

§1 **Satou-san wa me ga kirei desu.** (Miss Sato has beautiful eyes.)

When we describe the characteristic of something or someone, the structure of '(A) **wa** (B) **ga** (adjective)' is used. In this structure, normally (B) is a part of (A). To describe characteristics, we seldom use '(A) **no** (B) **wa** (adjective) **desu.**' structure.

Example:

ex.1 **Tanaka-san wa ashi ga mijikai desu.** (Mr Tanaka's legs are short.)

ex.2 **Suzuki-san wa hana ga takai desu.** (Mr Suzuki has a long nose.)

ex.3 **Kimura-san wa atama ga ii desu.** (Mr Kimura is clever.)

ex.4 **kare wa se * ga takai desu.** (He is tall.)

ex.5 **zou wa hana ga nagai desu.** (An elephant has a long trunk.)

ex.6 **zou wa mimi ga ookii desu.** (An elephant has big ears.)

ex.7 **kirin wa kibi ga nagai desu.** (A giraffe has a long neck.)

ex.8 **wani wa karada ga nagai desu.** (A crocodile has a long body.)

ex.9 **usagi wa shippo ga marui desu.** (A rabbit's tail is round.)

ex.10 **shingapouru wa sentosa ga omoshiroi desu.** (In Singapore, Sentosa is very fun.)

* 'se' means "height." 'se ga ookii desu' is also used. 'se ga chiisai desu / hikui desu' means "short." In this case, 'se ga mijikai desu' is not used.



§2 **watashi wa ringo ga suki desu.** (I like apple.)

When we translate "(A) like / dislike / is good at / is poor at / wants (B)" into Japanese, the structure of '(A) **wa** (B) **ga** (adjective)' is also used. (In Japanese, mentioning one's liking, skill .etc, means describing characteristic of the one, so we use '(A) **wa** (B) **ga** (adjective)' structure.) For example, '**watashi wa benkyou ga kirai desu**' means "I dislike studying." '**watashi wa nihongo ga jouzu desu**' means "I am good at Japanese." In Japanese, '**suki**', '**kirai**', '**jouzu**' and '**heta**' are **na**-adjectives, and '**hoshii**' is an **i**-adjective.

Example:

ex.1 **watashi wa gokiburi ga kirai desu.** (I hate cockroaches.)

ex.2 **kare wa tenisu ga heta desu.** (He is poor at tennis.)

ex.3 **Tan san wa gitaa ga jouzu desu.** (Mr Tan is good at playing the guitar.)

ex.4 **watashi wa atarashii kuruma ga hoshii desu.** (I want a new car.)

New Question-Word:

ex.5 Q: **anata wa nani ga * suki desu ka.** (What do you like?)

A: **[watashi wa] okane ga suki desu.** (I like money.)

ex.6 Q: **anata wa dare ga * suki desu ka.** (Whom do you like?)

A: **[watashi wa] ryoushin ga suki desu.** (I like my parents.)

ex.7 Q: **anata wa nani ga* kirai desu ka.** (What do you hate?)

A: **[watashi wa] shigoto ga kirai desu.** (I hate to work.)

ex.8 Q: **anata wa dare ga * kirai desu ka.** (Whom do you hate?)

A: **[watashi wa] fumajime na hito ga kirai desu.** (I hate insincere persons.)

* **'nani ga'** is the question-word for asking "what you like, dislike, are good at, be poor at, etc." To ask "where you like, dislike, etc.", **'doko ga'** is used and to ask "whom you like, dislike, etc.", **'dare ga'** is used.

A: **Tanaka san, are wa nan desu ka.**
 B: **are wa kirin desu. kirin wa kubi ga nagai desu ne.**
are wa zou desu. zou wa hana ga nagai desu. a, saru desu yo.
saru wa banana ga suki desu.
 A: **kono doubutsuen wa hontouni 1 tanoshii desu ne.**
Tanaka san wa doubutsu ga suki desu ka.
 B: **ee, 2 suki desu. tokuni, 3 inu ga daisuki desu.**
 A: **sou desu ka. watashi wa tori ga suki desu. jaa, kirai na doubutsu wa nan desu ka.**
 B: **hebi ga daikirai desu. Tan-san wa?**
 A: **watashi mo hebi ga zenzen 4 suki ja arimase. ato, gokiburi mo kirai desu.**

1. **'hontou ni'** means "really" and it is an adverb.
2. **'ee'** also means "Yes" and sounds more elegant than **'hai'**.
3. **'tokuni'** means "especially" and it is an adverb. In this case, 'tokuni' modifies a whole sentence.
4. **'zenzen'** is an adverb that means "(not) at all." It is used with the negative.

A: Mr Tanaka, what's that animal?

B: That's a giraffe. Its neck is long. That's an elephant. He has a long trunk. Look, That's a monkey. It likes banana.

A: This zoo is very enjoyable, isn't it? Mr Tanaka, do you like animals?

B: Yes. Especially, I love dogs.

A: I see. I like birds. Then, what animals do you dislike?

B: I hate snakes. How about Mr Tan?

A: I also don't like snakes at all. I hate cockroaches as well.