

Summary of Particles

は	topic and contrast	へ	direction and destination
が	subject, but, object of verbal adjectives	で	location of an action, instrument/method, scope/domain, time limit, material
か	question, or	を	direct object, passage
も	also, even	と	and (complete listing), with, quotation
も	(adds emphasis whether negative or positive) showing surprising or extreme		
も	Counter / Quantity (emphasizes how big the number or quantity is too much)		
の	possession, of the, apposition	や	and (incomplete listing), and etcetera
に	location of existence, direction of movement, specific time, entry, indirect object, change, per		
から	from, starting point, origin, source, because		
まで	until, end point, destination		

は : Topic and Contrast

Topic "As for..."	Change of Topic "What about..."	Contrast / Comparison	Quantifier + は "At least (amount)"
-Main focus comes after は. Important part of the sentence comes after は	-Introduce new topic		
今日は 木曜日です。	A. この本はおもしろいです。	A. 猫は好きですか。	家を【建てる】たてるのに、4000万円は必要です。
Today is Thursday.	This book is interesting.	Do you like cats?	At least forty million yen is required to build a house.
	B. この本は?	B. ああ,犬は好きです。	
	What about this book?	(I don't like cats) but I like dogs.	

が : subject, but, object of verbal adj

Subject / For emphasis	Subject of Existence	Object of certain verbs	Marks question word	Object of certain adjectives (abilities)	"But" when put after a verb	Subject of a subordinate clause
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が : subject, but, object of verbal adj (cont)

-Main focus comes BEFORE が	(Eg. ある / いる verbs)	-Things you understand or comprehend (Eg. できる、わかる、いる)	-Question words must be marked with が as the subject of the question.	-Adjectives that shows your ability, likes and dislikes (Eg. 好き、嫌い、上手、-【下手】へた、【得意】と-くい、【苦手】にがて	-A subordinate clause has a subject and verb but is not a complete sentence because it doesn't convey a complete idea. They usually start off with a conjunction.
			-When answering the question, が must also be used		-A main clause is a complete sentence and a complete idea by itself because the subject of both the subordinate and main clauses are the same, "I". And because "I" is always the default subject, we don't mention it in Japanese translation.



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が : subject, but, object of verbal adj (cont)

!□!□Note: If the subject of the subordinate clause is different from the main clause, the subject in the subordinate clause takes the particle **が**. The subject of the main (2nd) clause typically takes **は** particle.

日本が綺麗です。	週末アルバイトがあります。	私はちょっと韓国語がわかります。	みくさんが作ります。	その映画が嫌いです。	日本は小さいですが、カナダはおおきいです。	子供さんが寝たら、メアリーはテレビを見ます。
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IT IS Japan that is beautiful. (emphasis)	There is a part-time job on weekends.	I understand the Korean language a little bit. I understand the Korean language a little bit.	Miku made it.	I don't like that movie.	Japan is small, but Canada is big.	When the kid sleeps, Mary watches TV.
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IT IS Japan that is beautiful. (emphasis)	(= I have a part-time job on weekend)	日本語がわかりません。I understand Nihongo.	誰がすしを作りましたか。Who made this sushi?	料理が下手です。I'm bad at cooking.	(Both subjects are marked with は to contrast the size of Japan and Canada.)
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が : subject, but, object of verbal adj (cont)

用事がありますか。

Do you have something to do?

か : Question; Or

Question Particle	Enumerative "Or"	Plain V/Potential V/Adj + かどうか "Whether/If... or not."	QW (+ particle) + V/Adj/N plain + か / の か / なの
-かい is a very informal form of か。 This usage in real life, is largely limited to male speakers of the Kanto region and even among those, they only use it with people that they know very well and that are as old as or younger than the speaker.	Aか, Bか Verb "- Whether A or B" (Listing 2 options; applies to affirmative and negative verbs)	-Used when there are no interrogative words. This can be used with Potential V. Also, どうか can be omitted in spoken language.	-If you wish to combine two sentences (with an indirect question clause - clause) Ex. I don't know where he went. Note: When you emphasize the meaning, uncertainty or doubts, you add の

✖✖DONTs: Do not ever use かい with a stranger or someone you have just met on the street.

ゆきさんは 英語が 分かりますか。 Does Yuki understand English?

あなたが私かが
行きます。 Either
you or I will go.

👉Normal :

👉Normal :

いいかい? Is it okay? (Surely sounds MUCH softer)

行くか行かない
か分からない。 I
don't know if I will
go or not.

👉Normal :
その話は本当ですか。 調
べてください。 Is that
story true? Please check.

👉Normal :
彼はいつ来ますか。 教えてください。
When does he come? Please let me
know.

👉かどうか :

👉かどうか :
その話は本当かどうか、
調べてください。 Please
check whether the story is
true or not

👉か :

👉か :
彼はいつ来るか、 教えてください。
Please let me know when he comes.

も : Also; even

Noun + も "Also; Too"

"Even..." (emphasis)

For predicates

Double particle



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も : Also; even (cont)

-Indicates that the word member of the group of this a ings or people that belong together

-The particle も can also add emphasis on what comes before it in both a positive or a negative way. It shows that something is either surprising or extreme.

-Can also be used in the predicate. If the predicate is a noun or a

-Can be used with other particles, such as に も, でも, とも, or へも. Just like when it's used alone, も adds the nuance that the word or phrase is a part of a set.

-Indicates that the word member of the group of this a ings or people that belong together

な- adj: で + ある、い- adj: < + ある

これも変じゃない。This isn't weird, either.

彼はさようならも言わなかった。He didn't even say goodbye. (He did not say even goodbye.)

ジェニーは先生でもある。Jenny is also a teacher.

ジェニーにもあげる。I'll also give it to Jenny.

すずきさんも日本語の先生です。Suzuki-san is also a Japanese teacher.

アイスとチョコを食べた後に、パンプキンパイも食べたの! ? After eating ice cream and chocolate, you even ate a pumpkin pie!?

ここは静かでもある。This place is also quiet.

クモはかわいくもある。Spiders are also cute.

Counter / Quantity + も

Question Word + も (Positive form)

Question Word + も (Negative form)

Question Word + でも

-When も is added after counters, it adds the nuance that the number/quantity is big.

-Express that something or the quantity is too much/a lot is

どれも: Anywhere

どれも: Nowhere

どれでも whichever

ゲーセンで一万円もつちやった。Oops! I spent 10,000 yen in the arcade.

誰も: Anyone

だれも: No one

いつでも whatever

いつも: Anytime

何も: Nothing

何でも whatever

何も: Anything

の : possession; of the; apposition

Possession : My (Noun)

"Of the"

Country の product

About

Appositions (eg. job titles, etc)



の : possession; of the; apposition (cont)

N2 is N1	-Modifies the owner of the thing	-Product is made in a country	-N2 about N1	-N2 is a member of N1
私のカバン。 My bag.	車の窓 The window of the car	アップルのスマートフォン Apple smartphones?	なんの本? Book about what?	IBM の 社員 An IBM employee
		イタリアの靴 Italian shoes		【花屋】はなやの田中さん Ms Tanaka, the florist

に : Direction; destination; indirect object

Direction/Destination	Specific time	Indirect object (for whom something is done)	Location for a thing or person	Marks the location or surface on which you do something
Verbs: 行く、来る、帰る、戻る	-Relative time expressions (eg. 昨日, 今日, 明日, 今月、去年、午前、etc) do not take the particle に。They stand alone.	-Thing or person that receives an object. You can think receiving as directional	Verbs: いる/ある	Ex. Write ON something
Movement: Destination/Goal (Can be replaced with へ)			-Where something exists takes the particle に	

Ex. Writing a letter TO someone; Giving an object TO someone; Teaching TO someone something

東京に行きます。 I will go to Tokyo.	午前 7 時に起きます。	君にお金をやります。	私たちはトロントにいます。	手紙に書きます。
毎週末】まいしゅうまつジムに (へ) いきます。 I go to the gym every weekend.	I wake up at 7AM.	I will give you money.	We are in Toronto.	I write on paper.

To get in/To enter Verb	Place of Existence	Things done for/to you	To Put Verb	Person being met
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に : Direction; destination; indirect object (cont)

Verbs: にはいる、に乗る、にすむ、に参加する、	-Location a thing/person exist	-The one who did the thing will be marked with に	Verbs: におく (to put in place)、にを入れる (to put in)	Verbs: 会う
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-Existence of someone or something SOMEWHERE

Verbs: 住む、止まる (to stay at)、つとめる to work (for); to serve (in); to be employed (at);

彼女は電車に乗りま- す。She rides a train.	あ、あそこに ミク先生がいます！ Oh, there is Miku sensei over there!	お母さんにケーキを買っても らった。I asked my mom for a favor to buy me a cake.	ゆかにカバンをおく。 Put my bag on (to) the floor.	明日友達に 会いま す。I will meet a friend tomorrow.
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ポケットに手をいれ
る。I put my hands
inside my pocket.

Direction towards somebody	Verbs that only uses に particle	Noun に Verb "As a token of / In memory of..."	Become; change into (eg. なる、変える)	**Notion of "per"; "- each"
	入ります、乗る、登る (climb)、つ く (arrive)		-Used when someone or something turns into (to become)	

-Giving/receiving to/from
someone

Verbs: あげる、かく、お
くる、もらう、おしえる

おかあさんにとけいを もらった。I received a watch from my mom.	みささんが結婚のお祝い【祝 い】おいわいにこのお皿をく だしました。	【大豆】だいずは【- 豆腐】とうふになり ます。	1時間にお客様が 5人います。
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に : Direction; destination; indirect object (cont)

おかあさんにとけいをもらった。 I received a watch from my mom.	Misa gave this place as a wedding gift.	Soybeans become tofu.	There are 5 customers per hour.
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へ : Direction and destination

Direction and destination

To welcome someone to a destination

Often interchangeable with に。

-Only function that cannot be substituted by に

Verbs : 行く、来る、帰る、戻る

東京へ行きます。

東京へようこそ。

I will go to Tokyo.

Welcome to Tokyo.

で : Location of an action

Place of Action

Method; instrument

Time limit

Scope/Domain (Comparing things)

-Where does the action occur.

-How the action is done.

-How fast can you do things.

-Indicates the domain in comparing 3 or more things using adjectives

!□!□Note: (で) 寝る : Only non-action verb that can be used as this verb in Japanese is an action verb since sleeping means burning calories

私は【食堂】しょくどうで食べます。

日本人をお【-箸】はしで食べます。

私は5分で朝ごはんを食べます。

【果物】くだもの中で、りんごが一番美味しいです。

I eat in the cafeteria.

Japanese people eat with chopsticks.

I eat breakfast in 5 minutes.

Of all fruits, apple is the most delicious.

で : Location of an action

Place of Action

Method; instrument

Time limit

Scope/Domain (Comparing things)

Denotes material (What the material is made out of)

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で : Location of an action (cont)

-Where does the action occur.	-How the action is done.	-How fast can you do things.	-Indicates the domain in comparing 3 or more things using adjectives	-Note that the material is typically still visible in the finish product. If the material is no longer visible, the material takes the particle から
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!□!□Note: (で) 寝る : Only non-action verb that can be used as this verb in Japanese is an action verb since sleeping means burning calories

私は【食堂】しょくどうで食べます。	日本人をお【箸】はしで食べます。	私は5分で朝ごはんを食べます。	【果物】くだもの中で、りんごが一番美味しいです。	この机は木で作ります。
I eat in the cafeteria.	Japanese people eat with chopsticks.	I eat breakfast in 5 minutes.	Of all fruits, apple is the most delicious.	This table is made of wood.

を : Direct object; Passage

Direct Object

- Answers the question "what?" of the verb
- Object or receiver of the action

Passage

- When the verb of passage, where the action occurs takes the particle を
- Verb of passage : walk, run, fly, go through

彼女は水を飲みました。	毎朝、彼は公園を歩きます。
She drank water. (What did she drink? "Water")	He walks in the park every morning.

と : And; with; quotation

と "And (complete listing)"

- Indicates that you only bought two things.

と "With"

- Together with

と "Quotes and quotations"

- What's being quoted is indicated by the particle と
- Indicate quotes using the verb : to think, to write, to read, to become

私は魚と野菜を買いました。	彼女は友達と映画を見ました。	先生はおはようと言いました。
I bought fish and vegetables.	She saw a movie with a friend.	The sensei said good morning.

や : And (partial listing), and etc

And (incomplete listing); ~and so on



や : And (partial listing), and etc (cont)

-Enumerate/list things

私は魚野菜を買いました。

I bought fish, veggies, etc.

から : From; starting point; origin

From	Starting point; origin	Source; Denotes material	Because (when put after a verb)
		-When the end product looks nothing like the raw material	
私はカナダから来ました。	学校は月曜日からです。	お酒はお米から作ります。	冬が寒いですから、コートを着ます。
I come from Canada.	School starts from Monday.	Sake is made from rice.	Because winter is cold, I wear a coat.

(Nuance: Monday takes particle に to indicate specific time but から is used, it means that school is a continuing thing and that Monday is when it starts.)

まで : Until; end point; destination

Up to; until*	End point
-Indicates the end point	に/へ can be used to indicate destination but the use of まで gives the nuance that you will be dropping places on the way
から十まで【数える】かぞえてください。	私は北海道から【沖縄】おきなわまで行きます。
Please count from 1 to 10.	I'm going from Hokkaido to Okinawa.

