

1. **N<sub>1</sub>は N<sub>2</sub>です**

## 1) Particle は

The particle は indicates that the word before it is the topic of the sentence. You select a noun you want to talk about, add は to show that it is the topic and give a statement about the topic.

① わたしは マイク・ミラーです。 I am Mike Miller.

[Note] The particle は is read わ.

## 2) です

Nouns used with です work as predicates.

です indicates judgement or assertion.

です also conveys that the speaker is being polite towards the listener.

です inflects when the sentence is negative (see 2. below) or in the past tense (see Lesson 12).

② わたしは エンジニアです。 I am an engineer.

2. **N<sub>1</sub>は N<sub>2</sub>じゃありません**

じゃ ありません is the negative form of です. It is the form used in daily conversation. For a formal speech or writing, では ありません is used instead.

③ サントスさんは 学生じゃ ありません。 Mr. Santos is not a student.  
(では)

[Note] は in では is read わ.

3. **Sか**

## 1) Particle か

The particle か is used to express the speaker's doubt, question, uncertainty, etc. A question is formed by simply adding か to the end of the sentence. A question ends with a rising intonation.

## 2) Questions asking whether a statement is correct or not

As mentioned above, a sentence becomes a question when か is added to the end. The word order does not change. The question thus made asks whether a statement is correct or not. Depending on whether you agree with the statement or not, your answer to such a question begins with はい or いいえ.

④ ミラーさんは アメリカ人ですか。 Is Mr. Miller an American?

…はい、アメリカ人です。 …Yes, he is.

⑤ ミラーさんは 先生ですか。 Is Mr. Miller a teacher?

…いいえ、先生じゃ ありません。 …No, he is not.

## 3) Questions with interrogatives

An interrogative replaces the part of the sentence that covers what you want to ask about. The word order does not change, and か is added at the end.

⑥ あの 方は どなたですか。 Who is that man?

… [あの 方は] ミラーさんです。 …That's Mr. Miller.

#### 4. **Nも**

も is added after a topic instead of は when the statement about the topic is the same as the previous topic.

- ⑦ ミラーさんは 会社員かいしがいんです。 Mr. Miller is a company employee.  
グプタさんも 会社員かいしがいんです。 Mr. Gupta is also a company employee.

#### 5. **N<sub>1</sub>の N<sub>2</sub>**

の is used to connect two nouns. N<sub>1</sub> modifies N<sub>2</sub>. In Lesson 1, N<sub>1</sub> is an organization or some kind of group to which N<sub>2</sub> belongs.

- ⑧ ミラーさんは IMCいむの 社員しやくいんです。 Mr. Miller is an IMC employee.

#### 6. ~さん

さん is added to the name of the listener or a third person to show the speaker's respect to the person. It should never be used with the speaker's own name.

- ⑨ あの 方かたは ミラーさんです。 That's Mr. Miller.

When referring directly to the listener, the word あなた (you) is not commonly used if you know the listener's name. The listener's family name followed by さん is usually used.

- ⑩ 鈴木すずき： ミラーさんは 学生がくせいですか  
ミラー： いいえ、会社員かいしがいんです。

Suzuki : Are you a student?

Miller : No, I'm a company employee.

