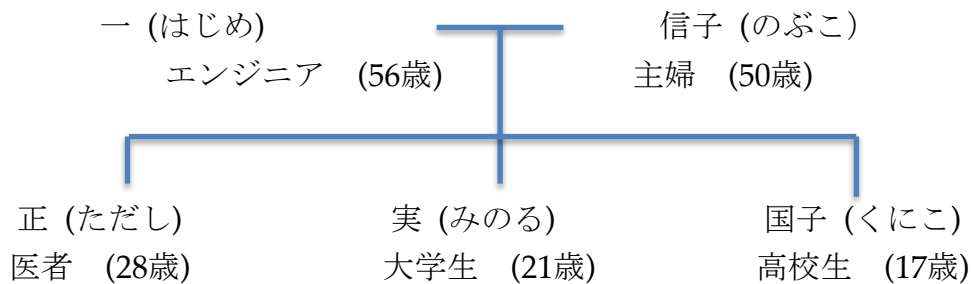


## Lesson 9

---

Tadashi gives us a description of his family. Study this Yamakawa family chart and the prose passage that follows:



私の家族はみんなで五人です。父と母のほかに弟が一人と妹が一人います。父はエンジニアです。一年に二回仕事でイギリスに行きます。父の部屋にはコンピューターが二台もあります。弟は二十一歳です。京都大学の学生です。休みには友達と旅行に行きます。妹はまだ高校生です。毎日三時間もピアノの練習をします。私は医者です。朝から晩まで大学病院で働きます。時々夜も仕事をします。休みの日にはよく母と散歩します。

### 9.1 Numerical classifiers

私の家族はみんなで五人です。  
一年に二回仕事でイギリスに行きます。  
父の部屋にはコンピューターが二台もあります。

Every object in Japanese has a descriptive classifier which is used when that object is counted. It is as if one always had to say 'three head of cattle' rather than 'three cows'. There are many such classifiers in the language but fortunately some of them are shared between a number of similar objects. A short list follows:

人 (にん)	'people' (Note the exceptions ひとり 'one person' and ふたり 'two people')
歳、才 (さい)	'years old' (Note the irregular はたち for 'twenty')
本 (ほん)	long cylindrical objects, pencils, pens etc.
台 (だい)	cars, bicycles, television sets, computers etc.
個 (こ)	small things, apples, oranges, potatoes etc.
回 (かい), 度 (ど)	'times'
時間 (じかん)	'hours'
日 (にち)	'days'
週間 (しゅうかん)	'weeks'
ヶ月 (かげつ)	'months'
ヶ月間 (かげつかん)	'months'
年 (ねん)	'years'
年間 (ねんかん)	'years'
円 (えん)	'yen'
グラム	'grams'
キロ	'kilograms'
センチメートル	'centimetres'
メートル	'metres'

The question word for these is 何 (なん): 何人、何台、何時間 etc, with two exceptions: 何歳 (なんさい) 'how old' can also be expressed as いくつ and the word for 'how much' is いくら. The set of numbers used with these classifiers is, in the main, the いち、に、さん set (see 4.7) with which you should now be familiar, but the pronunciation of these combinations is not entirely straightforward, so the student is referred to Appendix III for a full listing.

### 2.9.2 Using classifiers

There are two ways of combining a noun with its classifier: either りんごは三個あります, where the numeral + classifier come immediately after the noun, or 三個 (の) りんごがあります. To make the above sentences interrogative, replace 三個 with the interrogative noun meaning 'how many', namely 何個 (なんこ), and add か at the end of the sentence:

either りんごは何個ありますか。  
or 何個のりんごがありますか。

### 9.3 Idiomatic use of に to express frequency

一年に二回

Further examples:

一日に三時間	three hours a day
二ヶ月に一回	once every two months
三年に一度	once every three years

### 9.4 で indicating 'reason' or 'cause'

仕事でイギリスに行きます。

Study the following idiomatic phrases:

仕事で日本へ行く。  
Go to Japan on business

病気で学校を休む。  
Be absent from school on account of illness

## 9.5 Further use of も for emphasis

コンピューターが二台もあります。  
毎日三時間もピアノの練習をします。

In addition to the inclusive usage, も can also be used to place strong emphasis on the word it follows, especially in conjunction with numerical classifiers.

来年はヨーロッパに三回も行きます。  
I will go to Europe *three times* next year.

## 9.6 The particle と meaning 'with'

休みには友達と旅行に行きます。  
休みの日にはよく母と散歩します。

We have already met the particle と joining nouns together (3.5). と is also used to mean 'with' when two animate nouns are involved:

私はよく弟とキャンプに行きます。  
I often go camping with my younger brother.

When 'with' is elaborated as 'together with,' the Japanese phrase is いっしょに:

(私は) 母といっしょに買物をします。  
I'll do the shopping with mother.

If the と meaning 'and' is used, then one gets a sentence like:

母と私はいっしょに買物をします。

My mother and I will go shopping together.

### 9.7 Noun + に行く

休みには友達と旅行に行きます。

This pattern is very commonly used to express the idea of going 'to do something':

旅行に行く。

go on a trip

買物に行く。

go shopping

ピクニックに行く。

go on a picnic

キャンプに行く。

go camping

ジョギングに行く。

go jogging

### 9.8 Verbal nouns

ピアノの練習をします。

仕事をします。

散歩をします。

In the previous lesson you were introduced to native Japanese verbs. There is in addition a large set of verbs that are formed by taking a noun, usually one of Chinese origin, and adding the verb する 'do'. (From now on when verbs are discussed in these notes they will usually be quoted in their plain form.) We shall call these verbal nouns. They include the following:

勉強 (べんきょう) する	study
旅行 (りょこう) する	travel
料理 (りょうり) する	cook
練習 (れんしゅう) する	practise
散歩 (さんぽ) する	go for a walk
質問 (しつもん) する	ask a question
運動 (うんどう) する	take exercise
発音 (はつおん) する	pronounce
買物 (かいもの) する	do the shopping
病気 (びょうき) する	be ill
仕事 (しごと) する	work
電話 (でんわ) する	telephone
運転 (うんてん) する	drive

Provided that no other object is present, these verbal nouns can also be treated as the object of the verb する and marked with を:

日曜日も仕事をする。  
 Work on Sundays as well

日本語の発音の練習をする。  
 Practise Japanese pronunciation

毎日三十分運動をする。  
 Take exercise half an hour a day

However, when there is an object marked by を already present in the sentence these verbal nouns must remain intact. For instance, both 日本語の歌を練習する and 日本語の歌の練習をする are correct, but one cannot say: \*日本語の歌を練習をする.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Note the convention that any sentence with an asterisk in this textbook is ungrammatical and is being used purely for illustrative purposes.

## Key to passage

---

### *Romanisation*

Watakushi no kazoku wa minna de gonin desu. Chichi to haha no hoka ni otōto ga hitori to imōto ga hitori imasu. Chichi wa enginia desu. Ichinen ni nikai shigoto de Igrisu ni ikimasu. Chichi no heya ni wa konpyūta ga nidai mo arimasu. Otōto wa nijūissai desu. Kyōto daigaku no gakusei desu. Yasumi ni wa tomodachi to ryokō ni ikimasu. Imōto wa mada kōkōsei desu. Mainichi sanjikan mo piano no renshū o shimasu. Watakushi wa isha desu. Asa kara ban made daigaku byōin de hatarakimasu. Tokidoki yoru mo shigoto o shimasu. Yasumi no hi ni wa yoku haha to sanpo shimasu.

---

### *Translation*

Altogether there are five people in my family. As well as my father and mother, I have a younger brother and a younger sister. My father is an engineer. Twice a year he goes to Britain on business. There are *two* computers in my father's room. My younger brother is twenty-one years old. He is a student at Kyōto University. During the holidays he goes on trips with his friends. My younger sister is still a high school student. She practises the piano for at least three hours every day. I am a doctor. I work from morning to night at the university hospital. Sometimes I even work at night. On days off I often go for a walk with my mother.

---