

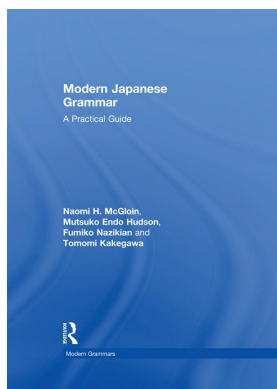
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## **Modern Japanese Grammar A Practical Guide**

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### **Kind acts**

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# 43

## Kind acts

### 43.1 Expressing that someone does something for the speaker as a favor

To convey that someone does a favor for the speaker, the auxiliary verb **kureru** is used following the **te**-form of the main verb.

#### ▶ 12.7; 19.2.8

母が洗濯をしてくれた。

**Haha ga sentaku o shite kureta.**

My mother did the laundry for me.

友達が駅まで車でおくってくれました。

**Tomodachi ga eki made kuruma de okutte kuremashita.**

My friend gave me a ride/lift to the station.

Even when these events do not involve the speaker's asking for a favor, Japanese speakers tend to use the **V-te kureru** structure to express events in which someone's actions benefit the speaker.

When one's social superior does something for the speaker, **kudasaru** may be used instead of **kureru**.

先生が推薦状を書いてくださった。

**Sensee ga suisenjoo o kaite kudasatta.**

My teacher wrote a recommendation letter for me.

上司がおやつを持って来てくださいました。

**Jooshi ga oyatsu o motte kite kudasaimashita.**

My boss brought a snack for me.

Another way to say that someone does something for the speaker is to use the auxiliary verb **morau**.

#### ▶ 19.2.8

私は友達に新しいソフトの使い方を教えてもらった。

**Watashi wa tomodachi ni atarashii sofuto no tsukai kata o oshiete moratta.**

My friend taught me how to use new software.

(I had my friend teach me how to use new software.)

When one's social superior does something for the speaker, **itadaku** may be used instead of **morau**.

父の同僚の方に骨董品を見せていただきました。

**Chichi no dooryoo no kata ni kottoohin o misete itadakimashita.**

My father's colleague showed me an antique object.

## 43.2

**Expressing that the speaker does something for someone as a favor**

To convey that the speaker does something for someone as a favor, the auxiliary verb **ageru** is used following the **te**-form of the main verb.

## ▶ 19.2.8

私は友達に教科書を貸してあげた。

**Watashi wa tomodachi ni kyookasho o kashite ageta.**

I lent my textbook to my friend.

いつも妹に英語を教えてあげます。

**Itsumo imooto ni eego o oshiete agemasu.**

I always teach English to my younger sister.

When the speaker does something for his/her social superior, **sashiageru** may be used instead of **ageru**.

上司を空港まで迎えに行行って差し上げました。

**Jooshi o kuukoo made mukae ni itte sashiagemashita.**

I went to the airport to pick up my boss.

The use of **-te ageru** and **-te sashiageru** requires caution. Using these structures to express what the speaker does makes it explicit that the speaker's action benefits another person. It could make the recipient of the favor feel indebted to the speaker, a situation which Japanese consider rude and tend to avoid.

V-**te yaru** may be used when the speaker's social status is higher than the recipient's.

私は弟に車の運転を教えてやりました。

**Watashi wa ototo ni kuruma no unten o oshiete yarimashita.**

I taught my younger brother how to drive.

犬を散歩に連れて行ってやった。

**Inu o sanpo ni tsurete itte yatta.**

I took my dog for a walk.

## 43.3

**Expressing that someone does something for someone else as a favor**

To express that someone does something for another person, the auxiliary verb **ageru** is used.

## ▶ 19.2.8

小野さんは森さんに仕事を紹介してあげた。

**Ono-san wa Mori-san ni shigoto o shookai shite ageta.**

Mr/Ms Ono helped Mr/Ms Mori find a job.

野田さんは井野さんを手伝ってあげました。

**Noda-san wa Ino-san o tetsudatte agemashita.**

Mr/Ms Noda helped Mr/Ms Ino.

When someone does something for someone who is close to the speaker, such as a family member, **kureru** or **kudasaru** should be used.

小田さんは弟に本を読んでもらった。

**Oda-san wa ototo ni hon o yonde kudasatta.**

Mr/Ms Oda read a book for my little brother.

友達が妹を迎えに行ってくれた。

**Tomodachi ga imooto o mukae ni itte kureta.**

My friend went to pick up my younger sister.