Grammar Notes for Japanese Audio Flashcards, 9-19-14

General: 2 main kinds of verbs: **u verbs** and **ru verbs**. The **root** of a verb is the pre-u or pre-ru form. The **stem** is the pre-masu form. For an **ru verb**, the root and the stem forms are the same. Note that these notes and the transcript use the convention of spelling Japanese words with a long ‘o’ sound as ‘oo,’ whereas in Japanese they are usually spelled as ‘ou.’ (This does not apply to words like ‘onomu,’ where the ‘u’ sound can actually be heard, or a few words like ‘ookii’ and ‘oosaka.’) You wanted to write the word kao in Japanese or look it up in a dictionary, you would have to spell it ‘kaou;’ ikimashoo would have to be spelled ‘ikimashou,’ tookyou spelled ‘toukyou.’

**Desu** means ‘it is;’ its plain speech form is **da**; you may use desu after an **i adjective**, but not da. Oishii desu is OK. Oishii da is not OK. Oishii by itself is OK.

**Lesson 1**
‘o,’ sometimes written as ‘wo,’ is used to show that the preceding term is a **direct object**; misete is the ‘te’ form of miseru = to show; **verbs ending in ru, tsu, ku, su and u have te forms**; **verbs ending in mu, nu, gu and bu have de forms**; kudasai = please; kudasai is often preceded by the **te or de form** of a verb; kudasai is the imperative form of kudasaru = to **honorably give**, a polite verb used when another person gives you to or to someone in your in-group; ‘san’ is an honorific term used after another person’s name; **ka** is used to indicate a question; **ja** = short form of **dewa**, which forms the first part of the phrase ‘dewa arimasen’ = ‘ja arimasen’ = ‘something is not something else’; arimasu = the masu form of the plain speech verb aru = to exist; **the masu form is more polite** than the plain speech form; arimasen is the **negative form** of arimasu; **ja** can also mean ‘well’; kore = this, sore = that, are = that over there; wa is used to show the topic, as opposed to the subject, of a sentence; **sentence pattern** A begins with a noun or pronoun followed by wa, indicating a topic, and then goes on to ask a question about, or make a comment on, this topic; **i adjectives** end in **i**; to make the **stem of an i adjective**, remove the final **i**; **yo**, used for emphasis, can be roughly translated as ‘for sure’; dore = which: the **te or de form** of a verb can carry the meaning ‘and’; to make the **past form** of a masu verb, change ‘masu’ to ‘mashita;’ to make the **past form of desu**, change it to deshita; to make the **past form of da**, change it to datta; nai = plain speech form of arimasu = to not exist; to make your speech more friendly, you can ‘** soften**’ the word nai, as well as **i adjectives** and **both u and ru verbs**, by adding ‘n’ or ‘no’ to them. You can only **soften plain speech verbs**, not ‘masu’ verbs. If you **soften** a word using ‘n’ or ‘no,’ you must follow it with the **copula desu** or ‘da,’ or with their negative equivalents ‘ja arimasen’ or ‘ja nai,’ or with kamoshiremasen = kamoshirenai = ‘it might be.’ You can ** soften nouns and na adjectives** by adding ‘nan’ to them. Ga can mean ‘but’; Doo itashimashite = you’re welcome or it’s nothing: gozaimashita is the past form of gozaimasu = to exist humbly or hopefully; moo = another, more, again; moo also = already; ichido = one time, nido = two times, etc.

**Lesson 2**
**donata** and dare both mean ‘who’; donata is more polite; no is used to show possession or belonging: doozo yoroshiku means ‘please be good to me’ or ‘pleased to meet you’; kochira = this way, sochira = that way, achira = that way over there; kono = this, sono = that, ano = that over there; kono, sono & ano are always followed by a noun; shimasu = suru = to do; onegai shimasu = I will do humble begging, usually translated as ‘please’ or ‘if you please’ or ‘I beg’; doko = where; aru = arimasu = exist, used for inanimate objects; when you say that something exists in a particular place, follow the place description with the particle ni; the **ku form of i adjectives** is used before negative words like nai and arimasen; to convert an i adjective into the ku form, remove the final i and add ku; iku = ikimasu = to go; kuru = kimasu = to come; ‘o’ is a **polite prefix** which can mean either ‘humble’; imasen = negative form of imasu = iku = to exist, used for animate objects; To change a **plain speech u verb** to a negative form, add anai to the root (the pre-u form). Nomanai = nomimasen = ‘I won’t drink.’ To change a **plain speech ru verb** to a negative form, add nai to the root. Tabenai = tabemasen = ‘I won’t eat.’ **Try not to confuse these two sentence patterns**: Kanai ja imasen = kanai ja nai = ‘it isn’t my wife.’ Kanai ga imasen = kanai ga nai = ‘my wife doesn’t exist’ (meaning, ‘she isn’t here’). Similarly, Hon ja arimasen = hon ja nai = ‘it isn’t a book.’ Hon ga arimasen = hon ga nai = ‘there isn’t a book.’ doko = where; dono = which, always followed by a noun; dore also = which, but it’s used by itself, without a noun: koko = here, soko = there, asoko = over there; mae = front; ushiro = rear; kirei is a **na adjective**; when you use it to modify a noun, follow it with na; in **sentence pattern B**, a topic is followed by wa, and then a subject is followed by ga; use ga when you ask, or answer, a question using an **interrogative pronoun** as the subject; interrogative pronouns include dore = which?, nan (or nani) = what?, doko = where?, dare = who?, dooshite = why?, doo = how?, ikutsu = how many?, ikura = how much?, and itsu = when?: in **plain speech**, desu can be **omitted after i adjectives**; to make the negative **form of a na adjective**, like shizuka, follow the adjective with ja arimasen or dewa arimasen; ‘tsugoo ga ii’ is an expression used to say that a person’s circumstances are good, meaning that there is time available

**Lesson 3**
the ‘sfoo’ ending replaces the ‘su’ ending on a masu verb like ikimasu when you want to say ‘let’s do something’
or when you want to say 'I shall do something'; the shoo ending is also used to convert the word ‘desu’ to the word ‘deshoo’ = ‘it probably is’; kurai = about, approximately, almost, something like; often softened to gurai; Dono kurai (or dono gurai) means ‘approximately how many,’ ‘how long,’ ‘how much,’ or ‘how often.’ mo = also; it replaces wa and ga when used after a subject or topic; amari = not very, in negative constructions; very much or excessively, in positive constructions; de = by means of; the te or de form of a verb can carry the meaning ‘ing’: iro or imasu can be combined with the te or de form of a verb to mean ‘being’; when it carries this meaning, it is used for both animate and inanimate objects; dokoka = somewhere; dareka = someone; nanika = something; issho ni = together; i (an i adjective) = good; to make the adverbial ku form of this adjective, don’t say ‘iku;’ instead use the similar word good, and convert this to ‘yoku’; you may use either ‘ni or ‘te’ to mean ‘to’; itsu = when; itsuka = sometime; itsumo = ‘always’ in positive constructions, ‘never’ in negative constructions; itsudemo = anytime; goro means ‘approximately’ but is only used with time of day, time of year, etc.; kurai, or gurai, can be used after nouns in general to mean ‘approximately; ni is used to mean ‘at’ a particular time; ni is also used before the verb au = to meet, to indicate the person who is met; kakarimasu = kararu = ‘take’ when referring to time, or ‘cost’ when referring to money; use kan to mean duration

Lesson 4

u verbs have a consonant (usually not ‘r’) before the final ‘u’; this includes words ending in ‘au’ or ‘ou,’ since these verbs are abbreviated (the ‘w’ left out); the masu form is formed by replacing ‘u’ with ‘imasu.’ Examples include kaku, katsu (kashimasu), shinu, motto (machimatsu), kuru, kau; the following exceptions are also u verbs: ganbaru, suwaru, noru, tooru, haru, hashiru, iro (to need), kuru, shiru and kaeru. What these exceptions have in common is that you can use the te form when making the te or ta form, e.g. ganbatte, ganbatta, suwatte, suwatta;

ru verbs end with iro or eru; the masu form is formed by replacing ‘ru’ with ‘masu.’ Examples are iro (to be), taberu and miru: there are three irregular verbs: suyu (and verbs formed from it, like menasuru, iku and kuru; ru verbs, you do not double the ‘t’ when making the te or ta forms, e.g., ate, ita, tabete, tabeta. ku form of i adjective; for an i adjective, remove the i and add ku before negative words like nai and arimasen; ku also converts i adjectives to adverbs; the idea ‘it would be better to do such and such’ is expressed by using the plain past tense of the verb followed by hoo ga ii; to say it would be better not to do something, follow the negative plain speech form of the verb with hoo ga ii, e.g. tabenai hoo gai ii desu; De is always used with ‘active’ verbs like hashiru = ‘run,’ to indicate the place where the action takes place. There are also a number of so-called ‘inactive’ verbs, like neru = ‘sleep,’ that can be used with either ni or de. When using these verbs, it may be helpful to think of the particle de as meaning ‘in’ and the particle ni as meaning ‘at.’ In the sentence ‘hikooki no naka de nemashita,’ de is used to show that I slept ‘in’ the plane. It is also OK to say koko ni kudasai = ‘please sleep at here.’ Other ‘inactive verbs that can be used with either ni or de include dekiru, suteru, ochiru, tomaru, tomaru, suwaru and tatsu. It seems that nokoru = ‘stay behind’ can only be used with ni. doko = where; dokodemo = anywhere; dokoka = somewhere; dokome = everywhere in positive constructions, nowhere in negative constructions; to = ‘and’; it can also mean ‘with,’ suki desu = it is liked; the item being liked is usually followed by ga; kirai desu = it is disliked; nandemo = anything, nanika = something, nanimo = nothing in negative constructions; minna, mina or subete = everything; to form the past plain speech form of nai, or ‘not,’ drop the final i and add katta = nakatta; to form the past plain speech form of an i adjective, drop the final i and add katta; this may be followed by desu, but desu isn’t used in plain speech; konna = like this, sonna = like that, anna = like that over there, donna = what kind of; when you add ni to any of these adjectives, they become adverbs, modifying a verb or another adjective; use ni after an activity or after a verb stem to indicate doing something for a purpose; in ordinary speech, te imasu is often shortened to temaasu, and de imasu is shortened to demasu; yoku = well; it also = often

Lesson 5

Counting long thin objects: Ippon , Nihon , Sanbon, Yonhon, Gohon, Roppon, Shichihon or Nanahon, Happon or Hachihon , Kyuu hon, Juppon or Jippon. Nanbon = ‘How many bottles?’ You don’t need to use the particle wo after an object if you follow it with further clarification. Garu is added to the stem of an i adjective or to a na adjective, to indicate that someone appears to have certain feelings, e.g. tabetai becomes tabetagaru, or tabetagatte imasu = appears wanting to eat; koto = intangible things or facts, mono = tangible things. Names of months: Ichigatsu, Nigatsu, San gatsu, Shigatsu, Hachigatsu, Kagusu, Juugatsu, Juichigatsu, Juyigatsu.

Days of the month: Tsuitachi, Futsuka, Mikka, Yoka, Itsuka, Taka, Nanoka, Yooka, Kokonoka, Tooka, Juu ichi nichi, Juu ni nichi, Juu yokka (16 & 26 are the only exceptions), 20th = Hatsuka, Niju yokka. Days of the week: Sunday – Nichiyobii, Monday – Getsubyobii, Tuesday – Kayoobii, Wednesday – Sui yobii, Thursday – Mokuyobii, Friday – Kinyobii, Saturday – Doyobii; What day of the week? = Nanyoobii. Tai means desire. Sushi o/ga tabetai desu. Both are correct. Desu is optional. Hon is a counter for long thin objects like bottles: wa is used by women for emphasis; ooi, an i adjective, = numerous; oozei is a noun, not an adjective; counting objects up to 10: hitotsu,
To state your own opinion, say ‘I don’t think…’; dokara = desu kara; don’t use dokara after an i adjective, since you can’t use da after an i adjective.

Lesson 6
-tachi is a suffix used to make a noun plural; to make a noun phrase with an i adjective, add no to the adjective; with a na adjective, add no after na; with a verb, add no to the verb. Hoshii = desire, usually followed by ga. Hoshigaru = combination of hoshii and garu = appears to want, followed by o. Mono has other idiomatic meanings, carrying an emotional component, and can mean ‘because.’ To form an honorific form of a verb request, in order to ask someone to do something in business or official situations, put wo before the verb stem and follow the verb stem with kudasai, e.g., chotto machi kudasai; demo meaning ‘but’ is used only at the beginning of a sentence; shikashiki is used only at the beginning of a sentence; sore de wa = sore ja = well then, in that case; ikaga = polite version of dōo = how; and De. When you are juxtaposing two terms (adjectives, nouns, verbs) in one sentence and want to insert ‘and’ between them, use te or de after the first term, e.g., kirei de totemo benri desu, amerikajin de kaisain desu. When you want to insert the term ‘and’ after an i adjective, remove the final i and add kute, e.g., hirokute akarui desu. Don’t use the te or de form to combine two contrasting expressions. Counting people: Hitori = 1 person, futari = 2 people, san nin = 3 people, yo nin (or yonnin) = 4 people, etc. Suki is used as a na adjective, e.g., suki na hon. Something will be all right: de kekko desu, de ii desu, de yoroshii desu; in some cases, you can form a noun from the stem form (i.e., the pre-masu form) of a verb, e.g., kaeri = the return, derived from kaerimasu = to return.

Lesson 7
Itta koto ga aru = have ever gone. There’s a chance that = kamoshiremasen = kamoshirenai. Examples of how to use hajimete: Kono omatsuri wa hajimete desu, kono resutoran wa hajimete desu, kono resutoran wa hajimete kimashita. Hajimete suki o suru hito = suki o hajimete suru hito = people who are starting to ski. Intentions: Yes, I plan to go. Ee, ikutsumori desu. No, I plan not to go. (a mild statement) Lie, ikanai tsumori desu. No, there is no intention of going. (a strong statement) Lie, ikutsumori wa arimasen. Probabilities. It’s certain that: Kitto deshoo. It’s very likely that … Osaraku deshoo. Probably … Tabun deshoo.

Lesson 8
Use the te or de form to express a reason, to mean because; to is used to indicate quotation marks; ongaku o kiki nagara = while listening to music; To express the idea of doing something while doing something else, follow the stem form (the pre-masu form) of the verb with nagara. Ga v. no. A book that Michael bought. Maikeru ga katta hon. Maikeru no katta hon. A person with long legs. Ashi ga nagai hito. Ashi no nagai hito. A person without a car. Kuruma ga nai hito. Kuruma no nai hito. When hodo, meaning ‘not as … as,’ is preceded by a noun, the predicate must be negative, e.g. takakunai; when hodo is used with a quantifier, it means ‘about,’ e.g. biiru o sanbon hodo nomimashita; however, if a sentence or a demonstrative modifies hodo, the predicate can be either positive or negative, e.g., sono shigoto wa sore hodo yasashii desu ka = is that work that easy?; saki hodo = a little while ago. Ken, meaning duration, is required for Weeks and hours. Kan is optional for Years, months, days, and minutes. Do not use the optional kan before mae ni, ato ni, or go ni. I’m going on a 4-day trip. Mikkakan no ryokoo ni ikimasu. I came to Japan 4 days ago. Mikka ma ni Nihon ni kimashita. Use wa after to in negative sentences, e.g., iie, takai to wa omoimasen. Mo. Use this particle after a number or quantity for emphasis, to indicate that it is more than expected; or with negative verbs, to indicate that it is less than expected. Etcetera: use ya, nado and toka. Kuukoo no wa ginkoo ya resutoran nado ga arimasu. Shitsu toka, airon toka, iiroi no mono o kaimashita. Comparisons. B wa A yori ookii desu = B is bigger than A. A yori B no hoo ga takai desu = B is more expensive than A. A wa B hodo takukanai desu = A is not as expensive as B. A mo B mo takai desu = A and B are both expensive. Densha to kuruma to, dochira no hoo ga hayai desu ka = train v. car, which is faster? Densha wa, kuruma yori, hayai desu. Sushi to tempura to, dochi ga suki desu ka = sushi or tempura, which do you like better? Tenpura no hoo ga suki = I like tempura better. Sushi mo tempura mo suki = I like both sushi and tempura. Dochira mo suki = I like both. Tookyoo ya oosaka hodo ookiku arimasen = not as big as Tokyo, Osaka, etc. Ookii desu ga, tokyoo hodo ja arimasen = it’s big, but not compared to Tokyo. Basu de iku yori, kuruma de iku hoo ga, chotto hayai desu = compared to going by bus, going by car is a little faster. (cannot say iku no hoo ga) Opinions. To state your own opinion, say To omou or to omotte iru. To state someone else’s opinion, say To omotte iru. Counting months: Ikka getsu, Nika getsu, Sanka getsu, Yonka getsu, Goka getsu, Rokka getsu, Nanaka getsu, Hakka getsu. Hachika getsu, Kyouuka getsu, Jikka getsu. Juuka getsu, Juuyonka getsu, Nijikka getsu, Nijuuka getsu. Counting weeks: Jishhuukan. Jusshukan, Nijisshukan. Nijushukan.
Lesson 9
Yukkuri = ‘slowly,’ ‘taking time,’ ‘leisurely.’ Naru = narimasu = to become, usually preceded by ni; change in state: For a na adjective, add ni and naru to describe a change in state. For an i adjective, remove the final i; then add ku and naru to describe a change in state. The ‘tai’ form is inflected like an i adjective: Nihon ni ikitakunari mashita. Noun Phrases. No and Koto turn a previous phrase into a noun. (the first is preferred for something directly perceived by the senses, while the second is more formal or bookish) Kanji o oboero no wa taihen desu. Samui no wa ii kedo, atsui no wa iya desu. Ashita ga yasumi na no wa ureshii desu. (cannot say yasumi da no, so must use na instead of da; also cannot say da koto) No or ‘n can also be used to make the pronouns ‘one’ or ‘ones.’ Anata ga tsukuttan desu ka = ‘are they the ones that you made?’ Ichigo o kureta no wa, dare? = ‘as for the one who gave us strawberries, who?’ A plain speech verb followed by koto ka dekuru = able to do. To give or receive. Sashiageru. If you or someone else give to someone not in your in-group, showing extra respect. Ageru. If you or someone else give to a person of equal or lower status who is not in your in-group, showing normal respect. Yaru. If you give something to a member of your in-group, or if you or someone else give to someone who is inferior (including an animal or plant). Kureru If something is given to you or to a member of your in-group by someone of equal or inferior status, or by someone in your in-group. Kudasaru. If something is given to you or to a member of your in-group by someone outside your in-group who has equal or greater age or status. Morau A person receives from an equal or inferior. Itadaku. A person receives from an equal or superior (polite speech). To say shall, for a ru verb, add oo to the root (the pre-u form). To say I shall, for an ru verb, add yoo to the root.
Lesson 10
Demo means ‘but.’ It also means ‘at least’ or ‘or something.’ Hai is a counter used for cups, bowls etc; ippai, nihai, sanbai etc. Transitive and intransitive verb pairs, like ak eru and aku (both meaning to open) are common in Japanese. The e rule says that, looking at such verb pairs, transitive verbs tend to end in eru: e.g., ak eru is transitive, aku is intransitive; shimeru is transitive, shimaru is intransitive. However, su trumps eru in determining which verb is transitive, e.g. kesu v. kieru, dasu v. deru; nekasu v. neru, kowasu v. kowaru (the su verbs in all these pairs are transitive). Some exceptions to the e rule include: kuru v. kiru; eru v. eru; nuru v. nuru (all 3 of these verbs ending in eru are intransitive). The te form of intransitive verbs, like aku, is followed by imasu, e.g., ‘mado ga aite imasu’ (the window is open). The te form of transitive verbs is also followed by imasu when describing an ongoing action, e.g. ‘mado o akete imasu’ (I’m opening the window). By contrast, the transitive (aru) rule, or transitive rule, states that the te form of transitive verbs is followed by arimasu, when describing a fixed condition, e.g., ‘mado o (ga) akete arimasu’ (the window is opened by someone). However, there are some verbs which are exceptions, e.g., sagete imasu (it is hung down or carried by someone), hajimete imasu (it is begun by someone), nakushite imasu (it is lost by someone). Another exception occurs when you want to imply that I did something, e.g., ‘denki o tsukete imasu’ (the light is on because I turned it on), and ‘mado o akete imasu’ (the window is open because I opened it). Ga v. O: Another thing to remember about transitive verbs and fixed conditions is that, in ‘te aru’ constructions, the direct object of the transitive verb may be indicated by either o or ga, e.g., ‘do o shimete aru, and ‘do ga shimete aru’ (the door is closed by someone) - both sentences are correct. To make a negative request, follow the negative plain speech form of the verb with de kudasai. Shimau can be added to the te form of a verb to suggest that the action is done thoroughly and completely. In ordinary speech, te shimau is shortened to Chau. In ordinary speech, de shimau is shortened to Jau. Turning something into something else. To express the idea of turning a noun into another noun, such as changing fruit to juice, of changing something using a na adjective, such as making something clean, add this phrase to the resulting noun or na adjective: Ni suru. Ni shimasu. (Note that ni suru also means ‘I choose.’ See Lesson 12.) To express the idea of changing something using an i adjective, such as making something warm, remove the final i and add this phrase to the i adjective: Ku suru. Ku shimasu.

Lesson 11
Kai = ‘times,’ similar to ‘do.’ Zatsu = ‘each’ or ‘apiece.’ Te oku – to do something as advance preparation. The te (or de) form of a verb can be used as an adverb. Ori masu = oru = humble form of iru = imasu; oru is used in very polite situations to refer to yourself or members of your in-group. Made ni – used after a plain non-past form of the verb or various time words to indicate the time by or before which an action is completed. ‘Use tara’ means to add ra to the past tense of a verb to mean if or when, e.g., tabetara = if or when I eat.

Lesson 12
The suffix -sugiru = ‘to excess’; this is combined with a verb stem (e.g. nomisugiru = to drink too much) or with the stem of an i adjective (e.g. ookisugiru = too big); To show that something ought to, should or is supposed to be, use hazu desu after the plain form of a verb, or after an i adjective. After a na adjective, to show that something ought to be, add Na hazu desu. After a noun, to show that something ought to be, add No hazu desu. To show that
something is not supposed or not expected to be, follow a negative verbal or adjective by **Hazu desu**. To say that something is impossible, follow hazu with ga nai, wa nai, ga arimasen, or wa arimasen. To state what you intend to do, don't use hazu. Instead use **Tsumori**. To state what you are scheduled to do, don't use hazu. Instead use Koto ni natte iru. **Koto ni suru**: To show that a person himself decides upon or chooses an action, follow the verb with this phrase. To show that one decides on a noun, follow the noun with ni suru. **Koto ni shite iru**: To indicate that you have decided upon or set a course of action for yourself (past tense), or that you do some action routinely, instead of koto ni suru, say koto ni shite iru. **Koto ni naru**: To show that an action is to be decided on (an impersonal decision), follow the verb with koto ni naru. **Koto ni natte iru**: When stating the ways things are, such as schedules, rules, customs etc., say koto ni natte iru. To express the idea ‘if’ or ‘when,’ add ‘ra’ to the past plain speech form of a verb. This is called the **tara form**. **Supposing**, or ‘in the event that’ = moshi or moshimo. **Tara ii**. It would be nice if. It would be nice if it were sunny tomorrow, huh? Ashita haretara ii desu ne. **Shi**. Word to use after plain verbs to mean and or etc. If used after enumerating facts, it suggests that such facts justify one's actions, feelings or opinions. **Tame ni** = ‘in order to.’

**Lesson 13**

**Ka dooka** = ‘whether or not.’ **Question word with ka**: If you follow a question word with ka, it means Some. (doreka means one of them) **Question word with mo**: If you follow a question word with mo, it means All or every in positive constructions, never, none or nowhere in negative constructions. (doremo means any of them in positive constructions, none of them in negative constructions) However, in affirmative sentences, use one of the following 3 words instead of daremo or nanimo: Minna. Mina. Subete. **Question word with demo**: If you follow a question word with demo, it means Any. (doredemo means any of them, whichever one) **When the particles ni, e, to, kara & made are used with some interrogative pronouns** (nan, dare, dare, donata, doko, dotchi & dochira) followed by mo, they are placed in the middle of the phrase. For example, Doko e mo ikimasen deshita = ‘I didn’t go anywhere.’ Negative **Requests**. Won’t you please do me a favor and don’t, polite form: **Nai de** kudasaimasen ka. Please don’t, neutral form: **Nai de** kudasai. Please don’t, colloquial form: **Nai de** choodai, or **nai de** ne. Negative **Commands**. To say that someone must not do something, use the te form of the verb followed by wa followed by ikemasen, ikenai, dame desu, komarimasu or komaru. **Cha and Ja** hashite wa = hashitcha, in colloquial speech; otte wa = otcha; haitcha = haite wa; sutetcha = sutete wa; asonja = asonde wa; shite wa = shicha For a plain ‘do not,’ used by men or on signs, follow a plain non-past verb with *Na*. **Ni v. De. Active verbs** are used with de. **Inactive verbs** may be used with either ni or de, depending on the meaning. See Lesson 4 for a list of inactive verbs. **Requests**. To state what you are scheduled to do, don’t use hazu. Instead use s or opinions.** Tame ni** = ‘in order to.’

**Lesson 14**

**All day long.** Ichinichi juu. All night long. Hitoban juu. All year long. Ichinen juu. All summer long. Natsu juu. **Chuu ni. Juu ni.** Added to certain time words, this phrase means sometime during, anytime during or before the end of. Sometime today. Kyoo juu ni. Sometime this year. Kotoshi juu ni. Sometime this week. Konshuu chuu ni. (juu ni also OK) Sometime this month. Kongetsu chuu ni. (juu ni also OK) Sometime in October. Juugatsu chuu ni. (juu ni not OK) Some time during summer vacation. Natsuyasumi chuu ni. (juu ni also OK) Still do = **Mada** + affirmative. No longer do = **Moo** + negative. **Ni yoru to.** According to someone. **No hanashi de wa.** (literally, as for from someone’s story or speech) According to what someone says. **Soo desu. No da soo desu. ‘n da soo desu.** Something is reportedly true. **N desute. Desute.** Something is reportedly true. Used by women in informal casual conversations. **N datte. Tte.** To express the idea that something is reportedly true. Used by men or women in informal casual conversations. **Ga or de plus to itte imashita or ga or de plus tte ittemashita.** To express the idea that someone was saying. **Ni plus to kaite arimashta, or ni plus tte kaite arimashta.** To express the idea that something was written. **Kara plus to kikimashita or kara plus tte kikimashita.** To express the idea that I heard something from someone. Must use an **alternative** to da, i.e., na, when following da with no or ‘n (as a softening technique).

**Lesson 15**

To convey the idea of only or just, use one of the following two words after a noun: **Dake. Bakari.** Bakari implies that two choices have been compared and could mean all the time, every time, all over, everywhere and may express the speaker’s feeling that the imbalance is not right or is unfair. Bakari is more emphatic than bakari. (the meaning of bakari following a te verb form is similar to that following a noun) Karada ni yoku nai = it isn’t good for the body; karada ni iin ja nai = isn’t it good for the body? Motto akarui hoo ga yoku arimasen ka = Motto akarui hoo ga iin ja nai desu ka = isn’t more bright better? To express surprise or complaint that things are different from expected, i.e. **to say even though, or in spite of the fact that**, follow a verb (either past or non-past) or a plain i adjective (either past or non-past) with **noni.** Follow a plain nonpast na adjective with **na noni.** Follow a plain past
na adjective with datta noni. Follow a noun with na noni. In past constructions, follow a noun with datta noni. (One cannot use noni with volitional expressions like let’s or I will.) Although it’s raining, let’s go to play tennis. Ame ga futte iru keredo, tenisu ni ikimashoo. When modifying a noun, to express the ideas of ‘is like,’ similar to, same as, or to describe the way something appears in comparison to some other noun, use one of the following 2 responses. The first can be used with any style of speech, while the second is more colloquial. When used as adjectives, both are na adjectives. No yoo. Mitai. When you add ‘ni’ to a na adjective, it becomes an adverb. Otoko no yoo ni hanashimasu. Otoko mitai ni hanashimasu. To express a conditional when or whenever, use one of the following two forms. The first one is added to a plain non-past verbal, is more bookish but is preferred when the relationship is causal or inevitable. The second one employs the past form of a verb or adjective. To. Tara. You may not follow ‘to’ with a request, command, suggestion, or wish. Use tara when you want your statement to sound more personal. Use to when you want to make your statement sound more general and less direct.

Lesson 16
If you use ni tsuite, you omit ga and wo; Yoobi ya jugooryoo ni tsuite kaite arimasu. Tottemo = terribly, extremely, completely, can also be spelled tottemo (tottemo also = very). Kyoo wa isogashikute kono shigoto wa tottemo dekimasen. Use the te or de form of a verb to express the idea of giving or receiving an action (as opposed to a thing). Tsurete iku = to take a person or animal along. When addressing one’s parent directly, it’s appropriate to use otoosan or okaasan. Use chichi or haha only when talking about your parents with outsiders.

Lesson 17
Kana and kashira mean ‘I wonder.’ Kana is used more by men, kashira more by women. To say that you would like someone to do something for you, use the te or de form of the verb plus Hoshii. Moraitai, or Itadakaitai. (kudasai, chooidai or ne, also OK) When you say that you would prefer that someone do not do something, you can use the plain speech negative non-past form of the verb, followed by de, plus Hoshii. Moraitai, or Itadakaitai. (kudasai, chooidai or ne, also OK) Another way to ask someone not to do something is to use the te form of the verb, followed by Hoshikunai. Moraitakunai or Itadakitakunai. Permission: Te mo i = te mo yoroshii = ‘it’s OK.’ e.g. tabete mo i desu ka. Kamau = kamaimasu = to mind or care. Te mo kamaimasen = ‘it doesn’t matter.’ Sugiru = too much, osugiru = too much quantity, e.g. satoo ga osugiru, kooto ga ooki sugimasu; mizu ga atsusugimasu; iresugiru to nuruku naru = if we put in too much, it will get lukewarm; hatakasugiru ja nai = isn’t it too much labor?; hatakasugiru is a noun; also OK to say hatakasugiru ja nai. Tookyoo de niban me ni takai biru desu yo. Ni turns the adjective nibanme into an adverb, modifying takai. Nasai may be added to the stem form of a verb to give a command to a child or a subordinate. However, the te kudasai form is more polite when addressing an adult. To say that it’s OK to do something use the te or de form of the verb & follow it with mo i.

Lesson 18
Mo = ‘even.’ Terebi mo yuukuri miraremasen. Dekiru Supeingo ga dekitara, denwa ga dekinakatta, zenzen oyogu koto ga dekimasen deshita, shitsumon o suru koto ga dekimasen deshita. For an ru verb add reba to the root to mean if, then; for a u verb, add eba. Another way to say etcetera is to add the suffix tari to the past plain speech stems of verbs or the past stems of i adjectives. The past plain speech stem of a verb or the past stem of an i adjective is the part remaining after you remove the final ta or ‘t a.’ When using tari, the last item listed, if you are listing more than one item, is followed by suru or desu. To express the idea, sometimes yes sometimes no, combine the past plain speech stem of the same verb in the affirmative and in the negative and follow each verb with tari. Potential Tense: To show that something is possible, change a u verb root by adding Eru. To show that something is possible, change a ru verb root by adding Rareru O v. ga. Tegami o kakeru. Tegami ga kakeru. Denwa o kakerareru. Denwa ga kakerareru. (in each pair of sentences, when using a potential verb, one may use either o or ga) Sometimes, rareru is shortened to reru, meaning the ar is removed. Can go. 2 responses. Ikareru. Ikeru. Can come. 2 responses. Korareru. Koreru. Come to be such that. Get to be such that. Get to the point that. Yoo ni naru. (yoo ni suru = to see to it, to make an effort, to take care that) (yoo = manner, approximate; hoo = direction, approximate). To indicate a period within which an action occurs, i.e. to say ‘while still’ or ‘before,’ in negative constructions, use Uchi ni after a noun plus no, or a plain non-past verb or i adjective, or a na adjective plus na. To indicate a period during or throughout which an action occurs, i.e., to say ‘while,’ or ‘as,’ follow a noun plus no, or a plain non-past verb with Aida ni. Uchi ni, like aida ni, can also be used to mean ‘as,’ i.e., as an action is being done. For u verbs, add anai; for ru verbs, add nai, to the verb root, to make the negative form. Examples of nouns made from verb stems; tsukare, kaerii, hajime, mukae (greeting), hanaishii (consultation), iki. Hitoi de nanimokamo shinai de, buki ni shigoto o masukeru koto o susumete imasu. Not OK to substitute nakute for shina de here. The te in nakute is used to show a reason. It can’t be used to mean ‘and.’

Lesson 19
(tte can mean speaking of; it can substitute for wa as a topic marker, but only if the predicate expresses the speaker’s emotive evaluation/judgment; e.g., you can say, Keiko tte hen na hito desu, but you can’t say, Keiko tte
sensei desu  shika = except for only; use with negative verb; Except for only this, is there nothing? Kore dake shika nain desu ka.  nanda = what do you mean?, do you mean to say?, is this all?, it’s nothing!  cf. nante = what sort of, such a thing;  cf. nande = colloquial for why?  4 meanings for ken: Ken has a ticket to go see a matter regarding a house in his prefecture. To say that someone appears to have certain feelings, use an adjective stem, plus Garu. To say that someone seems to have certain feelings, use an i adjective stem, or a na adjective, plus Soo (na). To say that someone probably has certain feelings, use Daroo. Deshoo. O v. Ga: Eigo ga hanaseru hito is equivalent to eigo o hanaseru hito. To ask about things like identity, definition, description or explanation concerning unfamiliar items, in other words, to say ‘as for the one called,’ what is it or how is it or why is it, etc., use one of the following 4 phrases + a question word + desu. The second one is more bookish and the third one is colloquial. To iu no wa. To wa. Tte.

Instead of using tame ni, meaning for the sake of, or for the purpose of, if you just want to make a milder statement, like such that, so as to, or in such a way as to, use Yoo ni. Kaze o hikanai yoo ni, ki o tsukete kudasai.

Lesson 20
To say I shall, for a u verb, add oo to the root (the pre-u form). I shall write. Kakoo= kikimashoo. Oyogoo = I shall swim. To say I shall, for an ru verb, add yoo to the root. I shall eat. Tabeyoo. I shall go. Ikoo. I shall come. Koyoo. I shall do. Shioo. To express the idea ‘to try to do something,’ implying that one failed or that one is not succeeding very well, use the plain let’s form of the verb, followed by To suru. Is on the verge of running, is ready to run. Hashiru tokoro. Is in the process of running, is in the middle of running. Hashitte iru tokoro. Has just finished running, is at the point of having just finished running. Hashitta tokoro. Another way to express the idea of just having done something, besides using the past tense of a verb followed by tokoro, is to use the past tense of the verb followed by Bakari. The past tense followed by tokoro implies that the action was done just now, while the past tense followed by bakari implies that the action was done a while ago. When reporting what you see as an exclamation, what tense of the verb should you use? The past tense. Ah, he’s coming, he’s coming! A, kita, kita. To express the conjectural or hypothetical idea, ‘if, then,’ add the following suffix to the root of a u verb: Eba. To the root of an ru verb: Reba. To make the eba form of i adjectives, including nai, add kereba to the stem. To make the eba form of na adjectives, add nara or naraba or de areba to the adjective. Referring to a na adjective or a noun, to say ‘if it is, then ...’ use De areba. (doesn’t matter if animate or inanimate) If it isn’t, then De nakereba. If the weather is good = Tenki ga yokereba. If it’s uncrowded: Suite ireba To form the imperative form, used at sporting events to shout encouragement, follow the verb root with E for a u verb, Ro for an ru verb. Exceptions: Go! Ike. Come! Koi. Do it! Shiro. Mnemonic for remembering these 3 exceptions: ‘There’s a white koi in the pond, imperatively.’

Lesson 21
To express the idea ‘if it is,’ or ‘in case it is,’ in addition to the to, tara and eba forms that you’ve learned, there’s a 4th conditional form, often used to clarify the subject under discussion in order to make a comment. After a noun or a na adjective, add Nara. After an i adjective or a plain verb, you may use no or n, before nara, but they are optional. The word nara functions much like the topic marker wa, but implies a greater emphasis.

Dattara can also be used instead of nara. Verbs like irassharu, meaning to be, come or go, or osharuh, to say, are honorific. To form an honorific verb construction with other verbs, put o in front of the verb stem, and follow the verb stem with Ni naru. Or Ni narimasu. Contrast this with suru, used with humble verbs. e.g., omochi shimasu = I will humbly hold it (also means ‘I will humbly bring it’); shachoo ga omochi ni narimasu = the president will honorably hold it. To form a humble verb construction, referring to actions that you perform, put o in front of the verb stem, and follow the verb stem with Suru. Or shimasu. For a limited number of verbs, including machimasu, mochimasu, kaerimasu, kikimasu, yomimasu and tsukaimasu, you can form an honorific verb construction, used to say what someone else is doing, by putting o in front of the verb stem, and following the verb stem with Desu. To form an honorific form of a verb request, in order to ask someone to do something in business or official situations, as opposed to personal or social situations, put o before the verb stem, and follow the verb stem with (5 responses) Kudasai. Kudasaimasen. Kudasaimasen deshoo ka. Itadakimasenka. Itadakemasenka. e.g., osuwaru kudasai, okate kudasai both = please honorably sit. To say please come or please go, in this formal honorific construction, don’t use kuru or iku. Instead say Oide kudasai. Another way to say please come, in this formal construction, is Okoshi kudasai. To say please do, say nasatte kudasai.

Lesson 22
ki ga suru = to have a feeling that;  ki ni iru = it pleases me;  ki ni shinai = to not care;  ki o otosu = to get downhearted;  ki o tsukeru = to be careful. Soo, meaning ‘seems to be’ – may use with i adjective stems (e.g. oishi, taka), na adjectives, and verb stems (e.g. tabe, from taberu). To say that an i adjective does not appear to be true, follow the stem with soo ni nai, soo mo nai, soo ja nai or soo ja arimasen. To say that it appears that an action will not take place, add soo ni nai or soo mo nai to the verb stem; may also follow the pre-nai form with
nasasoo desu, e.g. tabenasasoo desu, nomanasasoo desu. May not use soo with nouns. When you use nai before soo, change it to nasa, e.g., mondai wa nasa soo da. When you use ii before soo, change it to yosa, e.g., kuruma wa yosa soo desu. (keeki da soo means, *reportedly*, ‘it’s cake’) May use na after soo, to make an adjective. [By contrast, soo can also be used to mean ‘reportedly.’] In this case it follows the adjective (not the stem) or the verb (not the stem). *Soo, meaning *reportedly*: ii da soo desu, not OK (don’t use da after an i adjective). Yoi soo desu, or ii soo desu, are OK. OK to say kuraa da soo desu. Not OK to say oishii da soo desu; must say oishii soo desu.] *Yoo, meaning* ‘it appears, based on evidence’ – may use with i adjectives and verbs; use na yoo after a na adjective; may use with nouns if you follow the noun with no yoo; you may use na after yoo to make an adjective, but only after a noun, not after another adjective or after a verb. *Rashii and mitai* mean ‘it appears’; rashii implies more uncertainty than yoo; cannot say ‘rashii da’ but ‘rashii desu’ is OK”; rashii no da, also OK. Rashii is an i adjective and is sometimes inflected like one. Don’t use na after rashii; instead use rashii alone as an i adjective. You may use na after mitai to make an adjective, but only when you use it after a noun, rather than after another adjective or after a verb. *Kiku* = be good for, or have an effect. Chuugoku no kusuri wa kaze ni yoku kiku rashii = as for Chinese medicine, to a cold, it seems to have a good effect.

**Lesson 23**

To form a passive verb form, add areru to a u verb root; add rareru to an ru verb root; irregular forms are iku, becomes ikareru; kuru, becomes korareru; suru, becomes sareru; use ni after the doer of the action; by comparison, to show that something is possible (the potential form), add eru to a u verb root & add rareru to an ru verb root; so an ru verb’s passive form is the same as its potential form. Ways to say must do: Nakereba naranai (naramasen), nakereba ikenai (ikemasen), nakereba dame desu. Nakute wa ikenai (ikemasen), nakute wa ikai (ikemasen), nakute wa dame desu. Nai to naranai (naramasen), nai to ikai (ikemasen), nai to dame desu. In colloquial speech, nakera is often shortened to Nakuya or Nakerya. In colloquial speech, nakuteta is often shortened to Nakucha. It is common for speakers to omit the second phrase when saying that one must do something. As for the cold’s time, you must leisurely rest. Kaze no toki wa, yukkuri yasumanakute wa. To say that something is not necessary, combine a negative verbal form (ending with naku) with two phrases. The first phrase can be either of the following two possibilities, with the second one being colloquial: Te mo. *Tatte* the second phrase, used to say that something is not necessary, can be one of the following 6 possibilities. Yoi. Ii desu. Kamawanai. Kamaimasen. Daijoobu desu. However, do not combine tatte with yoi.

To say that something is not necessary, you may also combine a plain non-past verb with (2 responses):

**Koto wa nai. Koto wa arimasen.** Such a thing is not necessary (literally, that kind of necessary doesn’t exist) = Sonna hitsuyoo wa arimasen. *Rainen ni natte kara demo, maniaimasu yo.* (‘After next year developing even though, you will be in time for sure.’) To say ‘even,’ use mo. To say ‘even though’ (a hypothetical situation), use demo. In this sentence, you could omit the de and just use mo (rainen ni natte kara mo), but the meaning would not be as clear. In many cases, you may not omit the de without causing serious confusion. For example, the sentence neko demo tabemasen = ‘even though it’s a cat, it will not eat it.’ If you removed the de, you would have neko mo tabemasen which could mean ‘I won’t even eat the cat’ or possibly ‘the cat also won’t eat it.’

Three** times per day. Ichinichi ni sinkai. Hi ni sinkai. Ichinichi ni sando. Hi ni sando. (the ni is optional for ichinichi; but mandatory for hi, i.e., ‘hi sinkai’ or ‘hi sando,’ are not OK) One time per week. Isshukan ni ikkai. Shuu ni ikkai. Ishukan ni ichido. Shuu ni ichido. (the ni is optional with isshukan; but mandatory for shuu, i.e., ‘shuu ikkai’ and ‘shuu ichido,’ not OK) Two times per month. Hitotsuki ni nikai. Ikagetsu ni nikai. Tsuki ni nikai. Hitotsuki ni nido. Ikagetsu ni nido. Tsuki ni nido. (the ni is optional for all) Four times per year. Ichinen ni yokai. Nen ni yokai. Ichinen ni yando. Nen ni yando. (the ni is optional for all) Oki ni, every so often, i.e., every so many hours or days etc. (when applied to days, ichinichi oki = q. 2 days, futoka oki = q. 3 days). *Sa is a suffix that makes a noun out of an adjective by attaching to the stem of an i adjective, or to a na adjective;* yasashisa = kindness, gentleness; shinsetsusa = kindness

**Lesson 24**

In a passive sentence, the subject is the person or object that receives the effect of the action. This person or object is followed by wa or ga. The doer is followed by ni. This means that the subject has something done to it. To form the passive form of a y verb, add areru to the verb root. (to form the permissive form, add eru) To form the passive form of a ru verb, add rareru to the verb root. (to form the permissive form, add rareru or reru) The root is the pre-u or pre-ru form. The passive form of the verb to go is ikareru, of the verb to come is korareru, of the verb to do is sareru. Yoo ni is used between two verbs, after a verb of suggested action, and before a verb like ‘say,’ to report a suggestion, command, request or warning given by someone. Yoo ni may or may not be followed by ‘to.’ To say **if only** something were, use **li noni** or **Yokatta noni**. Do not use noni, in the sense of ‘if only,’ with actions that you yourself did. **Noni can also mean ‘too bad’ or ‘in spite of the fact that.’** It’s OK to use it with these two meanings, relating to yourself. **Noni** is a forceful expression. A milder, more thoughtful way
of expressing regret is to use expressions like ‘no desu ga’ or ‘n desu kedo.’ Noni can also mean, for the purpose of, in the process of doing, in order to do; similar to tame ni.

**Lesson 25**


To say or tell, honorific = Ossharu. Osshaimasu.  To say, humble = Moosu, Mooshimasu, Mooshiageru. Mooshiagemasu.  To eat or drink, honorific. = Meshiagaru.  To eat or drink, humble = Itadaku.

To do, honorific = Nasaru. Nasaimasu.  To do, humble = Itasu. Itashimasu.  To be doing, honorific. = Te irassharu.  To be doing, humble = Te oru.  To be knowing, honorific = Gozonji desu.  To be knowing, humble = Zonji de orimasu.  (zonjiru = to humbly know)  To see or meet someone, honorific = Oai ni narimasu.  To see or meet someone humble = Ome ni kakaru.  To think/feel, honorific = Omoi ni narimasu.  To think/feel/know, humble = Zonji shimasu.  To visit or ask, honorific = Otazune ni narimasu.  To visit or ask, humble = Ukagau.  Ukagaimasu.  To look at or see, honorific = Goran ni narimasu.  To look at, see or read, humble = Haiken shimasu.  There is an honorific form of a verb that is commonly used in daily speech as an honorific expression, not quite as polite as the honorific expressions already learned.  To express the idea even if, even though, or no matter how, use temo after i adjectives, by combining moh with their te forms.  Use temo or demo after verb stems, depending on the verb.  Use demo after na adjectives and nouns.  Some words that are commonly used with the temo or demo construction are tatoe, meaning supposing, ikura, meaning how much, and donna ni, whatever kind.  With some adjectives expressing amount, temo is equivalent to ‘at the very most or least, etc.’  Sometimes temo is replaced by noni, with adjectives, not with verbs, but this is bookish.  The temo and demo form, meaning ‘even though,’ and noni, meaning ‘in spite of,’ are similar, but temo and demo don’t carry the emotional overtones suggested by noni.  Also, temo and demo may be used for describing hypothetical situations, while noni is not used in that way.  Use zehitomo to mean by all means (same meaning as zehi).

**Lesson 26**

To express the idea, to cause someone to do something, for a u verb, follow the root, meaning the pre-u form, with Aseru.  To make someone write = Kakaseru.  To express the idea, to cause someone to do something, for an ru verb, follow the root with Saseru.  To make someone eat = Tabesaseru.  To make someone go = Ikaseru.  To make someone come = Kosaseru.  To make someone do = Saseru.  When using this causative verb tense, the person causing the action is followed by ga, and the person who is being induced to do the action is followed by ni or wo.  In colloquial speech, aseru is sometimes shortened to asu; saseru can be shortened to asu by removing ‘er.’

The causative form implies that the person being made to do something is inferior to you.  If the person is equal or superior, it’s better to use the forms te morau or te itadaku.  The causative, te form, can be combined with verbs of giving and receiving, to mean ‘let me do something.’  These verbs include kudasaru, ageru, yaru, kureru, itadaku and morau.  Division manager, that work, to me, let do please. = Buchoo, sono shigo, kudasai.  = Amari, zangyoo o sasenai de kudasai.  = Buchoo, sono shigo, kudasai.  = Buchoo, sono shigo, kudasai.

The causative passive form of the verb to write is: Kakaseraru.  The causative passive form of the verb to talk is Hanasaseraru.  To make the causative passive form of an ru verb, combine the root with aserareru (aspirin era rerun).  This may be shortened to asareru (morning rerun), by removing the first ‘er.’  The shortened form is commonly used with u verbs that don’t end in su, but not with ru verbs.  However, the longer form is used with u verbs that do end in su, like hanasu.  The causative passive form of the verb to write is: Kakaseraru.  The causative passive form of the verb to talk is Hanasaseraru.

To express the idea of doing something without doing something else, combine the negative stem of verb 1 with either nai de or zuni and then add verb 2.  Of these two forms, zuni is more formal.  Also, when using zuni with suru verbs, say ‘se zuni,’ not ‘shi zuni.’

Yori mo = yori, same meaning.
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