

Note:

In the Japanese language, there are two types of adjectives. One is an **i**-adjective that ends with 'i' and the other is a **na**-adjective that 'na' is used when modifying a noun. An adjective is used to add more to the meaning of a noun and shows the state, situation or circumstance of something or someone.



The Usage of an i-adjective:

§1 **kono machi wa atarashii desu.** (This town is new.)

'**atarashii**' is one of **i**-adjectives. **i**-adjectives can be used as the predicate, which is a part of the sentence that makes a statement about the subject.

Example:

ex.1 **kono tokei wa furui desu.** (This watch is old.)

ex.2 **Shingapouru wa tanoshii desu.** (Singapore is enjoyable.)

ex.3 **kodomo wa kawaii desu.** (Children are cute.)

ex.4 **kono ringo wa ookii desu.** (This apple is big.)



§2 **kono kouhii wa atsu ku nai desu.** (This coffee is not hot.)

When making the negative of an **i**-adjective sentence (It is the sentence which ends '[i-adjective] **desu**'), we change '**...i desu**' to '**...ku nai desu**'. In this case, '**...i dewa arimasen**' or '**... i ja arimasen**' is not used. For example, the negative of '**chiisai desu** (It's small.)' is '**chiisa ku nai desu** (It's not small.)'. The negative of '**takai desu** (It's expensive.)' is '**taka ku nai desu** (It's not expensive.)'.

Example:

ex.1 **kono heya wa hiro ku nai desu.** (This room is not spacious. / wide.)

ex.2 **shiken wa yasashi ku nai desu.** (The examination is not easy.)

ex.3 **kono nimotsu wa omo ku nai desu.** (This baggage is not heavy.)

ex.4 **kono kaban wa yo ku nai desu.** * (This bag is not good.)

* The negative of '**ii desu**' is '**yo ku nai desu**' not '**i ku nai desu**'

ex.5 Q: **kono shatsu wa takai desu ka.** (Is this shirt expensive?)

A1: **hai, [kono shatsu wa] takai desu.** (Yes, it is.)

A2: **ie, [kono shatsu wa] taka ku nai desu. yasui desu.** (No, it is not. It is cheap.)

ex.6 Q: **Nihon wa ima samui desu ka.** (Is it cold in Japan now?)

A1: **hai**, [Nihon wa ima] **samui desu**. (Yes, it is.)

A2: **iie**, [Nihon wa ima] **samu kunai desu. atatakai desu**. (No, it is not. It is warm.)



§3 **kore wa karui kaban desu**. (This is a light bag.)

i-adjective can modify a noun. **i**-adjective comes before the noun which it modifies.

Example:

ex.1 **Fuji san wa takai yama desu**. (Mt. Fuji is a high mountain.)

ex.2 **karei wa karai ryouri desu**. (A curry rice is a spicy dish.)

ex.3 **kukkii wa amai tabemono desu**. (Cookie is a sweet food.)

ex.4 **kyou wa warui tenki desu**. (The weather is bad today.)



The Usage of a **na**-adjective:

§4 **kare wa genki desu**. (He is healthy.)

'**genki**' is one of **na**-adjectives. **na**-adjective looks like a noun in the predicate of the sentence, however, it shows some kind of state or condition.

Example:

ex.1 **Tanaka san wa shizuka desu**. (Mr Tanaka is quiet.)

ex.2 **kare wa shinsetsu desu**. (He is kind.)

ex.3 **Shingapouru wa kirei desu**.* (Singapore is beautiful.)

ex.4 **Fuji san wa yuumei desu**.* (Mt. Fuji is famous.)

* '**kirei** (beautiful)' and '**yuumei** (famous)' look **i**-adjectives in the predicate of the sentence, however, they are **na**-adjectives.



§5 **Nihon-go wa kantan dewa arimasen**. (The Japanese language is not simple.)

When making the negative of a **na**-adjective sentence (It is the sentence which ends '[**na**-adjective] **desu**'), we change '**...desu**' to '**...dewa arimasen (ja arimasen)**'. It is the same as a noun sentence (It is the sentence which ends '[noun] **desu**'). For example, the negative of '**shizuka desu** (It's quiet.)' is '**shizuka dewa arimasen (ja arimasen)** (It's not quiet.)'. The negative of '**kirei desu** (It's beautiful.)' is '**kirei dewa arimasen (ja arimasen)** (It's not beautiful.)'.

Example:

- ex.1 **kono basu wa benri dewa arimasen.** (This bus is not convenient.)
ex.2 **Tanaka-san wa hansamu dewa arimasen.** (Mr Tanaka is not handsome.)
ex.3 **watashi wa ashita hima ja arimasen.** (I am not free tomorrow.)
ex.4 **kanojo wa majime ja arimasen.** (She is not serious.)
ex.5 Q: **Fuji-san wa yuumei desu ka.** (Is Mt Fuji famous?)
A1: **hai, [Fuji san wa] yuumei desu.** (Yes, it is.)
A2: **iie, [Fuji san wa] yuumei dewa arimasen.** (No, it is not.)
ex.6 Q: **koko wa anzen desu ka.** (Is this a safe place?)
A1: **hai, [koko wa] anzen desu.** (Yes, it is.)
A2: **iie, [koko wa] anzen ja arimasen.** (No, it is not.)



§6 **kore wa taisetsu na shorui desu.** (This is an important document.)

na-adjective can also modify a noun. **na**-adjective comes before the noun which it modifies. In this case, 'na' is put between a **na**-adjective and a noun.

Example:

- ex.1 **Nihon wa kirei na kuni desu.** (Japan is a beautiful country.)
ex.2 **kare wa shinsetsu na hito desu.** (He is a kind person.)
ex.3 **kore wa fukuzatsu na mondai desu.** (This is a complicated question.)
ex.4 **koko wa anzen na tokoro desu.** (This is a safe place.)



New Question-Word:

- ex.5 Q: **Nihon-go wa dou 1 desu ka.** (How is the Japanese language?)
A: **[Nihon-go wa] muzukashii desu ga, 2 omoshiroi desu.** (It is difficult but interesting.)
ex.6 Q: **Shingapouru wa dou desu ka.** (How is Singapore?)
A: **[Shingapouru] kirei desu. soshite, anzen desu.** (It is clean and safety country.)

1. '**dou**' is a question-word for asking the unknown state or condition of something or someone. It means "how."
2. '**ga**' is a conjunction which means "but."

New Question-Word:

- ex.7 Q: **Shingapouru wa donna* kuni desu ka.** (What kind of country is Singapore?)
A: **[Shingapouru wa] omoshiroi, soshite chiisai kuni desu.**
(It is an interesting and small country.)
ex.8 Q: **Honda-san wa donna* hito desu ka.** (What type of person is Mr Honda?)
A: **[Honda-san wa] majime na hito desu.** (He is an honest person.)

* **'donna'** is a question-word for asking the unknown state or condition of something or someone. A noun always follows it. It means "What kind (type) of ...?"



§7 **kono tokei wa taihen (totemo) takai desu.** (This watch is very expensive.)

'**taihen**' and '**totemo**' mean "very." It is one of adverbs (An adverb is used to add more to the meaning of a verb, adjective or other adverb and is put before the word which it modifies.).

Example:

ex.1 **Nihon no mono wa totemo takai desu.** (Japan is a beautiful country.)

ex.2 **kanojo wa taihen shinsetu na hito desu.** (She is a very kind person.)

ex.3 **kono manga wa totemo omoshiroi desu.** (This comic book is very interesting.)

ex.4 **Nihon go wa taihen muzukashii desu.** (The Japanese language is very difficult.)



§8 **kono tokei wa amari (sonnani) taka ku nai desu.** (This watch is not so expensive.)

'**amari**' and '**sonnani**' are also adverbs that means "(not) so / (not) much / (not) really." It is always used with the negative.

Example:

ex.1 **koko wa amari shizuka dewa arimasen.** (This is not so quiet.)

ex.2 **Nihon wa sonnani ookii kuni dewa arimasen.** (Japan is not so big.)

ex.3 **Nihon go wa amari muzukashi ku nai desu.** (The Japanese language is not so difficult.)

ex.4 **kyou wa sonnani atsu ku nai desu.** (It is not so hot today.)

New Question-Word:

ex.5 Q: **Nihon-go wa dono kurai * muzukashii desu ka.** (How difficult is Japanese?)

A: [**Nihon-go wa**] **chotto muzukashii desu.** (Japanese is a little difficult.)

ex.6 Q: **sakura wa dono kurai * kirei desu ka.** (How beautiful is a cherry blossom?)

A: [**sakura wa**] **sugoku kirei desu.** (It is very beautiful.)

* '**dono kurai**' is a question-word for asking the degree. It means "How [adjective] ...?" We also use '**dono gurai**', '**dore kurai**', or '**dere gurai**'.

A: **moshi moshi, Tanaka-san desu ka? Kimura desu.**
 B: **a, Kimura-san, ohisashiburi desu ne. ogenki desu ka?**
 A: **hai, okage samade. saikin, choushi wa dou desu ka?**
 B: **maa maa desu. Kimura-san wa? shigoto wa dou desu ka?**
 A: **sou desu ne. 1 totemo isogashii desu.**
 demo, kyuuryou wa amari yoku nai desu kara, 2 taihen 3 desu yo.
 B: **sou desu ka. karada ni ki o tsukete kudasai ne. shigoto, ganbatte kudasai.**
 A: **hai, arigatou gozaimasu. jaa, shitsurei shimasu. 4**
 B: **hai, jaa, mata. 5**

1. '**sou desu ne**' has two meanings. One is "Let me see,...." and the other is "I agree with your opinion. / That's right."
2. '[sentence] **kara**' is a conjunction that expresses a reason and it means "because..., / ..., so / ..., that's why / ..., therefore." It is added to the end of the sentence that you make a reason.
3. '**taihen**' here means "That's awful."
4. '**shitsurei shimasu**' means "Good bye." It is especially used in a formal case such as when leaving one's superior.
5. '**jaa, mata**' is sometimes used to mean "Good bye." However, an actual meaning is "See you again". This greeting can be use when a superior says to an inferior.

A: Hello. Is this Mr Tanaka? I am Kimura.
 B: Oh, Mr Kimura, it has been a long time since I met you. How are you?
 A: I'm fine. How are you getting on lately?
 B: So so. How about you? Is your business good?
 A: Let me see. I am very busy. But, I feel awful because my salary is not so good.
 B: Oh, I see. Take care of yourself, and do your best in your job.
 A: Thank you. It is time to say good bye.
 B: Good-bye.