Chapter 4: おねがい/Asking for favors

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1 Expressing and inquiring about one’s factual knowledge using the clause か (どうか)

1.1 Embedded yes/no questions, using plain form+か (どうか) (whether or not/if—)

- この病気がなおるか (どうか) きいてみます。
  I will ask if this illness will be cured.
- さいふがおちたか (どうか) 見てください。
  Please see/check if the wallet was dropped.
- A: あしたクイズがあるかしってる？
  B: あしたクイズがあるかがわからない。
- 田中さんが日本人 (だ) か (どうか) きいてみます。(the copular or na-adjective だ is often omitted)
  I will ask if Mr. Tanaka is Japanese.

1.2 Form ～かどうか sentences with きいてください

a 明日のパーティーに田中さんがきます  
  d 田中さんはパーティーに入れました

b 田中さんは肉をたべます  
  e 田中さんは肉がすきです

c 田中さんは21歳です  
  f 田中さんはいそがしかったです

1.3 Translate the following English sentences into Japanese

1. Please ask whether or not I took a wrong way (道を間違えた).

2. I want to know whether or not I will be able to get an A.

3. Please see/check whether or not the light is on.

4. Please see/check whether or not the door is closed.
5. Please see/check whether or not the door has been closed.

6. I don’t know whether or not I like Tanaka.

7. I don’t know whether or not I should go on a date with Tanaka.

8. Please ask Yamada whether or not he wants to marry Suzuki.

9. I want to know whether or not there will be a quiz tomorrow.

10. Please tell me whether or not you are busy tomorrow.

11. Please tell me whether or not the movie was good.

12. Please tell me whether or not your illness healed.

1.4 Embedded information questions, using plain form+か (when, what, where, etc.)

- 山田さんがどんな研究をしているか分かりません。  
  I don’t know what kind of research Yamada is doing.

- 誰をパーティーに招待したか忘れました。  
  I forgot whom I invited to the party.

- 会場はどこ (だ) が教えてください。  
  Please tell me where the meeting hall is.

1.5 Translate the following English sentences into Japanese.

1. Do you know when Tanaka is coming?
2. I want to know what kind of food Tanaka doesn’t like

3. Please tell me where the party is going to be held.

4. Please ask Tanaka who he invited to the party.

5. I know who got an A+.

6. I want to know where Tanaka went.

7. I have to think when I want to get married.

8. I forgot what the homework was.

9. I forgot by when I had to submit the homework.

2 Expressing movement away from or toward the speaker through space using まといく and まとてくる

The まと-form of verbs +いく and くる indicates an action or event which moves away or towards the speaker. For example, まとしていく, which consists of the verb 持つ (to hold) and 行く (to go) means to take, but 持ってくる means to bring.

The verbs いく and くる do not necessarily correspond to the English to come and to go. For example, an English speaker might respond when called by saying, I’m coming. In Japanese, however, the corresponding response would be 今行きます. This is because the speaker is seen as the center of universe; いく is used when the speaker or someone or something else moves away from the speaker’s current position, and くる when movement is toward the speaker.

This is also true when いく is used as an auxiliary verb in the まと-form of verb +いく. Therefore, the まと-form of the verb +いく indicates an action or event that moves away from the speaker’s current location in space or in time.
2.1 Using the て-form of the verb いく

2.1.1 〜ていく is used to indicate an action or event which moves away from the speaker or the time of the speech

A. The speaker does something and goes/leaves away from his or her current location

- 朝ごはんを食べて行きますよう。
  Let’s eat breakfast and go.
  (literally: Let’s eat breakfast before we go.)
- ここでコーヒーを飲みで行きますよう。
  Let’s drink here and go.
- まだ時間があから、テニスをして行きます。
  I’ll play tennis before I go because we still have some time.

B. The speaker does something in a direction away from where he or she started

- 私は田中さんの家にケーキを持って行ってきました。
  I took some cake to Tanaka’s house.
- 郵便局までくるまで乗っていきます。
  I will drive to the post office.
- 子供を学校につれていきました。
  I took my child to school.

C. Continuation of a currently ongoing action (or situation) into the future (Chap 12 III)

- 未来まで続くあるらしい学業をおばえていきたいと思います。
  I intend to continue the study of the Japanese language.
- これからもMTAに勤めていきたいと思います。
  I would like to continue working for MTA.

D. Process of change of an event or an action experienced by others (Chap 12 III)

- The auxiliary verb いく does not have the meaning to go. For this reason, いく is normally written in hiragana.
- これからはよるがながくなっていくよ。
  Nights will start getting longer gradually from now on.
- 山田さんは、少しずつやせていきました。
  Mr. Yamada gradually lost weight.

NB: The auxiliary verb いく indicates a change of state but does not express spatial or temporal movement. Rather, it indicates that the speaker views this process as something psychologically distant from himself or herself. Therefore, this use of 〜ていく describes an objective or impersonal situation and is often used for changes of process that do not involve the speaker or anyone close to the speaker.

- その時から、グループは少しずつ大きくなっていきました。
  From that time, the group gradually began to grow larger.
- その人はお金を少しずつ返していった。
  That person returned the money little by little.

NB: In casual speech, the sound い in 〜ていく may be dropped.
• ごはんを作って持ってきますよ。
  ごはん、作ってくよ。
I will cook a meal and go.

• 山田さんのところに持って持って下さいます。
  山田さんのところに持ってって。
Take (it) to Mr. Yamada.

• 晩ごはんを食べてたらどうですか。
  晩ごはんを食べたったらどう？
How about eating supper before leaving?

3 ～てくる is used to indicate an action or event which moves toward the speaker or the time of the speech

～てくる is the exact opposite of ～ていく, both spatially and temporally. While the use of ～ていく implies the direction away from the current location of the speaker, ～てくる indicates that the direction is toward the current location of the speaker.

A. Someone does something and comes toward the speaker.

• ビールを買って来ました。
  I bought beer before I came. (literally: I bought some beer and came.)
• 今、ビールを買って来ますinker: the person will go to the store, buy some beer, and come back.
• 明日、ビールを買って来ますinker: the person will buy the beer before coming to this location.

B. Someone does something and the action implies the direction toward the speaker

• the verb くる is the main verb, retaining its meaning, to come.
• 弟をここまでつれて来ました。I brought my little brother up here.
• 宿題やって来た？Did you bring your homework?

C. Continuation of an action or event that began in the past to the present day (Chap 12 III)

• In this usage, the auxiliary verb くる is usually in the past tense. It does not have the meaning of coming, and it is normally written in hiragana, without kanji.
• 日本語を十年間勉強してきました。I have been studying Japanese for ten years now.

D. Beginning of a process experienced by the speaker or someone close to the speaker

• The auxiliary verb くる indicates the beginning of a process; it means to begin to ～. It no longer has the meaning of coming, and it is normally written in hiragana.
• When the て-form of the verb + くる indicates a change of process, the experiencer must be the speaker or someone close to the speaker. It therefore expresses the speaker’s psychological involvement or subjectivity.
• おゆがわってきました。The water has started to boil.
• 日本語のべんきょうがおもしろくなってきました。Studying Japanese is getting interesting.
• Compare the following:
  田中さんはやせてきました。Tanaka have begun to lose weight.
  田中さんはやせてきました。Tanaka has lost weight gradually over time.
3.1 **Translate the following Japanese sentences into English.**

1. 学校に、宿題をして行きましょう。

2. お弁当を買って行きませんか？

3. かさを持って行った方がいいですよ。

4. パーティーに、ワインを買って来ました。

5. 田中さんはやせてきました。

6. 去年から、日本語を勉強してきました。

7. これからも日本語を勉強していきます。

3.1.1 **The following diagram illustrates actions directed to certain people, places, or actions that have taken place before the subject moved toward a certain place. Express actions and directionality using ていく/-てくる**

Ex: 大学: たなか → ごはんを食べる
たなかさんは大学にごはんを食べていきます。

- 大学に
  - スミスさん しぐすきたいをする

- 私 バスにのる

- キムさん 本を持つ
4  Expressing one’s desire for someone to do something using 〜てもらう/いただく and 〜てほしい

We have learned request forms such as 〜て下さい/〜て下さいませんか/〜てくれませんか. These expressions can be used for casual requests with different degrees of politeness. We see more expressions that convey the speaker’s desire for someone to do something, often used to make a request as well.

4.1 〜てもらう and 〜ていただく

もらう and いただく both means to receive. いただく is a polite version (cf 1). [V.stem]もらう/いただく means to receive the action denoted by the verb done by someone (cf. 2).

(1)  a. マンは 田中さんに プレゼントを もらいました。
    John received a present from Mr. Tanaka.
    社長に プレゼントを いただきました。
    I received a present from the company president.

(2)  a. お母さんに ごはんを ついてもらった。
    My mother cooked a meal for me (I received making of a meal from my mother.)
    社長に 手紙を かいていただきました。
    The company president wrote a letter for me.

[V.て]もらう/いただく is often used with the 〜たい expressions as [V.て]もらいたいです/いただくたいです to express the speaker’s desire to have someone do something.

- この荷物を とどけてもらいたい。
  I want you to deliver this package. (とどける/deliver)
I want you to lend me some money. (lend)

I would like you to decide on your plan.

Adding ～と思います makes the expression less direct and more polite while the speaker’s intention is still very clear. Adding ～んです can also make it indirect and more polite or friendlier.

Adding ～ていただけませんか.

I would like to have my book back.

I would like to have my book back, OK?

I would like to know your address.

I would like to know your address...

In addition, the potential form of ～ていただく with forms such as ませんか is used to make a request.

その本をかえしてもらえませんか．

Can I have my book back? (lit.: Can I receive the favor of getting my book back?)

住所を教えていただけませんか．

Could you tell me the address? (lit.: Could I receive the favor of being taught your address?)

Make polite requests to your instructor using ～ていただきませんか and ～て下さいませんか.

1. 宿題を明日まで待つ。

2. この文法を説明する。

3. CD をかす。

4. アニメのれきしについて話す。

5. 漢字のおほえ方を教える。

6. 作文のドラフトを読む。

7. すいせんじょう (letter of recommendation) を書く。

Talk about gifts and favors that you have received from others in the past.

Example: 田中さんにクリスマスにイヤリングをもらいました。

モネさんにフランス語をおしえてもらいました。
4.3 Translate the following English sentences into Japanese

1. I received a christmas card from the president.

2. I had Mr. Tanaka read this letter.

3. I want my students to study more.

4. I want my girlfriend to bake some cookies.

5. I wanted you to think about the problem.

6. I want my bother to pay me back.

7. I want my mother to go out more often.

8. Would you speak softly/quietly.

9. I want my sister not to use my computer.

4.4 Expressing a desire to have someone do something, using the て-form of the verb + ほしい

The て-form of the verb ほしい is used to express the speaker’s desire to have someone do something. Thus, it is often used as an indirect form of request. The person who actually performs the act is marked by the particle
but is usually omitted if understood from context. Similarly, 私 is usually omitted.

- 石けんを取ってほしいんですが。
  I’d like you to get me some soap.

- スミスさんが山田さんに来てほしいと言っていた。
  Smith was saying he wants Yamada to come.

The て-form of the verb + ほしい cannot be used to express the speaker’s desire to have socially superior person do something. Use the て-form of the verb + いたがりたい. In order to express a desire to have someone not do something, use 〜ほしくない, 〜もらいたくない, or 〜ないでほしい.

- この石けんは、使ってほしくないんですけど。
- この石けんは、使ってもらいたくないんですけど。
- この石けんは、使わないでほしいんですけど。

4.5 Talk about things you want your a family member or a close friend to do.

Example: 父にタバコをやめてほしいです。
  彼に日本に来てほしいです。

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

4.6 Translate the following English sentences into Japanese by using ほしい

1. I’d like you to take a look at this letter.

2. I want my students to study more. (more = もっと)

3. I want my girlfriend to see me more (often).
4. I wanted you to talk to me more.

5. I want my boyfriend to see my parents.

6. I want Tanaka to come to New York.

7. Yamada was saying that he wants his father to buy him a computer.

8. What do you want me to do?!

9. I don’t want my teacher to meet my father.

10. The teacher doesn’t want his students to be absent from class.

5 Expressing willingness, using verb stem + ましょうか (“Shall I ～?”) and ましょう (“I will ～”/”Let me ～”)

5.1 Grammar

- In Chapter 8 of なかま 1, ましょうか (“Shall we ～?”) and ましょう (“Let’s ～”) are used to make suggestions. The same structure can also be used to express the speaker’s willingness to do something or someone else.
  
  - エアコンをつけましょうか。(Shall I turn on the air conditioner?)
  - 私が晩ごはんを作りましょう。(I will/Let me make dinner.)

- When you make an offer, it is often good to start a sentence with 「私が」 so that you can make it clear that you mean “Shall I ～” or “Let me ～” but not “Shall we ～” or “Let’s ～”.

- How do you respond to an offer?
  
  - Yes!
    - はい、お願いします。(Yes, please.)
    - はい、(どうも)すみません。(Yes please, but I’m sorry for the trouble.)
    - はい、ありがとうございます。
5.2 れんしゅう

5.2.1 Practice making 「ましよう」 and 「～ましょうか」 sentence using the following expressions. Also practice responding to an offer.

1. 薬を持って来る (to bring medicine)

2. 手伝う

3. コーヒーをいれる (to make/fix coffee)

4. 天ぷらの作り方を教える

5. ボタンを出す

6. 電気をつける

7. 電気を切す

8. しょうゆをとる

9. お金をおくる

10. 車を貸す
11. たまねぎを切る (to cut onions)

5.2.2  What kind of offer would you give to somebody who says:
1. しゅくだいが、とてもむずかしくて、できません。

2. かぜをひいて、ねつがあるんです。 4. コーヒーが飲みたいです。

3. 天ぷらの作り方がわかりません。 5. このへやはとても寒いですね。

6  Expressing time limits, using までに (by -; by the time -)

6.1  -まで/until vs. -までに/by
• -まで means 'until' while -までに means by
  - 9 時まで (until 9 o’clock)
  - 9 時までに (by 9 o’clock)
  - 9 時までパーティーにいます。 (I’ll be at the party until 9.)
  - 9 時までパーティーに行きます。 (I’ll go to the party by 9.)

• Sentences below don’t make any sense:
  - 9 時までパーティーにいます。
  - 9 時までパーティーに行きます。

• What do the sentences below mean?
  - 9 時まで寝ます。
  - 9 時までに寝ます。

6.2  Fill in the blanks by choosing either まで or までに. Translate the sentences into English.

1. 月曜日______計画をたてます。 4. 九時______家を出ます。

2. 明日______ホテルの予約をします。 5. 十時______ホテルにつきたいです。

3. 八時______ホテルをさがしていました。 6. 月曜日______ホテルにとまります。

7. 明日______お金をはらってください。

6.3 しつもんにこたえてください。
1. 今日、何時までにねたいですか。
2. 明日、何時までねていたいですか。
3. 今日、何時ごろまでに家にかえりたいですか。
4. 今日、何時ごろまでゲームをしますか。
5. 今日、何時ごろまでにゲームを始めたいですか。