

IV. Grammar Explanation

1. V₁ dictionary form ように、V₂ V₁ない-form ない

V₁ indicates a purpose or an aim, while V₂ indicates a volitional action to get closer to that objective.

① 速く 泳げる ように、毎日 練習して います。
aim (volitional) action

I practice every day so that I can swim fast.

② 忘れない ように、メモして ください。
purpose (volitional) action

Please take a memo so that you will not forget.

The dictionary form of non-volitional verbs such as potential verbs, わかります, みえます, きこえます, なります, etc., (①) or a verb in its negative form (②) should be used before ように.

2. V dictionary form ように Vない-form なく

1) なります indicates that a state changes into another state. The verbs used here express ability or possibility: such as potential verbs, わかります, みえます, etc. V dictionary form ように なります indicates that a state in which something cannot be done has changed into a state in which it can be done. Vない-form なく なります indicates the reverse (i.e., something can no longer be done).

③ 毎日 練習すれば、泳げる ように なります。
If you practice every day, you will become able to swim.

④ やっと 自転車に 乗れる ように なりました。
I've finally become able to ride a bicycle.

⑤ 年を 取ると、小さい 字が 読めなく なります。
As you get older, you cannot read small letters.

⑥ 太りましたから、好きな 服が 着られなく なりました。
I gained weight so I can no longer wear my favorite dress.

2) How to give a negative answer to ~ように なりましたか is as follows:

⑦ ショパンが 弾ける ように なりましたか。

…いいえ、まだ 弾けません。

Have you become able to play work by Chopin?

…No, not yet.

[Note] The Main Textbook does not discuss the usage shown in ⑧ and ⑨ on the next page. In this usage, using a verb which does not reflect ability will render the meaning that a habit which did not exist before has been acquired or a habit which existed before has become obsolete.

⑧ 日本人は 100年 ぐらい まえから 牛肉や 豚肉を 食べる ように なりました。
The Japanese started to eat beef and pork from about 100 years ago.

⑨ 車を 買って から、わたしは あまり 歩かなく なりました。
I do not walk much since I bought a car.

Such verbs as なれる, ふとる, やせる, etc., which denote change itself cannot be used in this sentence pattern.

3. V dictionary form ように します Vない-form ない

This sentence pattern is used to express that one habitually or continuously makes efforts to do something or not to do something.

1) ~ように して います

This expresses that one habitually and continuously tries to do something.

⑩ 毎日 運動して、何でも 食べる ように して います。
I try to take exercise every day and eat a variety of foods.

⑪ 歯に 悪いですから、甘い 物を 食べない ように して います。
I try not to eat sweets because they are bad for my teeth.

2) ~ように して ください

~て/~ないで ください are direct request expressions, while ~ように して ください is an indirect request expression and more polite than the former. This pattern is used as shown below.

(1) When requesting someone to try to do something habitually and continuously.

⑫ もっと 野菜を 食べる ように して ください。
Please try to eat more vegetables.

(2) When politely requesting someone to try to do something in a one-off situation.

⑬ あしたは 絶対に 時間に 遅れない ように して ください。
Please be sure not to be late tomorrow.

[Note] ~ように して ください cannot be used when requesting something to be done on the spot.

⑭ すみませんが、塩を 取って ください。
Excuse me, please pass me the salt.

× すみませんが、塩を 取る ように して ください。

4. とか

~とか is used to give examples just like ~や, but ~とか is more colloquial. Unlike や, とか sometimes comes after the last noun to be mentioned.

⑮ どんな スポーツを して いますか。

…そうですね。テニスとか 水泳とか……。

What kind of sports do you do?

…Well, playing tennis, swimming, and so on.