

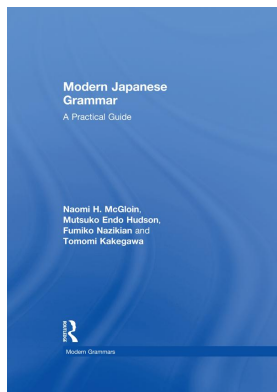
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## **Modern Japanese Grammar A Practical Guide**

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### **Fear or worry**

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# 66

## Fear or worry

### 66.1 Expressing one's own fear

To express one's fear of something, the adjective **kowai** 'to be afraid of; scary' is most commonly used.

私は犬がこわいです。

**Watashi wa inu ga kowai desu.**

I'm afraid of dogs.

僕は暗闇がこわい。

**Boku wa kurayami ga kowai.**

I'm afraid of the dark.

The adjective **osoroshii** 'terrifying' may also be used.

私は天災が恐ろしいです。

**Watashi wa tensai ga osoroshii desu.**

I'm terrified of natural disasters.

The verb **osoreru** 'to fear' can also be used in **te iru** form to express one's fear.

私は失敗を恐れていました。

**Watashi wa shippai o osorete imashita.**

I feared failure.

### 66.2 Reporting on others' fear

To report on others' fear, adjectives that express fear are used with evidential markers such as **yoo** and **rashii**, or by verbalizing the adjective using **-gatte iru** 'showing signs of . . .,' which attaches to the stem of the adjective.

#### ▶ 28; 58

佐藤さんは鼠をこわがっています。

**Satoo-san wa nezumi o kowa-gatte imasu.**

Mr/Ms Sato is afraid of mice.

Verbs that express fear are used in the **V-te iru** form to express other people's fear.

同僚たちは社長のお説教を恐れています。

**Dooryoo-tachi wa shachoo no o-sekkyoo o osorete imasu.**

My colleagues are afraid of the company president lecturing them.

It is also common to express other people's fear as a quote or hearsay.

山田さんは蜘蛛がこわいそうです。

**Yamada-san wa kumo ga kowai soo desu.**

I hear that Mr/Ms Yamada is afraid of spiders.

山下さんは奥さんが恐ろしいと言っていました。

**Yamashita-san wa okusan ga osoroshii to itte imashita.**

Mr Yamashita said that he was afraid of his wife.

## 66.3 Expressing one's own worry

To express one's own worry, the following expressions are commonly used.

心配です。	<b>Shinpai desu.</b>	I'm worried.
心配しています。	<b>Shinpai shite imasu.</b>	I'm worried.
不安です。	<b>Fuan desu.</b>	I'm feeling anxious.
悩んでいます。	<b>Nayande imasu.</b>	I'm troubled.

To express what one is worried about, different sentence structures are used depending on which expression is used.

### ■ N ga shinpai da/desu or fuan da/desu

自分の将来が心配です。

**Jibun no shoorai ga shinpai desu.**

I'm worried about my future.

両親の老後が不安だ。

**Ryooshin no roogo ga fuan da.**

I'm anxious about my parents' old age.

### ■ N o or -ni tsuite shinpai shite imasu

娘の健康を心配しています。

**Musume no kenkoo o shinpai shite imasu.**

I'm concerned for my daughter's health.

環境問題について心配しています。

**Kankyoo mondai ni tsuite shinpai shite imasu.**

I'm worried about environmental problems.

### ■ N ni or ni tsuite nayande imasu

転職について悩んでいます。

**Tenshoku ni tsuite nayande imasu.**

I have been worried about changing my job.

ペットのしつけに悩んでいます。

**Petto no shitsuke ni nayande imasu.**

I'm having trouble with training my pet.

The noun phrase that expresses what one is worried about is often followed by the particle **no** and the formal noun **koto**, as in these examples.

#### ▶ 18.1

将来のことが心配です。

**Shoorai no koto ga shinpai desu.**

I'm worried about my future.

娘の健康のことを心配しています。

**Musume no kenkoo no koto o shinpai shite imasu.**

I'm concerned about my daughter's health.

What one is worried about can also be expressed using an embedded question.

#### ▶ 26.3

## Reporting on others' worry

すぐに就職できるかどうか心配だ。

**Suguni shuushoku dekiru ka doo ka shinpai da.**

I'm worried about whether I can get a job soon.

いつ両親に本当のことを言ったらいいのか悩んでいます。

**Itsu ryooshin ni hontoo no koto o ittara ii no ka nayande imasu.**

I have been worrying about when to tell my parents the truth.

友達ができるかどうか不安です。

**Tomodachi ga dekiru ka doo ka fuan desu.**

I'm feeling anxious about whether I can make friends.

父の会社がつぶれないかどうか心配しています。

**Chichi no kaisha ga tsuburenai ka doo ka shinpai shite imasu.**

I'm worried about whether my father's company will go bankrupt.

## 66.4 Reporting on others' worry

To report on others' worry, adjectives that express worry are used with evidential markers such as **yoo** and **rashii**, or by verbalizing the adjective using **-gatte iru** 'showing signs of . . .', which attaches to the stem of the adjective.

## ▶ 28; 58

山田さんはプロジェクトがうまく行くかどうか心配なようだ。

**Yamada-san wa purojekuto ga umaku iku ka doo ka shinpai na yoo da.**

Mr/Ms Yamada is worried about whether the project will go well.

同僚は会社の将来について不安がっています。

**Dooryoo wa kaisha no shoorai ni tsuite fuan gatte imasu.**

My colleague is anxious about our company's future.

Verbs that express worry, such as **nayamu** and **shinpai suru**, are used in the **V-te iru** form to express other people's worry. They can be used without evidential markers.

友達は大学に行くべきかどうか悩んでいる。

**Tomodachi wa daigaku ni iku beki ka doo ka nayande iru.**

My friend is worrying about whether he should go to college.

田中さんは鈴木さんのことを心配しています。

**Tanaka-san wa Suzuki-san no koto o shinpai shite imasu.**

Mr/Ms Tanaka is worried about Mr/Ms Suzuki.