



UNIT

6

## VISITING A JAPANESE HOME

In Japan, it is usual to offer guests green tea and Japanese sweets, or *wagashi*. *Wagashi* convey a sense of the seasons. The soft, moist sweets given in spring, for example, are modeled on cherry blossom flowers, while summer *wagashi* take the form of refreshing jellies made from adzuki beans and agar. *Wagashi* are perfect for both entertaining guests and appreciating the seasons. They also make nice gifts. Throughout Japan there are confectionaries that specialize in these unique treats. Some of the oldest and most successful ones have been in business for centuries.



# UNIT 6 GRAMMAR

## Adjectives

adjective + noun

ex. **Sakura wa kireina hana desu.** "Cherry blossoms are pretty flowers."

noun **wa** adjective **desu**

ex. **Gurei-san no uchi wa ōkii desu.** "Mr. Grey's house is big."

Japanese adjectives can either modify nouns by directly preceding them, or act as predicates. In this they resemble English adjectives. There are two kinds of adjectives: **-i** adjectives and **-na** adjectives.

MODIFYING NOUN: ADJECTIVE + NOUN		
-I ADJ.	<b>ōkii kōen</b>	big park
-NA ADJ.	<b>kireina hana</b>	pretty flower

Unlike English adjectives, Japanese adjectives are inflected for tense and mood as shown below.

AS PREDICATE: ADJECTIVE + DESU				
	PRESENT FORM		PAST FORM	
	<i>aff.</i>	<i>neg.</i>	<i>aff.</i>	<i>neg.</i>
-I ADJ.	<b>ōkii desu</b>	<b>ōkikunai desu</b>	<b>ōkikatta desu</b>	<b>ōkikunakatta desu</b>
-NA ADJ.	<b>kirei desu</b>	<b>kirei dewa arimasen</b>	<b>kirei deshita</b>	<b>kirei dewa arimasen-deshita</b>

## Giving and Receiving

person 1 **wa** person 2 **ni** noun **o** **agemasu**

ex. **Okada-san wa Gurei-san ni tokei o agemashita.** "Ms. Okada gave Mr. Grey a watch."

person 1 **wa** person 2 **ni** noun **o** **moraimasu**

ex. **Gurei-san wa Okada-san ni tokei o moraimashita.**  
"Mr. Grey received a watch from Ms. Okada."

The sentence pattern used with the verbs **agemasu** ("give") and **moraimasu** ("receive") is the same as the one introduced in Unit 5: "person 1 **wa** person 2 **ni** noun **o** verb." With **agemasu**, the person who is given something is marked by the particle **ni**, and the thing he or she is given is marked by **o**. But with **moraimasu**, **ni** indicates the giver rather than the receiver. Here **ni** corresponds to "from."

**NOTE: Agemasu** cannot be used in the sense of "someone gives something to me (the speaker)." For this meaning, the verb **kuremasu** is used.