

Guide to Japanese Verb Tenses

11-1-19

Ru Verbs and *U* Verbs

***Ru* verbs** end in *iru* or *eru*. You **don't double their t's** when making their *te* or *ta* forms. For example, *taberu* = 'to eat', *tabete* = 'eating', *tabeta* = 'ate'.

***U* verbs** are not as easy to define. **Most *u* verbs don't end in *ru*, but a number of them do.** For example, the following verbs are all *u* verbs: *ganbaru* ('to do one's best'), *suwaru* ('to sit'), *noru* ('to board a vehicle'), *toru* ('to take'), *hairu* ('to enter'), *hashiru* ('to run'), *iru* ('to need'), *kiru* ('to cut'), *shiru* ('to know') and *kaeru* ('to return'). What these verbs have in common is that you **double their t's** when making their *te* or *ta* forms. For example, the verb *shiru* = 'to know.' Its *te* form is *shitte* ('knowing'). Its *ta* form is *shitta* ('knew'). The **double t's** tell us that a verb that ends in *ru* is actually a ***u* verb**.

The **root** of a verb is its pre-*u* or pre-*ru* form. For verbs ending in *au*, *iu*, or *ou*, the root adds a 'w' when making the negative form, e.g., *kawanai* ('won't buy'), *iwantai* ('won't say'), *omowanai* ('won't think'). The root also adds a 'w' when making the passive form, causative and causative passive forms, e.g., *kawareru* ('to buy on'), *kawaseru* ('to make buy') and *kawaserareru* ('to be made to buy uncomfortably'). However, the root does **not** add a 'w' when making the 'let's' or 'I shall' form, e.g., *kaou* ('let's buy'), *iou* ('let's say'), *omoou* ('let's think'); when making the *eba* form, e.g., *kaeba* ('if I buy'), *ieba* ('if I say') and *omoeba* ('if I think'); or when making the potential form, e.g., *kaeru* ('to be able to buy'), *ieru* ('to be able to say'), and *omoeru* ('to be able to think').

For verbs ending in *tsu*, the root is the pre-*su* form. For example, the root of *tatsu* ('to stand') is *tat*. *Tatanai* = 'won't stand.' *Tatou* = 'let's stand.' *Tateba* = 'if I stand.'

The **stem** of a verb is the pre-*masu* form. For an *ru* verb, the root and the stem are the same. For example, *taberu* = *tabemasu* = 'to eat.' Its root is its pre-*ru* form, or *tabe*. Its stem is its pre-*masu* form, which is also *tabe*. Now consider a *u* verb for comparison: *nomu* = *nomimasu* = 'to drink.' Its root is its pre-*u* form, or *nom*. Its stem is its pre-*masu* form, or *nomi*.

The ***e* rule** says that, looking at transitive/intransitive verb pairs, **transitive verbs tend to end in *eru***. For example, *akeru* ('to open') is transitive, and *aku* ('to open') is intransitive; *shimeru* ('to close') is transitive, and *shimaru* ('to close') is intransitive. **But *su* usually trumps *eru*** in determining which verb is transitive. For example, *kesu* ('to turn off') is transitive and *kieru* ('to go off') is intransitive; *dasu* ('to put out') is transitive and *deru* ('to go out') is intransitive; *nekasu* ('to put to sleep') is transitive and *neru* ('to go to sleep') is intransitive; *kowasu* ('to break') is transitive and *kowareru* ('to break') is intransitive.

Exceptions to the *e* rule include *kiru* ('to cut') which is transitive and *kireru* ('to be cut') which is intransitive; *uru* ('to sell') is transitive and *ureru* ('to be sold') is intransitive; *nuru* ('to paint') is transitive and *nureru* ('to get wet') is intransitive. These intransitive exceptions are all **potential** forms (see the potential tense on the next page) of their related transitive verbs, which are all *u* verbs ending in *ru*. As an example, *kireru*, one of the exceptions just mentioned, which = 'to be cut,' also = 'to be able to cut.' In the same way, *ureru* also = 'to be able to sell,' and *nureru* also = 'to be able to paint.'

The *te* form of **intransitive** verbs is always followed by ***imasu***, whether describing an ongoing action or a fixed condition. For example, *mado ga aite imasu* can mean either 'the window is opening' or 'the window is open.' Since *aku* ('to open') is an intransitive verb, you can never say ~~*mado ga aite arimasu*~~.

Similarly, the *te* form of **transitive** verbs is also followed by ***imasu***, if you are describing an

ongoing action, e.g. *mado wo akete imasu* = 'I am opening the window.'

However, if you are describing a **fixed condition**, the **transitive aru rule** says that the *te* form of **transitive** verbs is usually followed by **aru**, or **arimasu**. For example, *mado wo akete arimasu* = 'the window is open' (by someone). (To make things a little more complicated, *mado ga akete arimasu* is also OK, since you may use either *wo* or *ga* after the direct object of a transitive verb when describing a fixed condition.)

However, **some verbs are exceptions to the transitive aru rule**, when they are used to describe a fixed condition. For example, *hajimete imasu* = 'it is started' (by someone). *Nakushite imasu* = 'it is lost' (by someone).

Another exception occurs when you want to **imply that the speaker performed the action**. In that case, you can use **imasu** with a transitive verb, even though you are dealing with a fixed condition, e.g., *mado wo akete imasu* = 'the window is open' (by me).

Saying 'if' or 'when'

To express the idea **'if, then,'** for *u* verbs, add **eba** to the root. For *ru* verbs: add **reba** to the root. For example, *nomu* = 'I drink'. *Nomeba* = 'if I drink, then ...'. *Akeru* = 'I open'. *Akereba* = 'if I open, then ...'

To express the ideas **'if'** or **'when,'** add **ra** to the plain speech past form of a verb or adjective. This is called the **tara** form. For example, the plain past form of *taberu* ('to eat') is *tabeta* ('ate'). Adding *ra*, we get *tabetara* = 'if I eat' or 'when I eat.' The plain past form of *nomu* ('to drink') is *nonda* ('drank'). Adding *ra*, we get *nondara* = 'if I drink' or 'when I drink.' *Samui* = 'cold.' The plain past form is *samukatta* = 'it was cold.' Adding *ra*, we get *samukattara* = 'if it's cold' or 'when it's cold.'

Another way to express the ideas **'if'** or **'when'** is to add **to** to a plain non-past verb. For example,

nomu to = 'if I drink' or 'when I drink.' *Akeru to* = 'if I open' or 'when I open.' Don't use *to* or *eba* before a request, suggestion, wish etc. For example, you cannot say ~~*oosaka ni iku to, okashi wo katte kudasai*~~ = 'if you go to Osaka, please buy sweets.' Nor can you say ~~*oosaka ni ikeba, okashi wo katte kudasai*~~. Instead you may say *oosaka ni ittara, okashi wo katte kudasai*.

Use **tara** to sound more personal. For example, *tabako wo suttara karada ni yokunai desu* = 'if you smoke, it's not good for the body.' Use **to** to sound more impersonal. For example, *tabako wo suu to karada ni yokunai desu* = 'if one smokes, it's not good for the body.' Use **to** to give directions or talk about natural laws. For example, *fuyu ni naru to, samuku narimasu* = 'when it becomes winter, it becomes cold.'

To say **'in case it is,'** add **nara** to a noun, adjective or verb. For example, *eki mae ni aru ginkou nara, dokodemo ii desu yo* = 'in the case of exist-in-front-of-the-station banks, anywhere is good for sure.'

Another way to say **'in case it is'** is to add **dattara** to a noun, adjective or verb. For example, *sono heya ga kirei dattara karimasu* = 'in case that room is clean, I'll rent it.'

The Potential Tense

To show that something is possible for ***u* verbs**, add **eru** to the root. Think *the excited rooster can (drink)*. For example, *nomu* = 'to drink.' *Nomeru* = *nomemasu* = 'I can drink.'

To show that something is possible for ***ru* verbs**, add **rareru** to the root. Think *rapid red roosters can (eat)*. For example, *taberu* = 'to eat.' *Taberareru* = *taberaremasu* = 'I can eat.' *Rareru* can be **shortened** to **reru**, meaning that you can remove the 'ar.' Think *red roosters can (eat)*.

The **three irregular verbs** are: can go (**long form**) = *ikareru* = *ikaremasu*. Think *at the eastern camp, red roosters can go*. Can go (**short form**) = *ikeru* = *ikemasu*. Think *eastern*

Kenyan roosters can go. Can come (**long form**) = *korareru* = *koraremasu*. Think *corralled red roosters can come*. Can come (**short form**) = *koreru* = *koremasu*. Think *Korean red roosters can come*. Can do = *dekiru* = *dekimasu*. Think *the deaf king's rooster can do it*.

When using potential verbs, you may follow object nouns with either *ga* or *wo*; e.g., *tegami wo kakeru* = *tegami ga kakeru* = 'I can write a letter.'

Tari

One way to express the idea of 'etcetera' is to add *tari* to the past stems of plain speech verbs and adjectives. Follow the last listed item (if you are listing more than one) with *suru* or *desu*. For example, *kaimono wo shitari souji wo shitari shimasu* = 'he's doing shopping, doing laundry, etc.' *Tabetari nondari desu* = 'she's eating, sleeping, etc.'

Tari can also be used to mean 'sometimes it is; sometimes it isn't.' For example, *isogashikattari hima dattari desu* = 'sometimes it's busy; sometimes it's free time.'

Saying 'shall' or 'let's'

To say a plain speech 'I shall' or 'let's,' for a *u* verb, add *ou* to the root. For example, *nomou* = 'I shall drink' or 'let's drink.' For an *ru* verb, add *you* to the root. For example, *tabeyou* = 'I shall eat' or 'let's eat.' For the three irregular verbs, say *ikou* ('I shall go' or 'let's go'), *koyou* ('I shall come' or 'let's come'), and *shiyou* ('I shall do' or 'let's do').

To say 'I shall' or 'let's' using the more polite *masu* verb forms, remove the final *su* and add *shou*. Using the same verbs mentioned in the previous paragraph, we get *nomimashou*, *tabemashou*, *ikimashou*, *kimashou* and *shimashou*.

Saying 'to try to do'

To express the idea 'to try to do,' use the plain 'let's' form of the verb followed by *to suru*. For example, *oyoide kawa wo watarou to shimasu* = 'swimming, I will try to cross the river.'

Tokoro and Bakari

Tokoro means 'place' or 'part.' For example, *ii tokoro desu* = 'it's a nice place.' In addition, there are some other ways to use this word: *hashiru tokoro desu* = 'he's on the verge of running.' *Hashitte iru tokoro desu* = 'he's in the process of running.' *Hashitta tokoro desu* = 'he just finished running.' In contrast, *hashitta bakari desu* = 'he finished running a while ago.'

The Exclamatory Tense

To report what you see as an **exclamation**, use the past plain speech tense of a verb. For example, *kita kita* = 'it's coming, it's coming!'

Imperative Verbs

To form an **imperative verb**, for a *u* verb, add *e* to the root. For example, *nome* = 'drink!' For an *ru* verb, add *ro* to the root. For example, *tabero* = 'eat!' The three irregular verbs are *ike* ('go!'), *koi* ('come!') and *shiro* ('do!'). Think *there's a shiro koi in the ike*, since *shiro* also = 'white,' *koi* also = 'carp,' and *ike* also = 'pond.'

The Causative Tense

Causative verbs are used when someone causes or allows someone else to do something. Mark the person causing the action with *wa* or *ga* and the victim (which can be an object rather than a person) with *ni* or *wo*. The decision as to whether to use *ni* or *wo* is somewhat complicated. If you are using *wo* in a sentence as a direct object marker, then use *ni* to mark the victim (in other words, avoid using *wo* twice in

the same sentence). If the sentence implies that permission rather than force is used to get someone to do something, you are more likely to use *ni* to mark the victim.

For a **u verb**, add *aseru* to the root. Think *they make assertive roosters (drink)*. For example, *haha'oya ga imouto ni gyuunyuu wo nomaseru* = my mother to my younger sister makes drink milk.' In colloquial speech, *aseru* can be **shortened** to *asu*. Think *I assume they make roosters (drink)*. For example, *haha'oya ga imouto ni gyuunyuu wo nomasu* = my mother to my younger sister makes drink milk.' (**Note:** the short form cannot be used for verbs that end in *su*, like *hanasu* or *osu*. Also, the short form is only used for a limited number of verbs. Use the long form when you aren't sure.)

To form the **causative tense** with an **ru verb**, add *saseru* to the root. Think *they make the sad sensitive roosters (eat)*. For example, *chichioya ga otouto ni yasai wo tabesasemasu* = 'my father to my younger brother makes eat vegetables.' In colloquial speech, *saseru* can be **shortened** to *sasu*. Think *they make sad supervisors (eat)*. (The short form is only used for a limited number of verbs. Use the long form when you aren't sure.)

The **three irregular verbs** are: *Ikaseru* = 'make go.' Think *at the eastern camp, they make the sensitive rooster go*. *Kosaseru* = 'make come.' Think *they make the Korean sad sensitive rooster come*. *Saseru* = 'make do.' Think *they make the sad sensitive rooster do it*.

Passive verbs

In **English**, only **transitive verbs have passive forms**. For example, consider the sentence 'he wrote the book.' In this sentence, 'wrote' is a transitive verb, and 'book' is its object. Next consider the following sentence: 'The book was written.' In this sentence, 'book' is the subject, and 'was written' is a **passive** verb form.

In Japanese, when using a passive verb, mark **the person causing the action** (if one is stated) **with *ni*** and **the victim** (which could be an object rather than a person) **with *wa* or *ga***.

To make the **passive** form of a **u verb**, add *areru* to the root, i.e., the pre-u form. Think *they (drink) on the African red rooster*. For example, *boku no koora wa otouto ni nomaseta* = 'as for my cola, it was drunk on me by younger brother.'

To make the **passive** form of an **ru verb**, add *rareru* to the root, i.e., the pre-ru form. Think *they (eat) on the rapid red rooster*. For example, *okashi wa imouto ni taberareta* = 'as for the sweets, they were eaten on me by younger sister.'

The passive forms of the **three irregular verbs** are *ikareru* = 'to go' (on someone). Think *at the eastern camp, they go on the red rooster*. *Korareru*, = 'to come' (on someone). Think *they come on the corralled red rooster*. *Sareru* = 'to do' (on someone). Think *they do it on the sad red rooster*. For example, *yoru osoku tomodachi ni korarete komarimashita* = 'late at night by the friend he came on me and I was inconvenienced.' Another example: *Watashi wa, sensei ni, motto ji wo kirei ni kaku you ni, chuui sare mashita* = 'as for me, by the teacher, more to write characters cleanly she did a caution on me.'

In Japanese, **both transitive and intransitive verbs have passive forms**. The passive form of intransitive verbs may imply something **unfortunate**. For example, *juutai ni makikomareta* = 'to a (traffic) jam they got involved.' The passive form of either a transitive or an intransitive verb may also be used to show **politeness**. For example, *keikosan ga korare mashita* = 'Keiko honorably came.' In this case, the person causing the action is marked with *wa* or *ga*, and there is no victim. To use the passive form in this way is similar to using *irassharu* ('to honorably come, go or exist'), *ossharu* ('to honorably say or tell') and other honorific verbs,

but the passive form is not as polite as the honorific form.

Causative Passive verbs

The final tense we will cover is the **causative passive tense**. There is nothing quite like this verb form in English. This tense is usually used to show that a victim is being forced to do something unwanted and thus suffers discomfort.

When using this form, mark **the person causing the action** (if one is stated) **with *ni* and the victim** (which occasionally can be an object rather than a person) **with *wa* or *ga***.

To form the **causative passive** tense of a ***u* verb**, add *aserareru* to the root of the verb. Think *asthmatic erratic red roosters are made to (drink)*. This may be **shortened** to *asareru*. Think *assaulted red roosters are made to (drink)*. For example, *imouto wa haha'oya ni gyuunyuu wo nomaserareru* = 'as for my younger sister, by my mother she is made to drink milk.' As mentioned above, *nomaserareru* may be **shortened** to *nomasareru* in this sentence. (**Note:** the short form cannot be used with verbs that end with *su*, like *hanasu*, and there are other exceptions as well. Use the long form when you aren't sure.)

To form the **causative passive** tense for an ***ru* verb**, add *saserareru* to the root. Think *the sassy erratic red rooster is made to (eat)*. For example, *otouto wa chichi ni yasai wo tabesaserareru* = 'as for my younger brother, by my father, he is made to eat vegetables.'

If we **re-write the previous sentence** using the **causative** tense, it becomes: *chichi wa otouto ni yasai wo tabesaseru* = 'as for my father, to my younger brother he makes eat vegetables.' Note that there is **almost no difference in meaning between the causative passive tense and the causative tense**, but the **point of view is**

different. In the causative passive sentence the younger brother is the topic (the sentence is written from his point of view), whereas in the causative sentence the father is the topic (the sentence is written from his point of view). In addition, with the causative passive sentence we get a strong sense that the younger brother is uncomfortable with what he is being made to do.

The **causative passive** forms of the **three irregular verbs** are as follows: *ikaserareru* = to made to go. Think *at the eastern camp, sensitive rapid red roosters are made to go*. This can be **shortened** to *ikasareru* = 'to be made to go.' Think *at the eastern camp, sad red roosters are made to go*. *Kosaserareru* = 'to be made to come.' Think *the Korean sassy erratic red rooster is made to come*. *Saserareru* = 'to be made to do.' Think *the sassy erratic red rooster is made to do it*. For example, *kodomo wa okaasan ni kaimono ni ikasareru* = 'as for the child, by the mother, for the purpose of shopping, he is made to go.' *Imouto wa sensei ni gakkou ni kosaserareru* = 'little sister, by the teacher, is made to come to school.' *Yoko san wa iroiro na tetsudai wo saserareru* = 'as for Yoko, various helps, she is made to do.'

The use of the causative passive verb form does not *always* imply that the effect of an action is negative. For example, *sono ie no mawari wa kakine ga megurasarete iru* = 'that house's circumference is being surrounded by a fence.' This sentence does not have any negative implications.

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Please see the last two pages of this document for a **quiz** that we hope will help you to memorize the conjugations of the **Potential, Causative, Passive** and **Causative Passive** verb forms.

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A Quiz: How to Conjugate Four Challenging Japanese Verb Tenses

Instructions

The four columns on the left side of the page below list the different **verb forms** that are associated with these four verb tenses. The columns on the right contain **mnemonics** to help us remember each form.

Part 1. Try to recite the verbs for each tense in the order shown: u verbs, ru verbs, “to go,” “to come,” and “to do.” When reciting u verbs and ru verbs, add the appropriate **suffixes** (preceded by “-” in the lists below) to their **roots**. (A verb root is its pre-u or pre-ru form.) Use “nomu” to represent u verbs and “taberu” to represent ru verbs. The first three responses should be “nomeru,” “taberareru” and “tabereru.”

Part 2. When you are able to recite all of the verb forms, try to make complete sentences with them, using kare, watashi, miruku, pan and soudan as nouns. Say the English sentences first, and then translate them. The first two responses should be 1) “he can drink milk: kare wa miruku ga nomeru” and 2) “he can eat bread: kare wa pan ga taberareru, or kare wa pan ga tabereru.” Please include sentences that illustrate the use of the passive tense to show politeness. See the next page for a complete list of suggested answers.

Potential Tense (mark the actor with wa or ga)

Among potential verb forms, there are **three redundancies** (duplicate ways of expressing the same meaning). For example, both *tabereru* and *taberareru* = “can eat.” Among the eight verb forms listed for this tense, redundancies like this affect *ru* verbs, the verb “can go” and the verb “can come.”

If a verb is affected by a redundancy, we use **plural** nouns like “roosters” in the mnemonic to the right of it. Plural nouns tell us that there is more than one way to express the idea that the verb represents.

-eru (<i>u</i> verbs)	<i>The <u>excited rooster</u> can (drink).</i>
-rareru ¹ (<i>ru</i> verbs)	<i><u>Rapid red roosters</u> can (eat).</i>
-reru (<i>ru</i> verbs)	<i><u>Red roosters</u> can (eat).</i>
ikareru ²	<i>At the <u>eastern camp</u>, <u>red roosters</u> can go.</i>
ikeru	<i><u>Eastern Kenyan roosters</u> can go.</i>
korareru ³	<i><u>Corralled red roosters</u> can come.</i>
koreru	<i><u>Korean red roosters</u> can come.</i>
dekiru	<i>The <u>deaf king's rooster</u> can do it.</i>

Causative Tense (mark the actor with wa or ga; mark the victim with ni or wo)

There are **two redundancies**, affecting *u* verbs and *ru* verbs.

-aseru (<i>u</i> verbs)	<i>They make <u>assertive roosters</u> (drink).</i>
-asu (<i>u</i> verbs)	<i>I <u>assume</u> they make roosters (drink). (“-asu” is only used with some verbs; don’t use it with verbs that end in su, like hanasu)</i>
-saseru ⁴ (<i>ru</i> verbs)	<i>They make <u>sad sensitive roosters</u> (eat).</i>
-sasu (<i>ru</i> verbs)	<i>They make <u>sad supervisors</u> (eat). (“-sasu” is only used with some verbs; use the longer form “saseru” when you aren’t sure)</i>
ikaseru	<i>At the <u>eastern camp</u>, they make the <u>sensitive rooster</u> go.</i>
kosaseru	<i>They make the <u>Korean sad sensitive rooster</u> come.</i>
saseru ⁴	<i>They make the <u>sad sensitive rooster</u> do it.</i>

Passive Tense (mark the victim with wa or ga; mark the actor with ni; if the passive tense is used merely to show politeness, there is no victim, and the actor is marked with wa or ga)

-areru (<i>u</i> verbs)	<i>They (drink) on the <u>African red rooster</u>.</i>
-rareru ¹ (<i>ru</i> verbs)	<i>They (eat) on the <u>rapid red rooster</u>.</i>
ikareru ²	<i>At the <u>eastern camp</u>, they go on the <u>red rooster</u>.</i>
korareru ³	<i>They come on the <u>corralled red rooster</u>.</i>
sareru	<i>They do it on the <u>sad red rooster</u>.</i>

Causative Passive Tense (mark the victim with wa or ga; mark the actor with ni)

There are **two redundancies**, affecting *u* verbs and the verb “to be made to go.”

-aserareru (<i>u</i> verbs)	<i><u>Asthmatic erratic red roosters</u> are made to (drink).</i>
-asareru (<i>u</i> verbs)	<i><u>Assaulted red roosters</u> are made to (drink).</i>
-saserareru ⁵ (<i>ru</i> verbs)	<i>The <u>sassy erratic red rooster</u> is made to (eat).</i>
ikaserareru	<i>At the <u>eastern camp</u>, <u>sensitive rapid red roosters</u> are made to go.</i>
ikasareru	<i>At the <u>eastern camp</u>, <u>sad red roosters</u> are made to go.</i>
kosaserareru	<i>The <u>Korean sassy erratic red rooster</u> is made to come.</i>
saserareru ⁵	<i>The <u>sassy erratic red rooster</u> is made to do it.</i>

Notes: 1. The suffix “-rareru” is used twice. 2. The word “ikareru” is used twice.

3. The word “korareru” is used twice. 4. The suffix “-saseru” is identical to the word “saseru.”

5. The suffix “-saserareru” is identical to the word “saserareru.”

Suggested Responses for the Quiz on the Previous Page

Part 1.

Potential Tense: nomeru, taberareru, tabereru, ikareru, ikeru, korareru, koreru, dekiru

Causative Tense: nomaseru, nomasu, tabesaseru, tabesasu, ikaseru, kosaseru, saseru

Passive Tense: nomareru, taberareru, ikareru, korareru, sareru

Causative Passive Tense: nomaserareru, nomasareru, tabesaserareu, ikaserareru, ikasareru, kosaserareru, saserareru

Part 2.

Potential Tense

He can drink milk: kare wa miruku ga nomeru.

He can eat bread: kare wa pan ga taberareru, *or* kare wa pan ga tabereru.

He can go: kare wa ikareru, *or* kare wa ikeru.

He can come: kare wa korareru, *or* kare wa koreru.

He can do consultation: kare wa soudan (ga) dekiru.

Causative Tense

He makes me drink milk: kare wa watashi ni miruku wo nomaseru, *or* kare wa watashi ni miruku wo nomasu.

He makes me eat bread: kare wa watashi ni pan wo tabesaseru, *or* kare wa watashi ni pan wo tabesasu.

He makes me go: kare wa watashi ni ikaseru.

He makes me come: kare wa watashi ni kosaseru.

He makes me do consultation: kare wa watashi ni soudan (wo) saseru.

Passive Tense

I have milk drunk on me by him: watashi wa kare ni miruku wo nomareru (suggesting he drinks my milk).

I have bread eaten on me by him: watashi wa kare ni pan wo taberareru (suggesting he eats my bread).

I have him go on me: watashi wa kare ni ikareru (suggesting that his going causes me discomfort).

I have him come on me: watashi wa kare ni korareru (suggesting that his coming causes me discomfort).

I have him do consultation on me: watashi wa kare ni soudan (wo) sareru (i.e., he consults me).

Passive Tense Used to Show Politeness

He drinks milk honorably: kare wa miruku wo nomareru.

He eats bread honorably: kare wa pan wo taberareru.

He goes honorably: kare wa ikareru.

He comes honorably: kare wa korareru.

He does consultation honorably: kare wa soudan (wo) sareru.

Causative Passive Tense

I am made to drink milk by him: watashi wa kare ni miruku wo nomaserareru (6), *or* watashi wa kare ni miruku wo nomasareru (5).

I am made to eat bread by him: watashi wa kare ni pan wo tabesaserareru (7).

I am made to go by him: watashi wa kare ni ikaserareru (6), *or* watashi wa kare ni ikasareru (5).

I am made to come by him: watashi wa kare ni kosaserareru (6).

I am made to do consultation by him: watashi wa kare ni soudan (wo) saserareru (5).

1. Words shown in parentheses are optional.

2. In the Causative Passive section only, *numbers* are shown in parentheses to indicate the number of syllables in the previous verb. Knowing the number of syllables may help you to learn those conjugations.