



UNIT
8

ON BUSINESS OUTSIDE TOKYO

Looking at Japan from a satellite, one would be surprised to see how mountainous the country is. In fact, about 73 percent of the land is mountain terrain. Another notable point is that because the country stretches more than 3,000 kilometers from northeast to southwest, its climate varies considerably according to latitude; and this in turn has given rise to differences in ways of life and a variety of local dialects. The city of Sapporo on the island of Hokkaido in northern Japan (see photo above) is both a tourist and a business destination. Other such cities include Osaka, Niigata, Nagoya, and Fukuoka. (See map on front end paper.)

UNIT 8 GRAMMAR

The -Te Form

Japanese verbs have several forms

Japanese verbs have several conjugated forms. All the verbs presented so far have been in, or derived from, the **-masu** form. Now we'll look at a new form, the **-te** form.

How to form the -te form

Japanese verbs are divided into three classes according to their conjugations: Regular I, Regular II and Irregular. The **-te** forms of Regular II and Irregular verbs always end with **-te**: the **-masu** comes off and **-te** is added to the stem. The **-te** forms of Regular I verbs vary, as shown in the following chart.

REGULAR I			REGULAR II		
buy	kai-masu	katte	eat	tabe-masu	tabete
wait	machi-masu	matte	open	ake-masu	akete
return, go home	kaeri-masu	kaette	see	mi-masu	mite
listen	kiki-masu	kiite	IRREGULAR		
write	kaki-masu	kaite	come	ki-masu	kite
read	yomi-masu	yonde	do	shi-masu	shite
drink	nomi-masu	nonde			
turn off	keshi-masu	keshite			

NOTE: A more detailed explanation of the grouping of Japanese verbs is given in Unit 9 Grammar, p. 178.

How the -te form is used

The **-te** form occurs in the middle of a sentence

ex. **Gurei-san wa Sapporo-shisha ni itte, Satō-san ni aimasu.**

"Mr. Grey will go to the Sapporo branch office and meet Mr. Sato."

or is combined with **kudasai** to form a polite imperative.

ex. **Katarogo o okutte kudasai.** "Please send a catalog."

When one action is followed by another, the first clause is terminated by a verb in the **-te** form. In this type of sentence, the subject of the first and second clause must be the same. The **-te** form can be used to link up to three clauses, in which case the verbs of the first two end in the **-te** form. The **-te** form cannot be used if the moods and tenses of the clauses it combines are not the same. For example, the following two sentences cannot be connected using the **-te** form:

1. Statement: **Watashi wa kippu ga 2-mai arimasu.** "I have two tickets."

2. Suggestion: **Ashita issho ni eiga o mimasen ka.**

"What do you say to seeing a movie together tomorrow?"

Furthermore, if the first clause contains a motion verb like **ikimasu**, **kimasu**, or **kaerimasu**, the verb in the second clause must express an action that occurs in the location to which the subject went in the first clause. For example, **Kinō Ginza ni itte, hiru-gohan o tabemashita** ("Yesterday I went to Ginza and ate lunch [there]") is correct, but **Kinō Ginza ni itte, Shibuya de hiru-gohan o tabemashita** ("Yesterday I went to Ginza and ate lunch in Shibuya") is incorrect, since the act of eating took place in Shibuya, not Ginza.