

## IV. Grammar Explanation

### 1. V plain formの

Attach the particle の to the plain form of a verb and you can nominalize the phrase accompanying that verb.

### 2. V dictionary formのは adjectiveです

- ① テニスは おもしろいです。 Tennis is fun.  
 ② テニスを するのは おもしろいです。 Playing tennis is fun.  
 ③ テニスを 見るのは おもしろいです。 Watching tennis is fun.

① simply refers to tennis as a sport, while ② and ③ are more specific in referring to either playing or watching tennis. Such adjectives as おずかしい, やさしい, おもしろい, たのしい, きけん[な], たいへん[な], etc., are frequently used in this sentence pattern.

### 3. V dictionary formのが adjectiveです

- ④ わたしは 花が 好きです。 I like flowers.  
 ⑤ わたしは 花を 育てるのが 好きです。 I like growing flowers.  
 ⑥ 東京の 人は 歩くのが 速いです。 People in Tokyo walk fast.

The adjectives which are used in this sentence pattern are usually ones that describe likes or dislikes and skills or capabilities such as すき[な], きらい[な], じょうず[な], へた[な], はやい, おそい, etc.

### 4. V dictionary formのを 忘れました forgot to do ...

- ⑦ かぎを 忘れました。 I forgot the key.  
 ⑧ 牛乳を 買うのを 忘れました。 I forgot to buy the milk.  
 ⑨ 車の 窓を 閉めるのを 忘れました。 I forgot to close the car window.

⑧ means the person "had to buy the milk, but forgot it." And ⑨ means the person "had to close the window of the car, but left the car with the window open."

### 5. V plain formのを 知っていますか Do you know that ... ?

This is an expression asking whether the listener knows what is described in the clause preceeding の.

- ⑩ 鈴木さんが 来月 結婚するのを知っていますか。  
 Do you know that Mr. Suzuki is going to get married next month?

[Note] The difference between しりません and しりませんでした:

- ⑪ 木村さんに 赤ちゃんが 生まれたのを知っていますか。

…いいえ、知りませんでした。

Do you know that Ms. Kimura had a baby?

…No, I didn't.

- ⑫ ミラーさんの 住所を知っていますか。

…いいえ、知りません。

Do you know Mr. Miller's address?

…No, I don't.

しりませんでした is used in example ⑪, because the person replying has got the information from the question. In example ⑫, however, しりません is used because the person replying has not got any information from the question.

V	plain form	} のは N です
い-adj		
な-adj	plain form	
N	～だ→～な	

娘は 北海道の 小さな 町で 生まれました。

My daughter was born in a small town in Hokkaido.

- ⑬ 娘が 生まれたのは 北海道の 小さな 町です。

My daughter's birthplace is a small town in Hokkaido.

12月 は 1年 で いちばん 忙しいです。

December is the busiest month of the year.

- ⑭ 1年 で いちばん 忙しいのは 12月 です。

The busiest month of the year is December.

This pattern is used when a noun representing a thing, a person, a place, etc., is replaced with の and then taken up as the topic of the sentence. In examples ⑬ and ⑭, "the place where my daughter was born" and "the busiest month of the year" are taken up as topics, and the speaker gives related information in the latter half of the sentence.

### 7. ～ときも/～ときや/～ときの/～ときに, etc.

Various particles can be attached to ～とき, which you learned in Lesson 23, because the word とき is a noun.

- ⑮ 疲れた ときや 寂しい とき、田舎を 思い出す。

I remember my hometown when I am tired or lonely.

(L. 31)

- ⑯ 生まれた ときから、ずっと 大阪に 住んでいます。

I have been living in Osaka since I was born.