

## IV. Grammar Explanation

1.	V て-form V ない-form なくて   ~	い-adj (~より) → ~くて   ~	な-adj [な] → で
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In this sentence pattern, the first part of the sentence presents a cause and the second part presents the consequence produced by the cause. Unlike ～から that you learned in Lesson 9, this pattern has many constraints over its usage.

1) The words which come in the latter part are limited to those words which do not contain volition:

(1) Verbs and adjectives to express feelings, such as びっくりする, あんしんする, こまる, さびしい, うれしい, ざんねんだ, etc.:

① ニュースを 聞いて、びっくりしました。 I was surprised to hear the news.

② 家族に 会えなくて、寂しいです。 I miss my family.

(2) Potential verbs and verbs to express states:

③ 土曜日は 都合が 悪くて、行けません。

Saturday is inconvenient for me, so I cannot come.

④ 話が 複雑で、よく わかりませんでした。

The story was complicated, so I could not understand it well.

(3) Situations in the past:

⑤ 事故が あって、バスが 遅れて しまいました。

The bus was delayed by an accident.

⑥ 授業に 遅れて、先生に しかられました。

I was late for the lesson, so I was scolded by my teacher.

2) Expressions containing volition (will, orders, invitation or request) are not used in the latter part of the sentence. When the latter part of the sentence contains volition, the phrase with て cannot be used and instead the phrase with から is used.

⑦ 危ないですから、機械に 触らないで ください。

It is dangerous, so please do not touch the machine.

× 危なくて、機械に 触らないで ください。

3) In this sentence pattern, the first part and the second part of the sentence are sequential events. In other words, the first part takes place first and the second part takes place after that.

⑧ あした 会議が ありますから、きょう 準備しなければ なりません。

The meeting will be held tomorrow, so we have to make preparations for it today.

× あした 会議が あって、きょう 準備しなければ なりません。

## 2. N で

The particle で that you learn in this lesson indicates a cause. Nouns used in this case are those which indicate natural phenomena, happenings, events such as じこ, じしん, かじ, etc. As with the sentence pattern in 1. on the previous page, in this construction expressions containing volition are not used as predicates.

⑨ 地震で ビルが 倒れました。

Because of the earthquake, a building collapsed.

⑩ 病気で 会社を 休みました。 Because of illness, I took a day off work.

× 病気で あした 会社を 休みたいです。

3.	V	plain form		ので、～
	い-adj	plain form		ので、～
	な-adj	plain form		ので、～

Like ～から that you learned in Lesson 9, ～ので indicates causes and reasons. While ～から subjectively highlights a cause or a reason, ～ので objectively presents a cause-and-effect relationship as a natural course of events. As the use of ～ので softens the view of the speaker, leaving a weak impact on the listener, it is often used to express a reason gently, to ask for permission or to make an excuse.

⑪ 日本語が わからないので、英語で 話して いただけませんか。

I don't understand Japanese, so would you please speak in English?

⑫ 用事が あるので、お先に 失礼します。

May I leave now? I have something to do.

As it is a soft expression, it is not used with the imperative or the prohibitive forms.

⑬ 危ないから、機械に 触るな。

Don't touch the machine because it's dangerous.

× 危ないので、機械に 触るな。

[Note] ので is used with the plain form as shown above. In more polite expressions, however, it can be used with the polite form.

⑭ 用事が ありますので、お先に 失礼します。

(=用事が あるので、お先に 失礼します。)

May I leave now? I have something to do.

## 4. 途中で

どちらで means "during" or "on the way to." It follows V dictionary form or N の.

⑮ 実は 来る 途中で 事故が あって、バスが 遅れてしまひました。

Actually, on my way here there was an accident and the bus was delayed.

⑯ マラソンの 途中で 気分が 悪くなりました。

I got sick during the marathon.