

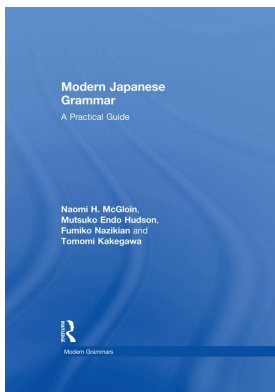
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## **Modern Japanese Grammar A Practical Guide**

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### **Experience**

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# 44

## Experience

### 44.1 Expressing one's past experiences

To say that you have done something in the past, use V(past) + **koto ga aru**. **Koto** is a nominalizer and **aru** is the verb indicating existence or possession. The noun **keeken** 'experience' can also be used in a phrase such as V(past) **keeken ga aru**.

#### ▶ 18.1

日本に行ったことがあります。

**Nihon ni itta koto ga arimasu.**

I have been to Japan.

すしを食べたことがあります。

**Sushi o tabeta koto ga arimasu.**

I have eaten sushi.

編集をした経験があります。

**Henshuu o shita keeken ga arimasu.**

I have editing experience.

To indicate how many times you have done something, use number+**do** or number+**kai**. **Nando mo** indicates 'many times,' **nando ka** 'a few times,' and number+**do/kai+shika** 'only . . . times.'

#### ▶ 16; 15.4

一度日本に行ったことがあります。

**Ichido Nihon ni itta koto ga arimasu.**

I have been to Japan once.

「羅生門」という映画は、何度も見たことがあります。

**Rashomon to yuu eega wa nando mo mita koto ga arimasu.**

I have seen the movie 'Rashomon' many times.

何度か日本食を食べたことがあります。

**Nando ka nihonshoku o tabeta koto ga arimasu.**

I have eaten Japanese food a few times.

一度しか日本に行ったことはありません。

**Ichido shika Nihon ni itta koto ga arimasen.**

I have been to Japan only once.

### 44.2 Expressing how long one has been doing something

To indicate how long one has been doing something or one has been in a certain state, use an expression indicating duration with V-**te** form + **iru**. Duration can be number + **nen** 'year,' number + **ka getsu** 'month,' etc.

五年結婚しています。

**Gonen kekkon shite imasu.**

I have been married for five years.

日本語は一年ぐらい勉強しています。

**Nihongo wa ichinen gurai benkyoo shite imasu.**

I have been studying Japanese for about one year.

Another way of expressing how long one has been doing something or one has been in a certain state is to say that a certain number of years (months, etc.) have passed since one did something.

結婚してから一年になります。

**Kekkon shite kara ichinen ni narimasu.**

It's been one year since I got married.

日本に来てから一ヵ月たちました。

**Nihon ni kite kara ikkagetsu tachimashita.**

One month has passed since I came to Japan.

日本語の勉強を始めてから三年になります。

**Nihongo no benkyoo o hajimete kara sannen ni narimasu.**

It has been three years since I began studying Japanese.

## 44.3 Asking people about their experiences

You can ask someone whether he/she has done something by V(past) **koto ga arimasu ka**, V(past) **keeken ga arimasu ka** or N + **no keeken ga arimasu ka**.

すしを食べたことがありますか。(F)

**Sushi o tabeta koto ga arimasu ka.**

Have you eaten sushi (before)?

日本に行ったことある？(I)

**Nihon ni itta koto aru?**

Have you been to Japan?

アルバイトの経験がありますか。(F)

**Arubaito no keeken ga arimasu ka.**

Do you have part-time work experience?

雑誌の編集した経験ある？(I)

**Zasshi no henshuu shita keeken aru?**

Do you have magazine editing experience?

### ▶ 18.1