

LESSON NOTES

JLPT S3 #4

New JLPT N3 Prep Course #4

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GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Question One of the Grammar and Reading Comprehension Section.
JLPT N3 Test Breakdown

Section	Time
Language knowledge (Kanji and vocabulary)	Thirty minutes
Language knowledge (grammar) and reading comprehension	Sixty minutes
Listening comprehension	Forty minutes

About the Grammar and Reading Comprehension Section

There are seven types of questions in the Grammar and Reading Comprehension Section. 問題 1, 2 and 3 are designed to test your knowledge about grammar, while 問題 4, 5, 6, and 7 are designed to test your reading comprehension skills.

Question	Type of Question	Number of Questions
問題 1	Choose the correct grammar that fits the sentence	Thirteen questions
問題 2	Rearrange the given words to create a meaningful sentence	Five questions
問題 3	Read a short passage and select the part that fits in the passage	Five questions
問題 4	Read a short passage (about 150 to 200 characters) and answer questions about it	Four questions

問題5	Same as Question 4 with a slightly longer passage (about 350 characters)	Six questions
問題6	Same as Questions 4 and 5 with a slightly longer passage (about 550 characters)	Four questions
問題7	Search for the necessary information from the passage	Two questions

In this lesson, you'll learn how to prepare for 問題 1 of the Grammar and Reading Comprehension Section.

***Kinou-go*, "Function Words"**

In JLPT N4 and 5, there are many questions that test the examinees' knowledge about verb or adjective conjugation. However, on JLPT N3, there are also questions that test the examinees' knowledge about the usage of so-called function words that connect words or sentences.

Function Words That Mark the Topic

[Noun] + について / につき, meaning "about" or "concerning"

For Example:

1. 日本の歴史**について**もっと知りたい。
"I want to know more **about** Japanese history."

* When について or につき follows an amount, つき means "per."

For Example:

1. 子ども一人**につき**、8000円かかる。
"It costs eight thousand yen per child."

[Noun] + に関して (にかんして), meaning "related to"

This has the same meaning as -について, but にかんして has a somewhat formal connotation.

For Example:

1. 入国の手続き**に関して**、質問があるのですが・・・。
"I have questions **regarding** immigration procedures..."

[Noun] + をめぐって/をめぐり, meaning "over" or "concerning"

めぐって or めぐり usually marks what people are arguing over, so verbs that express conflict often follow it.

For Example:

1. ある新聞記事**をめぐって**、田中さんと中田さんは大げんかした。
"Tanaka and Nakata got in a big argument **over** a newspaper article."

Function Words That Indicate Comparison

に比べて (にくらべて), meaning "compared to"

We use these words in the sentence structure AはBにくらべて~, meaning "to compare A and B."

For Example:

1. 女性は男性**に比べて**長生きをする。
"Women live longer **compared to** men."

に対して (にたいして), meaning "in regard to" or "in contrast"

We usually use this structure to show contrast between two opposite ideas or situations.

For Example:

1. 運動ができて、成績のいい兄**に対して**、私は運動が苦手で、成績も悪かった。
"In contrast with my older brother, who was good at sports and got good grades, I wasn't good at sports and got bad grades."

一方 (いっぽう) , meaning "while" or "on the other hand"

For Example:

1. **ビジネスが成功してお金が入る一方で、家族と一緒にいる時間がなくなつた。**
"While my business is succeeding and I'm making money, time spent with my family has decreased."

反面/半面 (はんめん) , meaning "on the other hand"

We use this phrase in the sentence structure ---はA反面B, meaning the subject has two different aspects.

For Example:

1. **私は、娘が結婚してうれしい反面、寂しさも感じる。**
"I am happy that my daughter has married, but on the other hand I also feel lonely."

Function Words That Indicate Time

際 (さい) ;とき, meaning "on the occasion of" or "when"

This has a more formal connotation than **とき** and is preferred in business situations.

For Example:

1. **外出する際、かぎを持って行ってください。**
"Please take the key with you when you go out."

うちに; ---の間に, meaning "while"

For Example:

1. **若いうちに、たくさん旅行をしたほうがいい。**
"It's best to travel a lot while you are young."

たびに; ---の時はいつも, meaning "every time" or "whenever"

For Example:

1. 父は旅行に行く**たびに**、私にたくさんお土産を買ってきてくれる。
"Whenever my father goes on a trip, he always brings me back lots of souvenirs."

最中 (さいちゅう) に; ちょうど---している時, meaning "in the middle of---"

For Example:

1. 会議の**最中に**、けいたい電話がなった。
"My cell phone rang in the middle of the meeting."

にあたって; ---する時に ---する前に, meaning "at the time of..."

We often use this phrase when we want to give some kind of caution.

For Example:

1. 大学に入る**にあたって**、入学金が必要だ。
"It's necessary to pay an admission fee when you enter a university."

[masu stem of a verb] + 次第(しだい); ---たらすぐに, meaning "as soon as"

For Example:

1. わかり**次第**、お知らせします。
"Please tell me as soon as you know."

* Do not confuse [noun] + 次第 with the adverb 次第に (しだいに), meaning "gradually."

[te form of a verb] + はじめて, meaning "only after---" or "it is not until---that"

For Example:

1. 海外に行っ**てはじめて**、自分の国のすばらしさを知った。
"It wasn't until I went abroad that I learned how wonderful my own country was."

[te form of a verb] + 以来 (いらい) ; ---からずっと, meaning "since---"

For Example:

- アメリカを出て**以来**、英語を話していない。
"I haven't spoken English since I left America."

Function Words That Indicate a Basis

[Noun] + **に基づいて**(---**にもとづいて**); ---**をもとにして**, meaning "to be based on---"

For Example:

1. **データに基づいて**、考える。
"to think about something based on the data"

[Noun] + **にそつて**; ---**にあわせて**, meaning "in accordance with---" or "along"

For Example:

1. **計画にそつて**、仕事をしなければならない。
"I have to work in accordance with the project."

[Person] + **にとって**; "for the person"

For Example:

1. **私にとって**、この場所は特別です。
"This place is very special for me."

Function Words That Relate to Changes

[Noun] + **に応じて**(---**におうじて**), meaning "according to---" or "depending on---"

For Example:

1. あの鳥は季節**に応じて**羽の色が変わる。
"The wings of that bird change color depending on the season."

[Dictionary form of a verb/Noun] + **につれて**, meaning "as---then"

For Example:

1. **円が高くなるにつれて**、お客さんの数が減ってしまった。
"As the yen got stronger, the number of customers went down."

[Noun] + **次第で(しだいで)**; ---**によって**きまる, meaning "dependent upon"

For Example:

1. **努力次第で**、成功できる。
"We can succeed depending on our effort."

[Noun] + **によって**, meaning "depending on---"

For Example:

1. **日本のバスはのる距離によって**、値段が変わる。
"The price changes depending on the distance you ride the bus."

* Please also check the other function of [Noun] + **によって**.

For Example:

1. It expresses the doer of the action, as in "by."
ピカソによって描かれた絵
"a picture painted by Picasso"
2. It also expresses an implement or the means, as in "by."
コンピューターによって、人々の生活は便利になった。
"Life has become convenient because of computers."
3. It also expresses the cause or the reason, as in "by" or "because of."
強い風によって、橋がこわれた。
"The bridge broke due to the strong winds."

Function Words That Indicate a Reason

ために; ---から, ---がげんいんで, meaning "because of---" or "due to ---"

For Example:

1. **強い風のために**、電車が止まった。
"The train was stopped due to strong winds."

おかげで, meaning "thanks to---," "owing to---," "because of"

We usually use this phrase for something that causes a good result.

For Example:

1. **たくさん勉強をしたおかげで**、成績がよくなった。
"My grades got better thanks to lots of studying."

せいで, meaning "because of---," "caused by---," or "blaming on---"

We usually use this phrase for something that causes a bad result.

For Example:

1. **ストレスのせいで**、かみのけが少なくなった。
"My hair has thinned out because of stress."

Practice Section

問題 1

つぎの文の () に入れるのに最もよいものを、1・2・3・4から一つえらびなさい。

- 1) 食事のマナーは国に () ちがう。
1. よって 2. とって 3. かんして 4. あたって
- 2) 入国や出国をする ()、パスポートが必要です。
1. さいちゅう 2. さい 3. しい 4. いこう
- 3) リサーチに () レポートを書く。
1. くらべて 2. もとづいて 3. つれて 4. めぐって

4) 母は ()、同じ事を言う。

1. 会うたび 2. 会うにあたって 3. 会ったまま 4. 会う反面

5) テスト ()、じしんがあった。

1. のさいちゅうに 2. のうちに 3. の一方で 4. にそって

6) 全て、みなさん () です。ほんとうにありがとうございました。

1. のせい 2. によって 3. のおかげ 4. ばかり

7) 昨日の昼、ごはんを () 以来、何も食べていない。

1. たべて 2. たべる 3. たべ 4. たべた

8) 日本ですしを () はじめて、すしがおいしいと思った。

1. たべる 2. たべた 3. たべ 4. たべて

答え：

- 1) 1
2) 2
3) 2
4) 1
5) 1
6) 3
7) 1
8) 4