

12. desu/masu form

desu/masu form

In Japanese, you must change the way you speak according to whom you are speaking, either casually or politely. The difference appears by how you end each sentence.

Japanese language education usually begins by teaching you how to speak with sentences ending with "desu/masu". "Desu/masu" is a polite way of speaking. There are other ways to speak, more casually or with more respect, but this is what you will usually use when speaking with someone who is older than you, or whom you have met for the first time.

13. tai desu

tai desu

To express desire, replace "masu" from of the verb --- masu" with "tai desu". Safest way to use this form is to express the speaker's desire only.

Nichi-yoobi ni Iwaki ni ikimasu. *I'll go to Iwaki on Sunday.*

Nichi-yoobi ni Iwaki ni ikitai desu. *I want to go to Iwaki on Sunday.*

Eki de omiyage o kaimasu. *I'll buy a souvenir at the station.*

Eki de omiyage o kaitai desu. *I want to buy a souvenir at the station.*

14. masen ka/mashoo

*masen ka
mashoo*

The speaker makes a suggestion by using the "verb-masen ka" form. The "Verb-mashoo" form shows a stronger volition. In accepting the invitation, the "verb-mashoo" form is used.

A : Keeki o tabemasen ka. *A : Would you like some cake?*

B : Ee, itadakimasu. *B : Yes, I'd like some.*

A : Biiru o nomimasen ka. *A : Would you like some beer?*

B : Iie, kekkoo desu. *B : No thank you.*

A : Tenisu o shimasen ka. *A : Would you like to play tennis?*

B : Ee, shimashoo. *B : Yes, let's.*

A : Kaerimashoo. *A : Let's go home.*

B : Ee, kaerimashoo. *B : Yes, let's.*