

Unit 13 What kind of wallet is it?

Can-do

Can-do 1 You can introduce your country simply.

Can-do 2 You can express your impression simply.

Grammar

1. Nは i-adj.い です。

Nは na-adj. です。

This construction is the adjective sentence. In Japanese, there are two kinds of adjectives, the ‘i-adjectives’ and ‘na-adjectives’. ‘i-adj.’ and ‘na-adj.’ represent the stem of each adjectives. Both adjectives are used as the predicates of sentences and as the modifiers of preceding noun.

Example あのビルは ^{たか}高いです。(That building is high.)

^{しんじゅく}新宿は にぎやかです。(Shinjuku is bustling.)

2. i-adj. い

na-adj. な

} N

In this patterns both adjectives are placed directly in front of the nouns to modify those nouns. The difference between two kind of adjectives is that i-adjective takes ‘い’ to modify a noun, while the na-adjective takes ‘な’ between the adjective and the noun.

Example ^{たか}高い ビル (high building)

きれいな キャンパス (beautiful campus)

3. i-adj.くありません。(i-adj.くありません。)

The negative equivalent of ‘i-adj. いです *i-desu*’ is formed by replacing ‘いです’ with ‘くありません’ (or ‘くありません’) .

The i-adjective ‘いい *ii* (good)’ has a more formal form ‘よい *yoi*’ which is used to make the negative: ‘よくありません *yokunai-desu*’.

Example あのビルは ^{たか}高くありません。

(That building is not high.)

4. na-adj.じゃありません。(na-adj.じゃないです。)

The negative equivalent of ‘na-adj. です *desu*’ is formed by replacing ‘です *desu*’ with ‘じゃありません *ja-arimasen* (or ‘じゃないです *janai-desu*)’ .

Example ^{しんじゅく}新宿は ^{しず}静かじゃありません。

(Shinjuku is not quiet.)

5. どんな N ですか。

‘どんな *donna*’ is an interrogative word to ask for information about “what kind of N” something/someone is.

Example

A: どんな ところですか。 (What kind of place is it?)

B: にぎやかな ところです。 (It is a bustling place.)

A: どんな ^{ひと} 人ですか。 (What kind of person is he?)

B: ^{しんせつ}親切な ^{ひと} 人です。 (he is a kind person.)

6. N1 は N2 が (adjective) です。

N1 indicates the topic of the sentence, and N2 represents the sub-topic; which is a part of N1.

Example クリスさんは ^せ背が ^{たか}高いです。 (Chris is tall.)