

LESSON NOTES

JLPT S3 #5

New JLPT N3 Prep Course #5

CONTENTS

2 Grammar

5

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Question 2 of the Grammar and Reading Comprehension Section.

There are seven types of questions in the Grammar and Reading Comprehension Section. 問題 (もんだい) 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 2 of the Grammar and Reading Comprehension Section.

Frequently Appearing Expressions

In this lesson, we'll focus on reviewing phrases that contain certain words.

Phrases Containing **こと**

こと refers to an intangible thing. This works as a nominalizer and turns a verb, adjective, or even an entire sentence into a noun phrase. Please check to see whether you are familiar with these expressions that contain **こと**.

[Verb; Dictionary form/Nai form] + こと, meaning "do---" or "don't do---"

We use this phrase to talk about rules.

For Example:

1. ここで、タバコをすわないこと。
"Don't smoke here."

[Verb; Dictionary form/Nai form] + ことだ, meaning "You'd better ---"

We use this phrase to give some advice.

For Example:

1. JLPTN1に合格したいの？それなら、たくさん単語を覚えることだ。
"You want to pass JLPT N1? In that case, you'd better memorize a lot of vocabulary words."

[Verb; Dictionary form] + ことはない; -なくてもいい, meaning "don't need to" or "don't have to"

For Example:

1. 君が謝ることはない。
"You don't need to apologize."

[Verb; Nai form] + ことはない/こともない, meaning "It's not that [I] don't---" or "There is a chance that---"

For Example:

1. お酒が飲めないことはない。
"It's not that I can't drink." = "I can drink."

[Verb; Dictionary form] + ことなく ; - しないで, meaning "without doing---"

For Example:

1. 僕はいつまでも変わることなく、君を愛します！
"I will always love you without ever changing!"

[Verb; informal] + ことになる, meaning "be arranged that---" or "will be decided"

For Example:

1. 私は会社をやめることになりました。
"It has been decided that I will leave this company."

[Verb; informal] + ことにする, meaning "decide to---"

For Example:

1. 私は会社をやめることにしました。
"I have decided to quit this company."

[Informal speech] + ということだ, meaning "I heard that---" or "I read that---"

For Example:

1. 来年から大学の学費が高くなるということだ。
"I heard that university tuition is going up starting next year."

---ことは---が/けど, meaning "It's true that ..., but"

For Example:

1. 今朝、トムは会社に来たことは来たが、すぐに帰った。
"It's true that Tom came to work this morning, but he quickly went home."

[Prenominal form] + **ことから**, meaning "because" or "since"

For Example:

大学の学費が高くなったことから、アルバイトをする学生が増えた。

"Because university tuition has gone up, the number of students working part-time jobs has increased."

---**ことがある**/---**こともある**; "There are times when---"

[Verb, / Adjective; informal non-past] + **ことがある**

[Na adjective] + **な ことがある**

[Noun] + **の ことがある / である ことがある**

For Example:

1. **山の上では夏に雪が降ることがある**

"There are times when it snows in summer on the top of mountains."

* Don't confuse this with the [informal past] + **ことがある**, meaning "there was a time when---" or "have done something"

For Example:

1. **富士山に登ったことがある。**

"I've climbed Mt. Fuji."

Phrases Containing **もの**

もの refers to a tangible thing.

[Verb, Adjective; Informal past] + **ものだ**; **むかしは---だった**, meaning "used to ..."

For Example:

1. **よくこの川で泳いだものだが、今はきたなくて泳げない。**

"I used to swim in this river a lot, but now it's too dirty to swim in."

[Verb; dictionary form] + **ものだ/ものではない**; ---**するのがとうぜんだ**, meaning "to do [verb] is a given/common sense"

We use this phrase to express something that is a given or something that everybody

knows. In the negative (ものではない), we use it to express something that should not be done.

For Example:

1. 人にやさしくするものです。
"To be nice to people is a given (= so, you have to be nice to people)."
2. うそをつくものではない。
"You should not lie (= don't tell a lie.)."

[Prenominal form] + ものだから/ものなので/もので; じつは~なので, meaning "Actually, it's because---"

We usually use it to give an excuse.

For Example:

1. はじめてスピーチをするものなので、きんちょうしています。
"I'm nervous because this is the first time I'm giving a speech."

---ものの; けれども, meaning "however" or "It's true that..., but"

For Example:

1. トムは会社に来たものの、頭が痛いと言って、すぐに帰った。
"Tom did come to work; however, he soon went home, saying his head hurt."

[Verb; Dictionary form/Potential form] + ものなら; もし---なら, meaning "If it would be possible, ---"

We use this phrase when talking about something that is unlikely to happen.

For Example:

1. あさってのライブに行けるものなら行きたいけど、明日から出張なんだ・・・。残念だなあ。
"If it were possible, I'd like to go to the live show the day after tomorrow, but tomorrow I go on a business trip...what a shame."

Phrases That Contain わけ

わけ basically means "reason" or "situation."

[Prenominal form] + わけだ, meaning "no wonder" or "so it means that"

We use these phrases to introduce a conclusion.

For Example:

1. A:明日は雪が降るそうですよ。
"I heard that it's going to snow tomorrow."
2. B:寒いわけだ。
"No wonder it's cold."

[Prenominal form] + わけがない, meaning "there's no way to" or "not ever likely"

For Example:

1. トムが明日のパーティーに来るわけがないよ。入院中だからね。
"There's no way that Tom can come to the party tomorrow. He's in the hospital."

[Verb; dictionary form/Nai form] + わけにはいかない, meaning "impossible to do although wants to"

For Example:

1. 出張に行かないわけにはいかない。
"It's impossible not to go on the business trip." → "I have to go on the business trip."

---というわけではない, meaning "It's not that" or "it doesn't mean"

For Example:

1. わたしは妹とけんかするが、妹がきらいというわけではない。
"I do fight with my younger sister, but that doesn't mean I hate her."

Phrases Containing ばかり

ばかり basically means "only" or "just" and expresses the idea there is nothing except what is stated.

[Verb; te form] + ばかりだ/ばかりいる, meaning "the only thing one does is---" "is just ---ing"

It usually has a negative connotation.

For Example:

1. 母はおこってばかりいる。
"The only thing my mom does is get angry."

[Verb; informal past] + ばかりだ, meaning "have just done---"

For Example:

1. 夕食を食べたばかりなので、何もいりません。
"I've just eaten dinner, so I don't need anything."

[Verb; dictionary form] + ばかりだ, meaning "there is nothing left to do but (verb)"

For Example:

1. テストは終わった。あとは、結果を待つばかりだ。
"The test is over! Now all that's left to do is wait for the results."

[Quantity] + ばかり, meaning "about---"

For Example:

1. 一時間ばかり、待ってください。
"Please wait for about an hour."

---ばかりに, meaning "just because" or "on account of"

We use this phrase to show that what happened was solely due to a certain thing.

For Example:

1. 月曜日にテストがあったばかりに、週末は出かけられなかった。
"I wasn't able to go out on the weekend just because there was a test on Monday."

2. 弟はお金がほしいばかりに、学校に行かないで毎日働いてばかりいる。
"My younger brother doesn't go to school and does nothing but work every day just because he wants money."

---とばかり思っていた, meaning "I thought that---(but I was wrong)" or "I was under the impression that---"

For Example:

1. え?リュウさんは日本人ですか?中国人だとばかり思っていました。
"Eh? Ryu is Japanese? I was under the impression that he was Chinese."

Practice Section

問題2

つぎの文の に入る最もよいものを、1・2・3・4から一つえらびなさい。

- 1) 先月 か。
1. ばかりの 2. オープンした 3. 行きません 4. テーマパークに
- 2) 明日はテストがあるから、今夜 よ。
1. いかない 2. いく 3. 遊びに 4. わけには
- 3) 色々理由があって、大学 しました。
1. やめる 2. に 3. を 4. こと
- 4) ゆうれいに なあ。
*ゆうれい = "ghost"
1. 会いたい 2. なら 3. 会える 4. もの
- 5) すみませんが、 か。
1. 1000円 2. くれません 3. かして 4. ばかり

答え:

- 1) 1
2) 2
3) 3
4) 2
5) 4