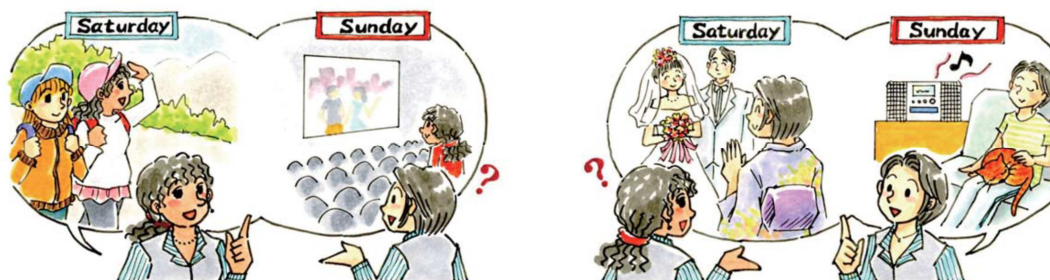


日本語流 16

The Nihongo Way 16

< Today's dialogue >

You (U) are in the office talking with a Japanese colleague (J) about the past weekend.



| | |
|--|---|
| J: この前の週末は天気よかったですねえ。どこかに行きました? ① | <i>Konomae no shûmatsu wa tenki ga yokatta desu né. Dokoka ni ikimashita?</i> |
| U: ええ、土曜日に友だちと高尾山にハイキングに行きました。② | <i>Ê, doyôbi ni tomodachi to Takaosan ni haikingu ni ikimashita.</i> |
| J: あ、そう。どうでした? | <i>A, sô. Dô deshita?</i> |
| U: とてもいい天気で、気持ちがよくて、すごく楽しかったですよ。③ | <i>Tôtemo ii tenki de, kimochi ga yokute, sugoku tanoshikatta desu yo.</i> |
| J: あ、それはよかったですねえ。 日曜日は? | <i>A, sore wa yokatta desu né. Nichiyôbi wa?</i> |
| U: 日曜日の朝は家の掃除をして、午後から映画を観に行きました。④ 栄子さんは? | <i>Nichiyôbi no asa wa ie no sôji o shite, gogo kara eiga o mi ni ikimashita. Eiko-san wa?</i> |
| J: 私は、土曜日は朝、着物を着て、午後、友だちの結婚式に出て、その後、二次会にも出て、夜遅く家に帰って、疲れて寝ました。⑤ | <i>Watashi wa, doyôbino wa asa kimono o kite, gogo tomodachi no kekkonshiki ni dete, sono-ato nijikai ni mo dete, yoru osoku ie ni kaette, tsukarete nemashita.</i> |
| U: 日曜日は? | <i>Nichiyôbi wa?</i> |
| J: 日曜日は昼ごろ起きて、洗濯をして、その後は一日中、家でのんびりしました。⑥ | <i>Nichiyôbi wa hirugoro okite, sentaku o shite, sono-ato wa ichinichijû ie de nonbiri-shimashita.</i> |
| U: あ、そうですか。時々、そういう日も必要ですよ。⑦ | <i>A, sô desu ka. Tokidoki sôiu hi mo hitsuyô desu yone.</i> |

Although I previously introduced the phrase-particle *ni* as a location marker, it has broader related uses. Today we'll look at this.

Also, I discuss a very important form of verb, adjective and noun sentences. The form has extensive and useful usages, but today we'll look at its essential nature.

DIALOGUE OVERVIEW

The English equivalents to the dialog:

J: The weather was so nice last weekend, wasn't it!

Did you go anywhere?

U: Yes, I went hiking to Mt Takao with my friends on Saturday.

J: Oh, is that right. How was it?

U: It was such beautiful weather, it felt so good, and we had a very good time.

J: Oh, that's nice.

How about Sunday?

U: On Sunday morning I cleaned up my house and went to see a movie in {lit. from} the afternoon.

What about you, Eiko?

J: On Saturday I wore {put on} kimono in the morning, attended the wedding of a friend of mine in the afternoon, then joined the after-party as well, came back home late at night, {having gotten} tired and went to bed.

U: And Sunday?

J: On Sunday I got up around noon, did laundry and then relaxed all day long.

U: Is that right. It is necessary to have such a day from time to time, isn't it?

VOCABULARY FOCUS

Nouns (including Adverbs)

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| <i>asa</i> | morning |
| <i>dokoka</i> | somewhere |
| <i>eiga</i> | movie |
| <i>gogo</i> | afternoon |
| <i>haikingu</i> | hiking |
| <i>hirugoro</i> | around noon |
| <i>hitsuyô</i> | necessary |
| <i>ichinichijû</i> | all day long |
| <i>kekkonshiki</i> | wedding ceremony |
| <i>kimochi</i> | feeling |
| <i>konomae</i> | previous |
| <i>nijikai</i> | after-party |
| <i>sentaku</i> | laundry |
| <i>shumatsu</i> | weekend |
| <i>sôji</i> | cleaning |
| <i>sono-ato</i> | after that |
| <i>tenki</i> | weather |
| <i>tokidoki</i> | sometimes |
| <i>yoru osoku</i> | late at night |

Adjectives (including Adjectival phrases)

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| <i>kimochi ga ii</i> | feel good |
| <i>sugoi</i> | terrible |
| <i>tanoshii</i> | happy |

Verbs

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>de-ru (dete)</i> | go out, attend |
| <i>kaer-u (kaette)</i> | return |
| <i>ki-ru (kite)</i> | put on (clothing), wear |
| <i>ne-ru (nete)</i> | go to bed, sleep |
| <i>nonbiri-suru (-shite)</i> | take it easy, relax |
| <i>oki-ru (okite)</i> | get up |
| <i>tsukare-ru (tsukarete)</i> | get tired |

* From now, when verbs are introduced, the *te*-forms will be included in brackets.

GRAMMAR FOCUS

1. Derivative usages of phrase-particle *ni*

The phrase-particle *ni* has so far been introduced as an instrument to indicate location, as in:

Ie ni imasu. I am at home.

Ie ni arimasu. It is (located) in the house.

Look at today's dialog and the phrases immediately followed by *ni*:

Dokoka ni ikimashita? ① Did you go (to) somewhere?

...Takaosan ni...ikimashita ② I went to Mt Takao...

In these sentences, *dokoka* and *Takaosan* are the destination of going, *i.e.*, the ultimate location, once the movement from "here" is completed. So, *ni* can be used to indicate targets as well.

*...ie ni kaette...*⑤ ...I returned (to) home, and...

Here, because of *ni*, *ie* is presented as the target of "returning."

Now, what about the following usages?

...haikingu ni ikimashita ② I went (for) hiking...

...kekkonshiki ni dete... ⑤ I attended a wedding and...

*...nijikai ni mo dete...*⑤ I attended the after-party also, and...

In these, the words before *ni* are not places, but events: the target or purpose of the action. Thus, *ni* has an extended use indicating purpose, too. In the following, "to see a movie" is the purpose of "going."

Eiga o mi ni ikimashita ④ I went to see a movie.

Notice that, in Japanese, the verb's stem (*i.e.*, *mi* from *mi-ru*) is used as a noun. Other examples are:

oyogi ni iku (go for swimming)

tabe ni kuru (come to eat)

2. Connecting sentences: *te*-form

English has the convenient word “and” which connects anything – words, clauses, even sentences. Japanese has no equivalent. (Many learners of Japanese erroneously think “*to*” is equivalent to “and,” but it is not. It is a phrase-particle equivalent to “with” – it cannot connect sentences.)

When sentences, whether verbs, adjectives or nouns, are connected, the “*te*-form” is employed. It is something like the gerund in English (the “-ing” form) but, of course, they are not the same.

Sentence ④ above is a combination of two sentences:

Nichiyôbi no asa wa ie no sôji o shimashita.

Gogo kara eiga o mi ni ikimashita.

The first sentence’s verb *shimashita* is changed to its *te*-form, *shite*, to connect it to the second sentence.

Thus:

Nichiyôbi no asa wa ie no sôji o shite, gogo kara eiga o mi ni ikimashita.

This literally translates:

{On Sunday morning, having cleaned up my house, I went to see a movie from the afternoon.}

In ⑤, can you recognize six verb sentences connected one after another?

Sentence ⑥ is another example of three verb sentences connected into one.

Nichiyôbi wa hirugoro okite, sentanku o shite, sonoato wa ichinichijû ie de nonbiri-shimashita.

{lit. On Sunday, having gotten up around noon, having done washing, I relaxed at home all day long after that.}

Because verbs describe actions, always place them in chronological order.

As the name indicates, a verb’s *te*-form is typically *V-te*, (i.e., *kite*, *dete*, *kaette*, *tsukarete*, etc.). Some verbs end in *de* instead. Examples: *nonde* (*nomu* = drink) and *oyoide* (*oyogu* = swim).

The adjective’s *te*-form always ends in *-kute* (*yokute*, *tanoshikute*, etc.). The noun’s *te*-form always ends with *-de*; hence, sentence ③:

Totemo ii tenki de, kimochi ga yokute, sugoku tanoshikatta desu.

{lit. It being very good weather, the feeling being nice, it was terribly enjoyable.}

Notice that the *te*-form itself is irrelevant of tense and the final sentence determines the entire sentence’s tense.

3. Another *kosoado*: *kôiu*, *sôiu*, *âiu* and *dôiu*

“*Sôiu*,” in ⑦ in the dialog, is from another *kosoado* set: *kôiu*, *sôiu*, *âiu* and *dôiu*. These are called “pre-nouns.” They never stand on their own, but are always used as a noun modifier. Thus:

kôiu hi this type of day as we see here now

sôiu hi that type of day as you say

âiu hi that type of day as they say

dôiu hi what type of day?

This *kosoado* set, as some readers may have noticed, is interchangeable with the already-introduced set *konna*, *sonna*, *anna* and *donna*, which are also only used as noun modifiers.