

日本語流 27

The Nihongo Way 27

< Today's dialogue >

You (U) are with your secretary, Ms. Furuse (J), at your office.



<p>[Scene 1]</p> <p>U: 古瀬さん、来週の月曜日に京都に出張するので、切符を取っておいてください。</p>	<p><i>Furuse-san, raishû no getsuyôbi ni Kyôto ni shucchô suru no de, kippu o totteite kudasai.</i></p>
<p>J: 承知しました。行きは朝早いのでいいですね。② お帰りは何時ごろがいいですか。</p>	<p><i>Shôchi-shimashita. Iki wa asa-hayai no de ii desu ne. Okaeri wa nanji-goro ga ii desu ka?</i></p>
<p>U: 火曜日の夜7時までに東京に戻りたいんですが。</p>	<p><i>Kayôbi no yoru madeni Tôkyô ni modoritai n desu ga...</i></p>
<p>J: はい、わかりました。</p>	<p><i>Hai, wakarimashita.</i></p>
<p>[Scene 2]</p> <p>J: 来週の京都行きの切符、取っておきましたから。③</p>	<p><i>Raishû no Kyôto-yuki no kippu totteokimashita kara.</i></p>
<p>U: どこにありますか？</p>	<p><i>Doko ni arimasu?</i></p>
<p>J: デスクの上に置いてあります。④</p>	<p><i>Desuku no ue ni oitearimasu.</i></p>
<p>[Scene 3]</p> <p>U: えっと、火曜日の京都発は午後4時33分ですね。</p>	<p><i>Etto, kayôbi no Kyôto-hatsu wa gogo yo-ji sanjusan-pun desu ne.</i></p>
<p>J: はい。</p>	<p><i>Hai.</i></p>
<p>U: 東京着は何時ですか。</p>	<p><i>Tôkyô-chaku wa nanji desu ka?</i></p>
<p>J: そこに書いてありますが、6時53分です。⑤</p>	<p><i>Soko ni kaitearimasu ga, roku-ji gojûsan-pun desu.</i></p>

I introduce here auxiliary uses of various verbs in the *V-te V* construction. Last month the auxiliary verb was *shimau* (put away something), which adds nuance to the main verb.

Today the verbs used as auxiliaries are *oku* (put something in place) and *aru* (something exists/remains). Take the opportunity now to consider what nuances these verbs might add, and compare your thinking with what I explain below.

DIALOGUE OVERVIEW

[Scene 1]

U: Furuse-san, as I'm making a business trip to Kyoto next Monday, please get me the tickets.

J: Alright, sir. An early-morning train will do for the out-going [leg], right? What time do you prefer for your return?

U: I'd like to come back by 7 o'clock on the Tuesday evening.

J: Understood.

[Scene 2]

J: I got the tickets for Kyoto next week.

U: Where are they?

J: They have been placed on your desk.

[Scene 3]

U: Let's see, the departure from Kyoto on Tuesday is 4:33 p.m., right?

J: Yes.

U: What time will be my Tokyo arrival?

J: As written there, it's 6:53.

VOCABULARY FOCUS

Verbs

modoru return to the original place

shuccho-suru make a business trip

toru take, get

Nouns

iki going, journey to somewhere

kaeri return, journey from somewhere

*Here the verb stem connecting to *-masu* is used as a noun, i.e., *iki* from *ikimasu* and *kaeri* from *kaerimasu*.

This rule is applicable to all verbs, in principle. Common examples include: *hajime* (beginning) and *owari* (the end).

Suffixes

X-chaku X-arrival [X: place or time word] e.g., *Nagoya-chaku*, *goji-chaku*

X-hatsu X-departure [X: place or time word] e.g., *Nagano-hatsu*, *sanji-hatsu*

X-yuki bound for X [X: place word] e.g., *Sapporo-yuki*

Particles

X madeni at any time before X, by X [X: time]

GRAMMAR FOCUS

(1) *Vte-oku*

The verb *oku* on its own means “put something in place.”

Tsukue no ue ni hon o okimasu. (I'll put the book on the table.)

When used as an auxiliary, it adds a nuance that the main verb's action is done in preparation for some future event. In today's dialog (① and ③) it is used together with the main verb *toru*, making *totte-oku*, which means “get (the ticket) in preparation (for the trip).” Other examples:

Okyakusama ga kuru kara, biiru o katteokimashô.

As guests are coming, let's buy some beer (in preparation).

Sugu modorimasu no de, nimotsu o koko ni oiteoite ii desu ka?*

As I'll be back soon, may I leave {lit. put in advance} my luggage here?

*Notice that *oku* is used here as the main verb as well as the auxiliary.

(2) *Vte-aru*

Aru means “something exists/remains” or “it's there.” So, in today's dialog, *oitearu* (④) literally translates “someone having put it, it remains” or “I have put it and it's there” i.e., “it has been put there.” And *kaitearu* (⑤) translates “someone having written it, it's there” literally, or “it is written (there).”

This construction adds a nuance that something has been done and the result is still there to see or is available. Other examples:

Keiyakusho wa mô tsukuttearimasu.

I have already made the contract (ready for you to see).

Sono koto wa mô Suzuki san ni ittearimasu kara...

I have already spoken to Mr. Suzuki about that, so (you may go ahead and discuss it further).

(3) *X-de ii*

Asahayai no-de ii desu (②) is a combination of two sentences: *asahayai no desu* (it's an early-morning one) and *ii desu* (it is good). The *te*-form of a noun sentence (*X-desu*) is *X-de* (being X), so together this translates to: “Being an early-morning one, it is good” or “It's an early morning one and it is OK” i.e., “An early morning one will do.”

This combination is used when settling with X, such as:

Kôhî ga nai n desu ne? Ja, ocha de ii desu.

You have no coffee, right? Then, tea will do.

Huransugo wa dekimasen; eigo de ii desu ka?

I cannot speak French; will English do?

CULTURE FOCUS

When asking your secretary, for instance, to make a photocopy for you, you can simply say:

Kopii-shite kudasai. (Please copy it)

However, when you say:

Kopii-shiteoite kudasai. (Please copy it in preparation)

your communication is one level deeper because you share implied information, i.e., that the copy is for the forthcoming meeting, for example. In doing this, you also indirectly show that you regard your secretary as part of the team.

Compare the following sentences:

- *Kopii-shimashita.*
- *Kopii-shitemimashita.*
- *Kopii-shiteshimaimashita.*
- *Kopii-shiteokimashita.*
- *Kopii-shitearimasu.*

All these could translate to "I have copied it." Study these sentences and savor the different feelings conveyed by each description of the same act.