

Mr. Pole

many minds????

Several friends of mine have commented on me, saying, "ki ga oī desu ne" (You have many minds.), but I have no idea what they mean. I think I'm not supposed to take these words literally because I'm not aware of more than one mind in my head, of course! My guess is, the phrase is really something like those body part and i-adjective combinations you talked about in our previous class (May 10). Am I

Pera Pera Penguin's

5-minute Japanese Class by Hitomi Hirayama Vol. 4

Good guess, Mr. Pole. It is a sibling of the body part-i-adjective combos. This time, I would like to bring your attention to expressions combining 気[ki] (mind) and 心[kokoro] (heart), with i-adjectives. These two words are staples for combination forms in everyday conversation, with ki combining with more than 120 words—including not only i-adjectives, but verbs—and kokoro with more than 40 words. Presented here are the more common of such expressions, along with three more body part-related ones.

i-adjectives

①⑮	early fast	はやい hayai
②⑭	heavy	重い omoi
③	short	短い mijikai
④	long	長い nagai
⑤	small	小さい chīsai
⑥	weak	弱い yowai
⑦	young	若い wakai
⑧	many	多い oī
⑨	strong	強い tsuyoi
⑩⑬	nice good	いい ī
⑪	wide	広い hiroi
⑫	narrow	狭い semai

mind 気 き ki

- hasty; impatient
気が ① fast
ki ga
- in no mood to; feeling reluctant
気が ② heavy
ki ga
- short-tempered; impatient
気が ③ short
ki ga
- patient; easy-going
気が ④ long
ki ga
- timid
気が ⑤ small
ki ga
- weak-willed; timid
気が ⑥ weak
ki ga
- young at heart
気が ⑦ young
ki ga
- capricious; fickle
気が ⑧ many
ki ga
- strong-willed; aggressive
気が ⑨ strong
ki ga



What? Did they mean to say I was capricious? Fickle? Well, people do mistake me for an

For answers to fill in the boxes, check with i-adjectives on the left that have corresponding numbers.

good-natured
気が ⑩ good
ki ga

heart 心 こころ kokoro

- generous
心が ⑪ wide
kokoro ga
- narrow-minded
心が ⑫ narrow
kokoro ga

arm(s) 腕 うで ude

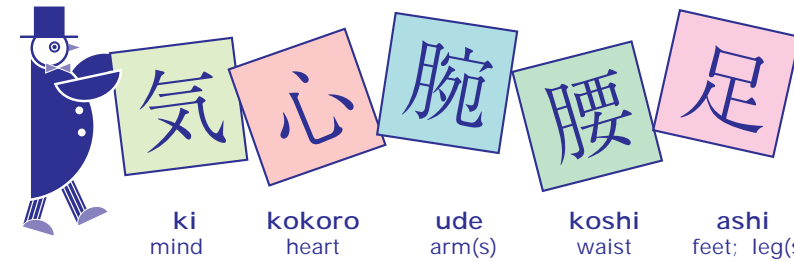
skilled; good at
腕が ⑬ good
ude ga

waist 腰 こし koshi

slow to act
腰が ⑭ heavy
koshi ga

feet; leg(s) 足 あし ashi

perishable; easy to go bad
足が ⑮ fast
ashi ga



ki mind kokoro heart ude arm(s) koshi waist ashi feet; leg(s)

Did all the expressions on the left make sense to you? Now, let's see if you can apply what you have just learned to the

気 Mr. Oda's wife is strong-willed (aggressive) but generous.
小田さんの奥さんは strong-willed ですが、 generous です。
Oda-san no oku-san wa desu ga desu

心 Oda-san's wife

気 Generally speaking, short-tempered people suffer a loss.
一般的に short-tempered 人は損をします。
ippan-teki ni hito wa son o shimasu
generally suffer a loss

A plan for winter vacation already? You must be impatient.
もう冬休みの計画ですか。 impatient ですね。
mō fuyu-yasumi no kēkaku desu ka desu ne
already winter vacation plan

I have to give (them) my refusal today. I'm reluctant.
今日中に断わらなければなりません... in no mood to です。
kyōjūni kotowaranakereba-narimasen desu
within today must decline/refuse

腕 Your husband is good at cooking. I envy you.
御主人は料理の skilled ですね。羨ましいです。
go-shujin wa ryōri no desu ne urayamaishi desu
one's husband meal; cooking I envy you.

足 Uncooked foods, particularly in rainy season, go bad fast.
特に梅雨の生ものは easy to go bad です。
toku ni tsuyu no nama-mono wa desu
especially rainy season uncooked food

In job interviews at Japanese companies, you are sometimes asked to describe the strengths and weaknesses in your character. Take stock of yourself and try filling in the boxes in the following sentence with expressions from this and the Vol. 3 lesson that best fit your character.

My main strength is _____, but my main weakness is _____
私の短所は ですが 長所は です。
watashi no tansho wa desu ga chōsho wa desu
my weakness(es) strength(s)