

2. *Kotoshi no huyu wa amari samukunakute odayaka da soo desu.* 今年の冬はあまり寒くなくておだやかそうです。
 3. *Tookyoo de wa kinoo yuki ga hutta soo da yo.* ☺
 東京ではきのう雪が降ったそうですよ。

Warning

The use of [soo da] for reporting is preceded by the [V/Adj informal] forms. Contrast this with the [soona] used to express conjecture which takes [V/Adj stem] (as given in Entry 87). Contrast the meaning of the following two sentences.

Used when you hear from some source about the likelihood of rain:

- (a) *Ame ga huru soo desu.*
 雨が降るそうです。
 (They say it will rain.)

Used when you see a rain cloud hanging low and you conjecture that it is likely to rain:

- (b) *Ame ga hurisoo da.*
 雨が降りそうです。
 (It looks [as if] it is going to rain.)

116. Causative and Permissive Expressions

Target Expression

I made my brother go to the bookstore.

Otooto o hon'ya e ikasemashita.
 弟を本屋へ行かせました。

[V + -seru/-saseru]

Grammatical Explanation

Causatives express the idea that someone or something causes, influences, or allows a third party to do something. Causative expressions normally do

not co-occur with stative verbs, existential verbs and the *be*-verb. Certain restrictions apply among some verbs; when there are transitive verbs that correspond with intransitive counterparts, transitive verbs are used instead of the causative forms. Causative forms are used as permissives when the causee performs an action willingly. As in the case of respectful and passive forms, causatives and permissives are expressed by verb endings which are changed by the following rules.

U-verbs: change the final *-u* to *-aseru* (when the final *-u* is not preceded by a consonant, change *-u* to *-waseru*)

kaku *kakaseru*
kau *kawaseru*

RU-verbs: change *-ru* to *-saseru*

taberu *tabesaseru*

Irregular verbs:

kuru *kosaseru*
suru *saseru*

As for existential verbs, use only *isaseru* (causative of *iru*) when it means 'to stay.' Causatives and permissives have shortened forms which are obtained by changing the final *-seru* to *-su*; for example, *kakaseru* to *kakasu*, *tabesaseru* to *tabesasu*, and *saseru* to *sasu*. The shortened causative forms tend to express more direct and forceful causation than the standard causative forms.

Particles in Causatives and Permissives

Particles used for the causative/permissive structure are: the causer takes *ga* (or *wa* if it is a topic), the causee is marked by *o* or *ni*. For the selection of either *o* or *ni*, the following rules apply.

- When the verb is transitive and the direct object marker *o* appears, in order to avoid two *o*'s, the causee must be marked with *ni*.
 (1a) *Otooto ni* (not **o*) *heya o sooji-sasetta.*
 弟に部屋をそうじさせた。
 (I made my younger brother clean his room.)
- When the verb expresses instant change and response, the causee takes *o*.
 (2a) *Okyakusan o* (not **ni*) *okorasete-shimatta.*
 お客様を怒らせてしまった。
 (I made the customer get angry.)

3. When the causative expression conveys the meaning that one is responsible for the event to happen or to have happened, only *o* is used.

(3a) *Haha o byooki de shinaseta n desu.*

母を病気で死なせたんです。

([I am to blame that] I caused my mother's death due to sickness.)

When these restrictions do not apply, use either *o* or *ni* to mark the causee. The choice of either particle is based on the following guidelines. As a general rule use *o* for either causative or permissive expressions, use only *ni* for permissives. When *ni* is used, the causer acknowledges the causee's desire or will to perform the action, and the causee must be able to perform it. Thus, the verb used in this pattern must refer to a controllable action. Although *o* can be used to express permissives similarly to *ni*, when the causee is marked by *o*, coercive causative meaning is emphasized; the causee performs the act against his or her own wish or will. The verb used for this pattern must also refer to controllable action. *Imooto o ikaseta* 'I made (or, forced) my sister (to) go' is ambiguous between 'I forced my sister to go' and 'I let (permitted) my sister (to) go; *Imooto ni ikaseta* has only a permissive interpretation. The choice of meanings depends on the semantic context in which the utterance appears.

The causative expression may be combined with the passive to form causative passive expressions. The causative ending *-seru* goes through a passive ending change following *RU*-verbs; thus *kakaseru* takes *kakaserareru* 'to be forced to write,' *tabesaseru* takes *tabesaserareru* 'to be forced to eat.' Irregular verbs *kuru* and *suru* take *kosaserareru* and *saserareru*, respectively. For *U*-verbs only, shortened causative passive endings are available; *kakasu* changes according to the *U*-verb conjugation resulting in *kakasareru*.

(a) *Kodomo-tachi wa kiraina tabemono o tabesaserareta.*

子供たちはきらいな食べ物のを食べさせられた。

(Children were forced to eat the food they disliked.)

Examples

hitsuyoona 必要な Adj necessary
kyuuyoo 急用 N emergency

- (1) *Kodomo-tachi ni wa san-ji made sukina koto o sasemashoo.*
子供たちには三時まで好きなことをさせましょう。
(Let's let the children do whatever they like until three o'clock.)
- (2) *Kitte ga hitsuyoo nara Masao o kai ni ikasemashoo.*
切手が必要なら正男を買いに行かせましょう。
(If you need stamps, I will make Masao go buy them.)
- (3) *Sonna koto sasenai de.* ☺F
そんなことさせないで。
Sonna koto saseru na yo. ☺M
そんなことさせるなよ。
(Don't make me do such a thing.)
- (4) A: *Kinoo ginkoo e itta n desu ga, nagai aida matasaremashite nee.*
きのう銀行へ行っただんですが、長い間待たされてねえ。
(I went to the bank yesterday, but I was made to wait for a long time.)
B: *Sore wa taihen deshita nee. Konde-ita n desu ka.*
それは大変でしたねえ。混んでいたんですか。
(That's too bad. Was it crowded?)
A: *lie, au yakusoku o shite-oita hito ga rusu de ne, kyuuyoo de.*
Chotto hoka no shigoto o saserareta rashii n desu.
いいえ、会う約束をしておいた人が留守でね、急用で。
ちょっと他の仕事をさせられたらしいんです。
(No, the person I was going to see was out due to an emergency. It seems that he was forced to tend to other matters.)

Practice

to copy down V utsusu うつす

How do you express the following in Japanese?

- A: What did you make her do?
B: I made her copy down the entire report.
- I made my younger sister make a phone call.
- Because the bus broke down the teacher made the children walk for an hour (emphasizing *one* hour).

Answers

1. A: Nani o saseta n desu ka. 何をさせたんですか。
 B: Hookokusho o zenbu utsusasemashita.
 報告書を全部うつさせました。
2. Imotoo ni denwa-sasemashita. 妹に電話させました。
3. Basu ga koshoo-shita node sensei wa kodomo-tachi o
 ichi-jikan mo arukaseta n desu yo.
 バスが故障したので先生は子供たちを一時間も歩かせたんですよ。

117. Subjunctive Expressions

Target Expressions

If it were cheaper, I would have bought it.

Motto yasukereba katta noni.
 もっと安ければ買ったのに。

Motto yasukattara katta n desu kedo.
 もっと安かったら買ったんですけど。

Grammatical Explanation

When describing one's feelings contradicting realities, the so-called subjunctive mood is used. In Japanese, conditional sentences with [-ba] and [-tara] are frequently used for this purpose. The main clause ends with disjunctive conjunctions such as *kedo* or *noni*. (For forming the *ba*-form see Entry 92, for *tara*-form, see Entry 93.) The verbs and adjectival predicates in the main clause normally take [V/Adj past] forms.

Examples

pikunikku ピクニック N picnic
 nagaiki o suru 長生きをする V to live long

- (1) Tenki ga yokereba pikunikku ni iketa noni.
 天気がよければピクニックに行けたのに。

(If it was good weather, we could have gone for a picnic.)

- (2) Moo sukoshi nagaiki o shite-tara kaigairyokoo mo dekita noni.
 もう少し長生きをしてたら海外旅行もできたのに。
 (If they lived a little longer, they would have been able to travel abroad.)
- (3) Okane ga attara yasumi ni wa Yooroppa e ike ta n da kedo nee.
 お金があったら休みにはヨーロッパへ行けたんだけどねえ。
 (If I had money, I could have gone to Europe for vacation.)
- (4) Motto ganbareba yokatta noni.
 もっとがんばればよかったのに。
 (If I tried harder, it would have been better.)

Additional Information

A shortened version of subjunctives takes either the *ba*-form or *tara*-form followed by the final particle *nee* or *naa*. These expressions are normally used in casual situations and carry the impression of being a monologue. For example:

- (a) Motto okane ga attara nee.
 もっとお金があったらねえ。
 (I wish I had more money . . .)
- (b) Ano hito ga ato san-pun hayaku kite-itara naa.
 あの人があと三分早く来ていたらなあ。
 (I wish he came three minutes earlier . . .)

Practice

Assume that you are put in the situation described in 1 through 3. Express in Japanese your desires that are impossible to realize under such circumstances.

1. You don't have money to buy a new car.
2. Your friend doesn't live nearby.
3. You are no longer young.

Some Sample Answers

1. Okane ga attara/areba, atarashii kuruma kaeta n da kedo . . .
 お金があったら/あれば新しい車買えたんだけど.....
2. Tomodachi ga chikaku ni sunde-itara naa . . .
 友だちが近くに住んでいたらなあ.....
3. Motto wakakattara naa . . . もっと若かったらなあ.....
 Motto wakakattara yokatta n da kedo . . .
 もっと若かったらよかったんだけど.....