

The teacher is not here because of a business trip, so the assistant will take charge of the class instead of the teacher.

USAGE NOTES

The ～にかわって grammar point is used to express that someone or something is acting in place of, on behalf of, or instead of someone or something else. Typically used with nouns (e.g., 人, 会社, etc.).

～にしては (～ni shite wa)

Express 'for' or 'considering' in the sense of being unusual or unexpected.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + にしては, い-Adjective + にしては, な-Adjective + にしては, Noun + にしては

EXAMPLES

彼女(かのじょ)は初心者(しょしんしゃ)にしては、上手(じょうず)に水泳(すいえい)ができる。

Considering she is a beginner, she can swim well.

このお寿司(すし)は安(やす)いにしては、とても美味(おい)しい。

Considering this sushi is cheap, it's very delicious.

彼(かれ)は若(わか)いにしては、とても落(お)ち着(つ)いている。

Considering he is young, he is very calm.

あの人は外国人にしては、日本語がうまい。
For a foreigner, that person is good at Japanese.

USAGE NOTES

The ～にしては grammar point is used to express that something is unusual or unexpected considering a specific condition or context. It can be translated as 'for' or 'considering' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～にしても (～ni shitemo)

Expresses 'even if', 'no matter', 'regardless of'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + にしても, い-Adjective + にしても, な-Adjective + だにしても, Noun + だにしても

EXAMPLES

雨が降るにしても、学校へ行かなければなりません。
Even if it rains, I have to go to school.

彼女が怒っているにしても、話し合いは避けられない。
Even if she is angry, we can't avoid talking.

このレストランが高いにしても、料理の質がよくておすすめです。
Even if this restaurant is expensive, I recommend it because the quality of the food is good.

彼が有名だにしても、彼の私生活について話すのは失礼だ。
Even if he is famous, it's rude to talk about his private life.

USAGE NOTES

The ～にしても grammar point is used to express that even if a certain condition is true or a certain situation occurs, the outcome will not change. It can be translated as 'even if', 'no matter', or 'regardless of' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～について (～ni tsuite)

Expressing 'about', 'concerning', or 'regarding'.

FORMATION

Noun + について

EXAMPLES

日本の文化について学びたいです。
I want to learn about Japanese culture.

彼(かれ)の意見(いけん)について話(はな)し合(あ)いましょう。
Let's discuss his opinion.

この問題(もんだい)について詳(くわ)しく教(おし)えてください。
Please explain this issue in detail.

子供(こども)たちの教育(きょういく)について考(かんが)えなければなりません。
We have to think about the children's education.

USAGE NOTES
The 〜について grammar point is used to express 'about', 'concerning', or 'regarding' a certain topic or subject. It is often used in both casual and formal contexts. The formation is simple – just add について after the noun that represents the topic you are discussing.

〜にとって (〜ni totte)

Express the meaning 'for', 'to', 'from the perspective of'.

FORMATION
Noun (person or thing) + にとって + Verb/Adjective/Noun

EXAMPLES

私(わたし)にとって、健康(けんこう)は一番(いちばん)大切(たいせつ)なことです。
For me, health is the most important thing.

あの会社(かいしゃ)にとって、このプロジェクトは重要(じゅうよう)な意味(いみ)があります。
For that company, this project has significant meaning.

子供(こども)たちにとって、おもちゃは楽(たの)しいものです。
For children, toys are fun things.

外国人(がいこくじん)にとって、日本語(にほんご)は難(むずか)しい言語(げんご)の一(ひと)つです。
For foreigners, Japanese is one of the difficult languages.

USAGE NOTES
The 〜にとって grammar point is used to express the meaning 'for', 'to', or 'from the perspective of' when describing someone or something's point of view, feelings, benefits, or importance. It is used with all types of words, such as verbs, adjectives, and nouns.

～によって (～ni yotte)

Indicates the reason or cause, difference depending on a factor, or methods used.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + によって, い-Adjective + によって, な-Adjective + によって, Noun + によって

EXAMPLES

その事故(じこ)は悪天候(あくてんこう)によって引(ひ)き起(お)こされた。
The accident was caused by bad weather.

生活習慣(せいかつしゅうかん)によって、健康状態(けんこうじょうたい)が変(か)わります。
Health conditions change depending on lifestyle habits.

彼(かれ)の成功(せいこう)は努力(どりょく)によって得(え)られたものだ。
His success was achieved through hard work.

結果(けっか)は試験(しけん)の難易度(なんいど)によって異(こと)なります。
The results vary depending on the difficulty of the exam.

USAGE NOTES

The ～によって grammar point is used to express the reason or cause of something, to show a difference depending on a certain factor, or to indicate the method or means by which something is done. It can be translated as 'by', 'depending on', 'due to', or 'according to' in English. The formation is the same for verbs, い-adjectives, な-adjectives, and nouns.

～によれば (～ni yoreba)

Means 'according to', 'based on' or 'by'.

FORMATION

Noun + によれば

EXAMPLES

天気予報(てんきよほう)によれば、明日(あした)は晴(は)れるでしょう。
According to the weather forecast, it will be sunny tomorrow.

先生(せんせい)によれば、この問題(もんだい)は簡単(かんたん)だそうです。
According to the teacher, this problem seems to be easy.

調査(ちょうさ)によれば、若者(わかもの)の喫煙率(きつえんりつ)が減(へ)っているということです。
According to the survey, the smoking rate among young people is decreasing.

新聞記事(しんぶんきじ)によれば、その企業(きぎょう)は倒産(とうさん)の危機(きき)にあるらしい。
According to the newspaper article, the company appears to be on the verge of bankruptcy.

USAGE NOTES

The ～によれば grammar point is used to express information, opinions or a judgement made based on a certain source. It can be translated as 'according to', 'based on', or 'by' in English. This grammar point is typically used with a noun that represents the source of information.

～に対して (～ni taishite)

Indicates a target or contrast; 'toward', 'against', 'in contrast to', 'in response to'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + に対して, い-Adjective + に対して, な-Adjective + に対して, Noun + に対して

EXAMPLES

子供(こども)たちに対(たい)して、親(おや)は常(つね)にやさしくあるべきです。
Parents should always be kind towards their children.

彼(かれ)は質問(しつもん)に対(たい)して正直(しょうじき)に答(こた)えました。
He answered the questions honestly.

田中(たなか)さんは成功(せいこう)したに対(たい)して、佐藤(さとう)さんは失敗(しっぱい)しました。
In contrast to Tanaka-san's success, Satou-san failed.

彼(かれ)の意見(いけん)に対(たい)して、私(わたし)は反対(はんたい)の立場(たちば)を取(と)りました。
In response to his opinion, I took an opposing stance.

USAGE NOTES

The ～に対して grammar point is used to indicate the target or direction of an action, or to show a contrast between two situations or objects. It can be translated as 'toward', 'against', 'in contrast to', or 'in response to' in English. It can be used with verbs, adjectives, and nouns.

～に比べて (～ni kurabete)

Comparing to; in comparison with; as opposed to.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + に比べて, い-Adjective + に比べて, な-Adjective + だ/である + に比べて, Noun + だ/である + に比べて

EXAMPLES

夏(なつ)に比(くら)べて、冬(ふゆ)は寒(さむ)いです。
Winter is cold compared to summer.

このトマトは赤(あか)いトマトに比(くら)べて美味(おい)しくない。
This tomato is not as delicious compared to the red tomatoes.

彼(かれ)は私(わたし)に比(くら)べて英語(えいご)が上手(じょうず)です。
He is better at English compared to me.

東京(とうきょう)に比(くら)べて、京都(きょうと)は静(しず)かな町(まち)です。
Kyoto is a quieter city compared to Tokyo.

USAGE NOTES
The ～に比べて grammar point is used to compare two things or situations by highlighting their differences. It can be translated as 'comparing to', 'in comparison with', or 'as opposed to' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～に関して (～ni kanshite)

Regarding, concerning, about, with respect to.

FORMATION
Noun + に関して

EXAMPLES

健康(けんこう)に関(かん)して気(き)を付(つ)けることが大切(たいせつ)です。
It is important to be careful regarding health.

このプロジェクトに関(かん)しては、彼(かれ)がすべての詳細(しょうさい)を知(し)っています。
Regarding this project, he knows all the details.

環境問題(かんきょうもんだい)に関(かん)して、私(わたし)たちはもっと責任(せきにん)を持(も)たなければなりません。
Concerning environmental issues, we must take more responsibility.

この事件(じけん)に関(かん)しての情報(じょうほう)はまだ十分(じゅうぶん)ではありません。
The information regarding this incident is still insufficient.

USAGE NOTES
The ～に関して grammar point is used to express the topic or subject matter one is talking about. It can be translated as 'regarding', 'concerning', 'about', or 'with respect to' in English. The formation is simple and remains the same regardless of it being used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～の～ (～no ～)

Indicates possession, attribution, or connection between two nouns.

FORMATION
Noun1 + の + Noun2

EXAMPLES

これは私(わたし)の傘(かさ)です。
This is my umbrella.

あのビルは東京(とうきょう)の有名(ゆうめい)な観光(かんこう)スポットです。
That building is a famous tourist spot in Tokyo.

彼(かれ)は部長(ぶちょう)の秘書(ひしょ)です。
He is the chief's secretary.

彼女(かのじょ)は音楽(おんがく)の先生(せんせい)です。
She is a music teacher.

USAGE NOTES

The ～の～ grammar point is used to show the relationship between two nouns in Japanese. It can be translated as 'of', 'in', or 'the' in English. This grammar point is used to indicate possession, attribution, or connection between the two nouns.

～ばかり (～bakari)

Expresses 'only', 'nothing but', 'always', 'just'.

FORMATION

Verb-ますstem + ばかり, い-Adjective + ばかり, な-Adjective + ばかり, Noun + ばかり

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)はゲームばかりしている。
He is always playing games.

この部屋(へや)は綺麗(きれい)なものばかりだ。
This room has nothing but clean things.

彼女(かのじょ)は勉強(べんきょう)ばかりしていて、遊(あそ)んでいる暇(ひま)がない。
She is always studying and has no time to play.

彼(かれ)の話(はなし)は嘘(うそ)ばかりで、信(しん)じることができない。
His words are nothing but lies, and I cannot believe them.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ばかり grammar point is used to express that something is only, nothing but, always, or just a certain way. It emphasizes the repeated or continuous nature of an action or state. It can be used with verbs, い-adjectives, な-adjectives, and nouns.

～ばかりか (～bakarika) ～も (mo)

Not only... but also; more than just; not just

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ばかりか/も, い-Adjective + ばかりか/も, な-Adjective + だ + ばかりか/も, Noun + だ + ばかりか/も

EXAMPLES

彼女(かのじょ)は英語(えいご)ばかりか、フランス語(ご)も話(はな)せます。
Not only can she speak English, but she can also speak French.

このレストランは味(あじ)が良(よ)いばかりか、サービスも素晴(すば)らしい。
Not only does this restaurant have great taste, but the service is also wonderful.

パーティは楽(たの)しかったばかりか、料理(りょうり)も美味(おい)しかった。
Not only was the party fun, but the food was also delicious.

彼(かれ)は頭(あたま)がいいばかりか、スポーツも得意(とくい)だ。
Not only is he smart, but he is also good at sports.

USAGE NOTES

The grammar point ～ばかりか ～も is used to emphasize that something is not limited to only one thing, but also includes another thing. It can be translated as 'not only... but also', 'more than just', or 'not just' in English. This expression is typically used with verbs, adjectives, and nouns.

～はずだ (～hazu da)

Expresses an expectation, 'should' or 'it is supposed to'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + はずだ, い-Adjective + はずだ, な-Adjective + なはずだ, Noun + のはずだ

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)はもう着(つ)いたはずだ。
He should have arrived by now.

この薬(くすり)を飲(の)むと、痛(いた)みがなくなるはずだ。
If you take this medicine, the pain should go away.

明日(あした)は晴(は)れるはずだ。
It is supposed to be sunny tomorrow.

彼女(かのじょ)は元気(げんき)なはずだ。
She is supposed to be well.

USAGE NOTES

The 〜はずだ grammar point is used to express an expectation or belief that something is true, even if it has not been confirmed. It can be translated as 'should', 'it is supposed to', or 'ought to' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

〜ば〜のに (〜ba 〜noni)

Expresses regret or dissatisfaction; 'if only', 'wish'.

FORMATION

Verb-ば form + 〜のに, い-Adjective-ば form + 〜のに, な-Adjective + であれば + 〜のに, Noun + であれば + 〜のに

EXAMPLES

> もっと早く来れば、電車に間に合ったのに。
> If only I had come earlier, I would have made it to the train.

> もっと勉強すれば、試験に合格したのに。
> I wish I had studied more, I would have passed the exam.

> 彼女がもっと優しければ、彼と上手くいくのに。
> If only she were kinder, she would get along with him.

> 日本語が上手であれば、この本が読めるのに。
> I wish I were good at Japanese, then I could read this book.

USAGE NOTES

The 〜ば〜のに grammar point is used to express regret or dissatisfaction about a situation that didn't happen or to express a contrary view of the actual situation. It can be translated as 'if only' or 'wish' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

〜ば〜ほど (〜ba 〜hodo)

Expresses 'the more 〜, the more 〜'; a proportional relationship between two phrases.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ば + Verb-casual + ほど, い-Adjective + ば + い-Adjective + ほど, な-Adjective + であれば + な-Adjective + ほど

EXAMPLES

> 早く起きれば起きるほど、時間がたくさんある。
> The earlier you wake up, the more time you have.

練習(れんしゅう) すればするほど、 上達(じょうたつ) します。
The more you practice, the more you will improve.

料理(りょうり)が美味(おい)しければ美味(おい)しいほど、皆(みな)が喜(よろこ)びます。
The more delicious the food is, the happier everyone will be.

日本語(にほんご)が上手(じょうず)であれば上手(じょうず)なほど、日本(にっぽん)の生活(せいかつ)が楽(らく)になります。
The better your Japanese is, the easier life in Japan will be.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ば～ほど grammar point is used to express a proportional relationship between two phrases, meaning 'the more A, the more B'. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, or な-adjective.

～はもちろん～も (～wa mochiron ～mo)

Used for emphasizing that not only one thing but also another thing is included. It means 'not only... but also' or 'of course... and...'.

FORMATION

Noun1 + はもちろん + Noun2 + も

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は数学(すうがく)はもちろん、英語(えいご)も得意(とくい)です。
Not only is he good at math, but he is also good at English.

このレストランは和食(わしょく)はもちろん、 洋食(ようしょく) も美味(おい)しいです。
This restaurant not only has delicious Japanese food but also delicious Western food.

私(わたし) の趣味(しゅみ)は音楽(おんがく)はもちろん、読書(どくしょ)も大好(だいす)きです。
My hobbies are not only listening to music, but I also love reading.

東京(とうきょう) は観光(かんこう)はもちろん、ビジネスも盛(さか)んです。
Tokyo is not only famous for sightseeing but also has a thriving business scene.

USAGE NOTES

The ～はもちろん～も grammar point is used to emphasize that not only the first thing mentioned is included, but also the second thing. It can be translated as 'not only... but also' or 'of course... and...' in English. This grammar phrase can be used with nouns.

～ばよかった (～ba yokatta)

Express a sense of regret; 'I wish', 'it would have been better if'.

FORMATION

Verb-ば-form + よかった, い-Adjective-く + ばよかった, な-Adjective + ならよかった

EXAMPLES

> **もっと早く起きればよかった。**
> I wish I had woken up earlier.

> **昨日のパーティーに行けばよかった。**
> I wish I had gone to yesterday's party.

> **もっと安いものを買えばよかった。**
> I wish I had bought something cheaper.

> **あの時、もっと勉強すればよかった。**
> I wish I had studied more at that time.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ばよかった grammar point is used to express a sense of regret or to convey that one wishes something had been done differently. It can be translated as 'I wish' or 'it would have been better if' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, or な-adjective.

～ふりをする (～furi wo suru)

Pretending or acting as if; 'pretend', 'act like'.

FORMATION

Verb (dictionary form) + ふりをする, い-Adjective + ふりをする, な-Adjective + ふりをする, Noun + ふりをする

EXAMPLES

> **彼は知らないふりをしました。**
> He pretended not to know.

> **彼女は病気のふりをして、学校を休みました。**
> She pretended to be sick and skipped school.

> **彼は嬉しいふりをしていますが、本当は悲しいです。**
> He is pretending to be happy, but he is actually sad.

彼女(かのじょ)はリーダーのふりをして、チームを率(ひき)いました。
She pretended to be a leader and led the team.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ふりをする grammar point is used to express that someone is pretending or acting as if they are doing something, feeling a certain way, or possessing a certain quality. It can be translated as 'pretend' or 'act like' in English. The formation is the same for verbs, い-adjectives, な-adjectives, and nouns.

～べきだ (～beki da)

Express an obligation or something that should be done (mainly with verbs).

FORMATION

Verb-dictionary form + べきだ

EXAMPLES

勉強(べんきょう)するべきだ。
You should study.

早(はや)く寝(ね)るべきだ。
You should sleep early.

静(しず)かにするべきだ。
You should be quiet.

彼(かれ)に謝(あやま)るべきだ。
You should apologize to him.

USAGE NOTES

The ～べきだ grammar point is used to express a sense of obligation or to indicate something that should be done. In modern Japanese, it is almost always used with verbs in the dictionary form. In English, it can be translated as 'should' or 'ought to'.

～ほど～ (～hodo～)

Expresses the degree or extent; 'about', 'to the extent', 'as much as'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ほど, い-Adjective + ほど, な-Adjective + ほど, Noun + ほど

EXAMPLES

彼女(かのじょ)は私(わたし)ほど速(はや)く走(はし)ることができません。
She cannot run as fast as me.

このケーキはあのケーキほど美味(おい)しくない。
This cake is not as delicious as that cake.

日本(にっぽん)ほど四季(しき)がはっきりしている国(くに)はない。
There is no country with as distinct seasons as Japan.

東京(とうきょう)は大阪(おおさか)ほど人(ひと)が多(おお)くない。
Tokyo does not have as many people as Osaka.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ほど grammar point is used to express the degree or extent of something. It can be translated as 'about', 'to the extent', or 'as much as' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～ますように (～masu you ni)

Used to express a wish or hope for oneself or someone else.

FORMATION

Verb-ます form, remove final る + ように

EXAMPLES

明日(あした)のテストで良(よ)い点(てん)をとりますように。
I hope I get good grades on tomorrow's test.

彼(かれ)が無事(ぶじ)に帰(かえ)ってきますように。
I hope he comes back safely.

みんなが健康(けんこう)でいられますように。
I hope everyone stays healthy.

彼女(かのじょ)に幸(しあわ)せになりますように。
I hope she becomes happy.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ますように grammar point is used to express a wish or hope. It is often used as a closing phrase in letters or messages, and can be applied to both oneself and others. The phrase is typically used with the ます form of the verb, with the final る replaced by ように.

まったく～ない (mattaku ～nai)

Completely not; not at all.

FORMATION

まったく + Verb-negative, まったく + い-Adjective-negative, まったく + な-Adjective-negative

EXAMPLES

> **彼(かれ)は、まったく覚(おぼ)えていない。**
> He doesn't remember at all.

> **この部屋(へや)はまったく暖(あたた)かくない。**
> This room is not warm at all.

> **彼女(かのじょ)はまったく遅(おく)れていない。**
> She is not late at all.

> **これはまったく便利(べんり)ではない。**
> This is not convenient at all.

USAGE NOTES

The まったく～ない grammar point is used to express that something is not the case at all, or to emphasize the negativity of a situation or action. It is used with negative forms of verbs, い-adjectives, and な-adjectives. It can be translated as 'completely not' or 'not at all' in English.

～まで (～made)

Express 'until', 'up to', or 'as far as' to indicate the end point of an action or range.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + まで, い-Adjective + まで, な-Adjective + まで, Noun + まで

EXAMPLES

> **10時(じ)まで働(はたら)きます。**
> I will work until 10 o'clock.

> **東京(とうきょう)まで電車(でんしゃ)で行(い)きます。**
> I will go by train as far as Tokyo.

> **彼(かれ)は疲(つか)れるまで走(はし)りました。**
> He ran until he got tired.

> **5ページまで読(よ)んでください。**
> Please read up to page 5.

USAGE NOTES

The ～まで grammar point is used to express the end point, limit, or extent of an action or range in terms of time, space, or quantity. It can be translated as 'until', 'up to', or 'as far as' in English. The formation depends on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～まま (～mama)

Expresses the state or condition remaining unchanged.

FORMATION

Verb-ます stem + まま, い-Adjective + まま, な-Adjective + なまま, Noun + のまま

EXAMPLES

部屋(へや)の窓(まど)を開(あ)けたまま寝(ね)ました。
I slept with the window of the room open.

熱(あつ)いままのコーヒーを飲(の)んで、舌(した)を焦(こ)がしました。
I drank the coffee while it was still hot and burned my tongue.

彼(かれ)は忙(いそが)しいまま、休(やす)みの日(ひ)も仕事(しごと)をしています。
He continues to be busy, working even on his days off.

彼女(かのじょ)は故郷(こきょう)にいるまま、外国(がいこく)に行(い)かないで仕事(しごと)を見(み)つけた。
She found a job without going abroad, staying in her hometown.

USAGE NOTES

The ～まま grammar point is used to indicate that a state or condition remains unchanged or continues as it is, without any change or intervention. It can be used with verbs, い-adjectives, な-adjectives, and nouns to express the idea of something being left, kept, or maintained in its current state.

まるで～よう (maru de ～ you)

Used to express a strong resemblance or similarity; 'as if', 'just like', 'as though'.

FORMATION

まるで + phrase/sentence + よう

EXAMPLES

彼女(かのじょ)はまるで天使(てんし)のように美(うつく)しい。
She is as beautiful as an angel.

彼(かれ)はまるでロボットのように仕事(しごと)をしている。
He works as if he is a robot.

あの家はまるでお城のようだ。
That house is just like a castle.

ここはまるで楽園のような場所です。
This place is as though it's a paradise.

USAGE NOTES
The まるで〜よう grammar point is used to emphasize a strong resemblance or similarity between two things or situations. It can be translated as 'as if', 'just like', or 'as though' in English. The formation is まるで + phrase/sentence + よう.

〜てみる (〜te miru)

A grammar structure used to express the action of trying or attempting something to see what happens.

FORMATION
Verb-て form + みる

EXAMPLES

彼は走ってみたが、まだ膝が痛いと感じた。
He tried running, but he still felt pain in his knee.

彼女は料理を作ってみたが、失敗してしまった。
She tried cooking but ended up failing.

初めてのデートで、彼は彼女にサプライズをしようと考え、歌ってみた。
On their first date, he thought of surprising her and tried singing.

このケーキは美味しそうだから、味見に食べてみる。
Since this cake looks delicious, I will try tasting it.

USAGE NOTES
The 〜てみる grammar point is used with a verb in the 〜て form followed by みる. It emphasizes doing something as a trial or to see the result. It often translates as 'to try doing something' or 'try it out'.

〜みたいだ (〜mitai da)

Express similarity or appearance; 'like', 'seems', 'looks'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + みたいだ, い-Adjective + みたいだ, な-Adjective + みたいだ, Noun + みたいだ

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は怒(おこ)っているみたいだ。
He seems to be angry.

そのビルは古(ふる)いみたいだ。
That building looks old.

彼女(かのじょ)は疲(つか)れているみたいだ。
She seems to be tired.

この料理(りょうり)は辛(つら)いみたいだ。
This dish seems to be spicy.

USAGE NOTES

The ～みたいだ grammar point is used to express similarity, appearance or resemblance to something. It can be translated as 'like', 'seems', or 'looks' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～めったに～ない (～metta ni ～nai)

Used to express that something rarely, hardly ever or seldom happens.

FORMATION

めったに + Verb[ない-form] / めったに + い-Adjective[ない-form] / めったに + な-Adjective[じゃない/ではない-form]

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)はめったに外食(がいしょく)しない。
He hardly ever eats out.

私(わたし)はめったに寿司(すし)を食(た)べない。
I seldom eat sushi.

この地域(ちいき)はめったに雪(ゆき)が降(ふ)らない。
It hardly ever snows in this area.

彼女(かのじょ)はめったに怒(おこ)らない。
She hardly ever gets angry.

USAGE NOTES

The ～めったに～ない grammar point is used to express that something rarely, hardly ever or seldom happens. It is a negative expression and always needs to be used with ～ない (negative form) at the end.

～めったにない (～metta ni nai)

Expresses the rarity of an action, event or state; 'hardly', 'rarely', 'seldom'.

FORMATION

Verb-negative + めったにない, い-Adjective-negative + めったにない, な-Adjective-negative + めったにない, Noun-negative + めったにない

EXAMPLES

この町では雪が降ることはめったにない。
It hardly ever snows in this town.

彼はめったに外食しない。
He rarely eats out.

友達が遊びに来るのはめったにない。
Friends seldom come to visit.

彼女はめったに怒らない。
She hardly ever gets angry.

USAGE NOTES

The ～めったにない grammar point is used to express that an action, event or state rarely, hardly, or seldom happens. It is usually combined with a negative verb form. Though it can be used with positive verbs, it is uncommon and sounds unnatural.

もしかすると～かもしれない (moshikasuru to ～kamoshirenai)

Express the possibility of something; 'maybe', 'perhaps', 'might'.

FORMATION

もしかすると + Sentence + かもしれない

EXAMPLES

もしかすると彼は遅刻するかもしれない。
Maybe he might be late.

もしかすると彼女は疲れているかもしれない。
Perhaps she might be tired.

もしかすると雨が降るかもしれない。
It might rain, maybe.

もしかすると彼らはその映画が好きじゃないかもしれない。
Maybe they might not like that movie.

USAGE NOTES

The もしかすると〜かもしれない grammar point is used to indicate that there might be a possibility of a certain situation happening or someone feeling a certain way. This structure is often used to describe uncertain situations and can be translated into English as 'maybe', 'perhaps', or 'might'.

もし〜たなら (moshi 〜 tanara)

Express a hypothetical condition, 'if' or 'in case'.

FORMATION

もし + Verb-casual past + なら, もし + い-Adjective-casual past + なら, もし + な-Adjective + だったなら, もし + Noun + だったなら

EXAMPLES

もし雨(あめ)が降(ふ)ったなら、傘(かさ)を持(も)って行(い)きましょう。
If it rains, let's bring an umbrella.

もしケーキが美味(おい)しくなかったなら、誰(だれ)も食(た)べないでしょう。
If the cake was not delicious, nobody would eat it.

もし彼(かれ)が病気(びょうき)だったなら、すぐに病院(びょういん)に行(い)かせてあげてください。
If he was sick, please take him to the hospital right away.

もし彼女(かのじょ)が学生(がくせい)だったなら、このレストランは割引(わりびき)があるでしょう。
If she were a student, there would be a discount at this restaurant.

USAGE NOTES

The もし〜たなら grammar point is used to express a hypothetical condition or situation in a more polite manner. It emphasizes the conditional part of a sentence and can be translated as 'if' or 'in case' in English. It is mainly used with verbs in the past tense, casual form.

もし〜ても (moshi 〜 temo)

Express a hypothetical situation or assumption with the nuance of 'even if'.

FORMATION

もし + Verb-て form + も / もし + い-Adjective(く) + ても / もし + な-Adjective/Noun + でも

EXAMPLES

もし雨(あめ)が降(ふ)っても、ピクニックに行(い)きます。
Even if it rains, we will go on a picnic.

もし彼(かれ)が謝(あやま)っても、まだ怒(おこ)っているでしょう。
Even if he apologizes, I will still be angry.

もし試験(しけん)に合格(ごうかく)しても、まだ勉強(べんきょう)を続(つづ)けます。
Even if I pass the exam, I will still continue studying.

もし彼女(かのじょ)が遅(おそ)く来(き)ても、待(ま)っています。
Even if she comes late, I will wait.

USAGE NOTES
The もし〜ても grammar point is used to describe a situation in which even if the stated condition is true, the result or decision does not change. It can be translated as 'even if', 'no matter if', or 'suppose 〜'.

もしも〜なら (moshimo 〜 nara)

Express a hypothetical condition or situation; 'if', 'in case', 'suppose'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + なら, い-Adjective + なら, な-Adjective + なら, Noun + なら

EXAMPLES

もしも明日(あした)雨(あめ)が降(ふ)ったなら、出(で)かけません。
If it rains tomorrow, I won't go out.

もしも彼(かれ)が来(こ)なかったなら、私(わたし)たちだけでパーティーをします。
If he doesn't come, we'll have the party just by ourselves.

もしも彼女(かのじょ)が疲(つか)れているなら、休(やす)ませてあげてください。
If she is tired, please let her rest.

もしもそれが真実(しんじつ)なら、認(みと)めなければなりません。
If that is true, we have to admit it.

USAGE NOTES
The もしも〜なら grammar point is used to express a hypothetical condition or situation, often with a sense of uncertainty. It can be translated as 'if', 'in case', or 'suppose'. The formation varies slightly based on whether it is used with a verb, an い-adjective, a な-adjective, or a noun.

〜ようとしない (〜you to shinai)

Not showing any sign or intention to do something.

FORMATION
Verb-volitional form + としない

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は勉強(べんきょう)しようとしない。
He doesn't show any sign of trying to study.

彼女(かのじょ)は謝(あやま)ろうとしない。
She doesn't show any intention of apologizing.

息子(むすこ)は部屋(へや)を片付(かたづ)けようとしない。
My son doesn't show any intention of cleaning his room.

犬(いぬ)は散歩(さんぽ)に行(い)こうとしない。
The dog doesn't show any sign of wanting to go for a walk.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ようとしない grammar point indicates that someone is not showing any sign or intention of doing an action. It is used to express a refusal or unwillingness to do something. It is formed by using the volitional form of a verb followed by としない.

～ようと思う (～you to omou)

Expresses the speaker's intention or plan to do something.

FORMATION

Verb-volitional + と思う

EXAMPLES

今日(きょう)は早(はや)く寝(ね)ようと思(おも)います。
I think I will go to bed early today.

明日(あした)美術館(びじゅつかん)に行(い)こうと思(おも)っています。
I am planning to go to the art museum tomorrow.

新(あたら)しいカメラを買(か)おうと思(おも)います。
I think I will buy a new camera.

来週(らいしゅう)友達(ともだち)と映画(えいが)を見(み)ようと思(おも)っています。
I am planning to watch a movie with my friend next week.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ようと思う grammar point is used to express the speaker's intention or plan to do something in the future. It can be translated as 'I think I will...' or 'I am planning to...' in English. It is formed by taking the volitional form of a verb and adding と思う.

～ように (～you ni)

Expressing a purpose, a goal or a way of doing something; 'in order to', 'so that', 'like', 'as'

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ように, い-Adjective + ように, な-Adjective + に, Noun + のように

EXAMPLES

早く家に帰るように、仕事を急いで終わらせました。
In order to get home early, I hurried to finish my work.

彼女は美しい花のように見えました。
She looked like a beautiful flower.

この部屋がきれいになるように、掃除をしましょう。
Let's clean so that this room becomes clean.

山田さんは元気なように振る舞っていましたが、実際は疲れているらしいです。
Yamada-san was acting as if he was energetic, but he actually seems to be tired.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ように grammar point is used to express a purpose, a goal, or a way of doing something. It can be translated as 'in order to', 'so that', 'like', or 'as' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～ように (～you ni)

Used to express a purpose, a way, or a natural tendency.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ように, い-Adjective + ように, な-Adjective + だように, Noun + のように

EXAMPLES

子供が安全に過ごせるように、家の中を整理します。
I will organize the inside of the house so that the children can spend time safely.

美しい花のように、彼女は笑顔が素敵です。
Like a beautiful flower, her smile is lovely.

自然に英語を話せるように、毎日練習しています。
I practice every day to be able to speak English naturally.

成功するように、計画を立てましょう。
Let's make a plan to succeed.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ように grammar point is used to express a purpose, a way or a method, or a natural tendency. It can be used with verbs, い-adjectives, な-adjectives, or nouns. It is frequently used with the verb する (to do) to express the purpose or method.

～ように (～you ni)

Used to express purpose or how something is done; 'like', 'as if', 'in order to'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + ように, い-Adjective + ように, な-Adjective + に, Noun + のように

EXAMPLES

分(わ)かりやすいように説明(せつめい)してください。
Please explain it in a way that is easy to understand.

彼(かれ)は鳥(とり)のように歌(うた)います。
He sings like a bird.

友達(ともだち)と仲良(なかよ)くするように努(つと)めています。
I am trying to get along well with my friends.

日本語(にほんご)が上手(じょうず)になるように勉強(べんきょう)しています。
I am studying to become better at Japanese.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ように grammar point is used to express the purpose of an action or the manner in which something is done. It can be translated as 'like', 'as if', or 'in order to' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～ようにしましょう (～you ni shimashou)

A suggestion to make an effort or try to do something; 'let's try to', 'let's make sure to'.

FORMATION

Verb-dictionary form + ようにしましょう / Verb-negative form + ようにしましょう

EXAMPLES

毎日(まいにち) 運動(うんどう)するようにしましょう。
Let's try to exercise every day.

早(はや)く寝(ね)るようにしましょう。
Let's make sure to go to bed early.

親切にするようにしましょう。
Let's try to be kind.

時間を無駄にしないようにしましょう。
Let's make sure not to waste time.

USAGE NOTES
The ～ようにしましょう grammar point is used to suggest making an effort or trying to do something. It can be translated as 'let's try to' or 'let's make sure to' in English. Typically, we use the dictionary or negative form of the verb with ようにする/ようにしましょう to show the effort we want to make.

～ようになった (～you ni natta)

Express an event or state that became possible; 'became able to', 'started to', 'now can'.

FORMATION
Verb-casual + ようになった

EXAMPLES

彼は料理を作るようになった。
He became able to cook.

その子は読めるようになった。
That child started to be able to read.

会議は週に一度開催されるようになった。
The meeting started to be held once a week.

日本語がわかるようになった。
I became able to understand Japanese.

USAGE NOTES
The ～ようになった grammar point is used to express that an event, ability, or state has become possible or started to occur. It can be translated as 'became able to', 'started to', or 'now can' in English. Usually this is used with verbs in their dictionary or potential form (e.g., 食べられるようになった).

～ように言う (～you ni iu)

To convey a message, instruction or request to someone; 'to tell (someone) to', 'to say to (someone)'.

FORMATION
Verb-dictionary form + ように言う / Verb-nai form + ように言う

EXAMPLES

先生(せんせい)は私(わたし)にもっと勉強(べんきょう)するように言(い)った。
The teacher told me to study more.

彼女(かのじょ)は彼(かれ)に待(ま)つように言(い)いました。
She told him to wait.

母(はは)は私(わたし)に部屋(へや)を片付(かたづ)けるように言(い)いました。
My mother told me to clean my room.

先生(せんせい)は生徒(せいと)に質問(しつもん)をするように言(い)った。
The teacher told the student to ask a question.

USAGE NOTES

The ～ように言う grammar point is used to convey a message, instruction or request to someone. It can be translated as 'to tell (someone) to' or 'to say to (someone)'. It is commonly formed by taking the dictionary (or negative) form of the verb plus ように言う.

～らしい (～rashii)

Expresses hearsay; 'I heard', 'it seems', 'apparently'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + らしい, い-Adjective + らしい, な-Adjective + だらしい, Noun + だらしい

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)はインフルエンザらしい。
Apparently, he has the flu.

明日(あした)雪(ゆき)が降(ふ)るらしい。
I heard it will snow tomorrow.

このレストランは美味(おい)しいらしい。
I heard that this restaurant is delicious.

彼女(かのじょ)は医者(いしゃ)だらしい。
It seems that she is a doctor.

USAGE NOTES

The ～らしい grammar point is used to indicate that the information provided is based on hearsay or an indirect source. In English, this can be translated as 'I heard', 'it seems', or 'apparently'. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～られた (～rareta)

Express a passive action, 'was/were', 'has/have been'.

FORMATION

Verb (passive form, past tense) + られた

EXAMPLES

> この本はたくさんの人に読まれた。
> This book was read by many people.

> 彼は友達に騙された。
> He was deceived by his friend.

> 昨日、私の財布が盗まれました。
> Yesterday, my wallet was stolen.

> 彼女は映画に感動させられた。
> She was deeply moved by the movie.

USAGE NOTES

The ～られた grammar point is used to express a passive action or situation. It is formed by conjugating the verb into its passive form in the past tense, which can be translated into English as 'was/were' or 'has/have been'. This grammar is used in situations where the subject is affected by an action rather than performing the action itself.

～ている (～te iru)

Expresses a continuing action or a resulting state; 'is ～ing', 'has been', 'has'.

FORMATION

Verb-て form + いる

EXAMPLES

> 窓が開けられている。
> The window is open (someone opened it and it remains open).

> ケーキが全部食べられている。
> The whole cake has been eaten.

> 彼女は病気で寝込んでいる。
> She is bedridden due to illness.

> 宿題が終わっている。
> The homework is finished (has been done).

USAGE NOTES

The ～ている grammar point is used to describe a continuing or repeated action, or the result/state of a completed action. Depending on the context, it can be translated as 'is ～ing', 'has been ～ed', or simply 'has/are/is'. In passive contexts (e.g., 食べられている, 開けられている), it shows that something has been done and remains in that state. With intransitive or non-passive verbs, it shows an ongoing or resultant state (e.g., 寝込んでいる, 終わっている).

～わけがない (～wake ga nai)

Expresses that something is impossible or unreasonable; 'there's no way', 'can't be'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + わけがない, い-Adjective + わけがない, な-Adjective + なわけがない, Noun + のわけがない

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)がそんなことを言(い)うわけがない。
There's no way he would say something like that.

あのレストランがまずいわけがない。
There's no way that restaurant tastes bad.

彼女(かのじょ)が優(やさ)しくないわけがない。
There's no way she's not kind.

彼(かれ)が試験(しけん)に合格(ごうかく)しないわけがない。
There's no way he won't pass the exam.

USAGE NOTES

The ～わけがない grammar point is used to show that something is impossible, non-existent, or unreasonable based on logic or context. It is often translated as 'there's no way' or 'it's impossible'.

～わけだ (～wake da)

Expresses a logical conclusion or reason based on information; 'that's why', 'no wonder', 'it means'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + わけだ, い-Adjective + わけだ, な-Adjective + なわけだ, Noun + のわけだ

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は風邪(かぜ)を引(ひ)いている。だから、声(こえ)がかすれているわけだ。
He has a cold. That's why his voice is hoarse.

今日(きょう)は忙(いそが)しかった。だから、疲(つか)れたわけだ。
Today was busy. No wonder I'm tired.

田中(たなか)さんはたくさん勉強(べんきょう)している。だから、試験(しけん)に合格(ごうかく)したわけだ。
Tanaka has been studying a lot. It means he passed the exam.

彼女(かのじょ)は有名(ゆうめい)な歌手(かしゅ)の娘(むすめ)なんだ。だから、歌(うた)が上手(じょうず)なわけだ。
She's the daughter of a famous singer. That's why she's good at singing.

USAGE NOTES

The ～わけだ grammar point is used to express a conclusion, reason, or interpretation based on a certain situation or piece of information. It can be translated as 'that's why', 'no wonder', or 'it means'.

～わけではない (～wake dewa nai)

Denies a general assumption; 'it does not mean that', 'it's not the case'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + わけではない, い-Adjective + わけではない, な-Adjective + だわけではない, Noun + だわけではない

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)が忙(いそが)しいからといって、友達(ともだち)がいないわけではない。
Just because he's busy doesn't mean he has no friends.

この映画(えいが)は面白(おもしろ)くないわけではないが、この好(この)みではない。
It's not that this movie isn't interesting; it's just not my taste.

彼女(かのじょ)が病気(びょうき)だからといって、毎日(まいにち)寝(ね)ているわけではない。
Just because she's sick doesn't mean she's in bed all day.

彼(かれ)が大学(だいがく)に行(い)っていないからといって、バカだわけではない。
Just because he didn't go to college doesn't mean he's stupid.

USAGE NOTES

The ～わけではない grammar point is used to deny or correct a general assumption or statement without completely negating the situation. It often emphasizes one particular point that is not true, while acknowledging other possibilities.

～わけにはいかない (～wake ni wa ikanai)

Expresses that something cannot be allowed or permitted due to social/moral obligations.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + わけにはいかない

EXAMPLES

> **こんなところで寝(ね)るわけにはいかない。**
> I can't possibly sleep in a place like this.

> **試験(しけん)が明日(あした)だから、遊(あそ)びに行(い)くわけにはいかない。**
> I can't afford to go out to have fun, since the exam is tomorrow.

> **こんなに高(たか)いものを買(か)うわけにはいかない。**
> I can't allow myself to purchase something so expensive.

> **体調(たいちょう)が悪(わる)いから、パーティーに参加(さんか)するわけにはいかない。**
> Since I'm not feeling well, I can't attend the party.

USAGE NOTES

The ～わけにはいかない grammar point is used to express that a particular action cannot be taken due to social or moral obligations, responsibilities, or natural consequences. It often translates as 'I can't afford to...' or 'I can't just...' in English.

～わりには (～wari ni wa)

Expresses contrast between expectation and reality; 'despite', 'considering', 'even though'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + わりには, い-Adjective + わりには, な-Adjective + だわりには, Noun + だわりには

EXAMPLES

> **彼(かれ)はあまり勉強(べんきょう)しないわりには、テストの点数(てんすう)が高(たか)いです。**
> Despite not studying much, he gets high scores on tests.

> **この料理(りょうり)は見(み)た目(め)が悪(わる)いわりには、味(あじ)は美味(おい)しいです。**
> Even though this dish doesn't look good, it tastes delicious.

> **彼女(かのじょ)は若(わか)いわりには、とても落(お)ち着(つ)いていますね。**
> Considering she's young, she's very calm.

> **この部屋(へや)は狭(せま)いわりには、家賃(やちん)が高(たか)いです。**
> Despite being small, this room ’ s rent is high.

USAGE NOTES

The ～わりには grammar point is used to highlight a contrast between what is expected from a certain condition and the actual result. It can be translated as 'despite', 'considering', or 'even though'.

～んだって (～n datte)

Conveys information heard from someone else; 'I heard', 'They said'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + んだって, い-Adjective + んだって, な-Adjective + なんだって, Noun + なんだって

EXAMPLES

彼(かれ)は東京(とうきょう)に行(い)くんだって。
I heard he's going to Tokyo.

この映画(えいが)、面白(おもしろ)いんだって。
They said this movie is interesting.

彼女(かのじょ)は有名(ゆうめい)な歌手(かしゅ)なんだって。
I heard she's a famous singer.

あのレストラン、夜景(やけい)がきれいなんだって。
They said the night view at that restaurant is beautiful.

USAGE NOTES

The ～んだって grammar point is used to relay information the speaker has heard from someone else. It's a casual way of quoting what was said, effectively combining explanatory のだ (んだ) with the informal quoting particle って. It can be translated as 'I heard...' or 'They said...'.

～んだもん (～nda mon)

Used to convey a sense of justification; 'because', 'that's why', 'it's just that'.

FORMATION

Verb-casual + んだもん, い-Adjective + んだもん, な-Adjective + なんだもん, Noun + なんだもん

EXAMPLES

遅(おく)れたんだもん、ごめん。
I was late, that's why I'm sorry.

おいしいんだもん、もうちょっと食(た)べたい。
It's delicious, that's why I want to eat more.

疲れているんだもん、早く寝たい。
I'm tired, that's why I want to go to bed early.

彼は友達なんだもん、手伝わないわけにはいかない。
He's my friend, that's why I can't not help him.

USAGE NOTES
The ～んだもん grammar point is used when someone wants to give a reason, justification, or explanatory information in a more casual and emphatic way. It can be translated as 'because', 'that's why', or 'it's just that' in English. The formation differs depending on whether it is used with a verb, い-adjective, な-adjective, or noun.

～上げる (～ageru)

Indicates to finish doing something completely.

FORMATION
Verb-ますstem + 上げる

EXAMPLES

レポートを書き上げるまで、寝られません。
I cannot sleep until I finish writing the report.

彼女は早速部屋の掃除を始め、一時間で掃除をやり上げた。
She started cleaning the room right away and finished cleaning it in an hour.

試験前夜、 勉強 をやり上げてから寝た。
I went to bed after finishing studying on the night before the exam.

このプロジェクトをやり上げるためには、みんなの 協力 が必要です。
To finish this project, everyone's cooperation is needed.

USAGE NOTES
The ～上げる grammar point is used to express that an action has been completed or finished entirely. It's often used with verbs that have a ます stem, and can be translated as 'to finish (doing something)', 'to complete', or 'to get something done'.

～切れない (～kirenai)

Expresses inability to completely finish or do something.

FORMATION
Verb-stem + 切れない

EXAMPLES

この本を一晩で読み切れない。
I cannot finish reading this book in one night.

彼は泣き切れないほど嬉しかった。
He was so happy that he couldn't stop crying.

この部屋を一日で掃除し切れない。
I cannot finish cleaning this room in one day.

彼女は話し切れないほどの悩みがある。
She has so many worries that she can't finish talking about them.

USAGE NOTES

The ～切れない grammar point is used to express the inability to fully complete, finish, or do something. It is formed by attaching 切れない to the stem of a verb. It often implies that some portion of the action is done, but finishing it entirely is not possible for some reason.

必ずしも～とは限らない (kanarazushimo ～ towa kagiranai)

Not necessarily; not always.

FORMATION

必ずしも + Statement + とは限らない

EXAMPLES

高いものが必ずしも良いとは限らない。
Expensive things are not necessarily better.

有名な人が必ずしも幸せとは限らない。
Famous people are not necessarily happy.

外国語が話せる人が必ずしも英語が得意とは限らない。
People who can speak a foreign language are not always good at English.

勉強時間が多い生徒が必ずしも試験で点数が高いとは限らない。
Students who study a lot are not necessarily scoring high on exams.

USAGE NOTES

The 必ずしも～とは限らない grammar point is used to express that something is not necessarily or not always the case, indicating that a certain assumption may not hold true in all situations.

～最中に (～saichuu ni)

In the middle of / while doing something.

FORMATION

Verb-て form + いる + 最中に, Noun + の + 最中に

EXAMPLES

> 昼寝(ひるね)をしている最中(さいちゅう)に電話(でんわ)が鳴(な)った。
> The phone rang while I was taking a nap.

> 料理(りょうり)を作(つく)っている最中(さいちゅう)に火事(かじ)が起(お)こった。
> A fire broke out in the middle of cooking.

> 会議(かいぎ)の最中(さいちゅう)に急(きゅう)な用事(ようじ)で出(で)なければならなかった。
> I had to leave during the meeting because of an urgent matter.

> 試験(しけん)の最中(さいちゅう)に地震(じしん)が起(お)こった。
> An earthquake occurred during the exam.

USAGE NOTES

The ～最中に grammar point is used to indicate that something happens during the middle of an action or situation. It can be translated as 'in the middle of' or 'while' in English. It often involves appending 最中に to a verb in ～ている form or a noun plus の.

決して～ない (kesshite ～ nai)

Express 'never', 'by no means', or 'not at all' when negating a statement.

FORMATION

決して + Verb (negative form)

EXAMPLES

> 彼(かれ)は決(けっ)して遅刻(ちこく)しない。
> He never arrives late.

> この秘密(ひみつ)を決(けっ)して誰(だれ)にも言(い)わないでください。
> Please never tell this secret to anyone.

> 決(けっ)して諦(あきら)めないで、最後(さいご)までがんばりましょう。
> Never give up and keep trying until the end.

> 彼女(かのじょ)は決(けっ)して嘘(うそ)をつかない人(ひと)です。
> She is a person who never lies.

USAGE NOTES

The 決して〜ない grammar point is used to emphasize a negative statement or action. It can be translated as 'never', 'by no means', or 'not at all'. This grammar point must be paired with a negative verb form to maintain its negative meaning.

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