

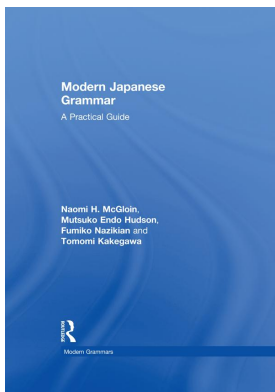
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Promises and warnings

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83

Promises and warnings

83.1 Expressing promises

To state a promise, use the nonpast tense. Promises are often accompanied by adverbs such as **zettai (ni)** ‘definitely’ and **kanarazu** ‘surely, certainly, without fail.’

絶対に誰にも言いません。

Zettai ni dare ni mo iimasen.

I will never tell anyone.

何かあったら、必ず連絡します。

Nani ka attara, kanarazu renraku shimasu.

I will surely contact you if anything happens.

もう絶対うそをつきません。

Moo zettai uso o tsukimasen.

I will never lie any more.

約束します。

Yakusoku shimasu.

I promise.

To explicitly say ‘I promise to do . . .,’ use V(plain) **yakusoku o suru** or V(plain) **to yakusoku suru**.

タバコをすわない約束をします。

Tabako o suwanai yakusoku o shimasu.

I promise not to smoke.

もう嘘をつかないと約束するよ。

Moo uso o tsukanai to yakusoku suru yo.

I promise that I won’t lie any more.

▶ 7.2.3; 26.2

83.2 Warning someone to do (or not to do) something

To warn people to do or not to do something, various sentence structures may be used, depending on the seriousness of the warning. Some take the form of a command; others take the form of a suggestion or request.

- (a) Command (see 75)

早く行きなさい。遅刻するよ。

Hayaku ikinasai. Chikoku suru yo.

Go quickly. You’ll be late.

Warning someone to do (or not to do) something

もう寝なさい。明日の朝、起きられないよ。

Moo nenasai. Ashita no asa, okirarenai yo.

Go to bed already or you won't be able to get up tomorrow morning.

- (b) V(plain, nonpast negative form) + **hoo ga ii** (see 72.3)

あのレストランは行かないほうがいいよ。

Ano resutoran wa ikanai hoo ga ii yo.

You'd better not to go to that restaurant.

- (c) V(plain, past affirmative form) + **hoo ga ii**

お母さんに怒られるから、早く帰ったほうがいいですよ。

Okaasan ni okorareru kara, hayaku kaetta hoo ga ii desu yo.

You'd better go home early because you'll be scolded by your mother.

- (d) Prohibition (see 79.1)

ここに車をとめてはいけません。

Koko ni kuruma o tomete wa ikemasen.

You must not park a car here.

- (e) V-te form + **kudasai** (see 73.3)

皆が気持ちよく過ごせるように規則を守ってください。

Minna ga kimochi yoku sugoseru yoo ni kisoku o mamotte kudasai.

Please follow the rules so that everyone can stay comfortably.

やけどをする恐れがあるので、子供には使わせないでください。

Yakedo o suru osore ga aru node, kodomo ni wa tsukawasenaide kudasai.

There is a possibility of getting burned, so please don't let children use it.

落とさないように気をつけてください。

Otosanai yoo ni ki o tsukete kudasai.

Be careful not to drop it.

- (f) Polite request: **o-/go-verb kudasai** (see 29.3)

火気の取り扱いにご注意下さい。

Kaki no toriatsukai ni go-chuui kudasai.

Please be careful handling fire.

お早めにお召し上がり下さい。

O-hayame ni o-meshiagari kudasai.

Please eat soon.

おたばこはご遠慮下さい。

O-tabako wa go-enryo kudasai.

Please refrain from smoking.

Another way to warn people is to state what will happen if he/she doesn't do what is expected, using the conditional structure.

▶ 24.1

早く行かないと、遅刻するよ。

Hayaku ikanai to, chikoku suru yo.

If you don't leave soon, you'll be late.

よく聞いていないと、分からなくなりますよ。

Yoku kiite inai to, wakaranaku narimasu yo.

If you are not listening well, you will become lost (Lit. You will stop being able to understand).

The verb **keekoku suru** ‘to warn’ is used to state a serious warning. The content of the warning is expressed using **yoo (ni)**.

危険地域には入らないよう（に）警告します。

Kiken chiiki ni wa hairanai yoo (ni) keekoku shimasu.

We warn you not to enter hazardous areas.

一週間以内に避難するよう（に）警告します。

Isshuukan inai ni hinan suru yoo (ni) keekoku shimasu.

We warn you to evacuate within one week.