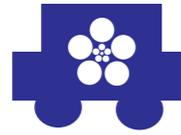




Design: Masako Ban

to come



が来た?
ga kita

Pera Pera Penguin's

5-minute Japanese Class by Hitomi Hirayama



Vol. 55

■■■ Oh, no, your Japanese is not bad. Your Japanese has been improving little by little, so don't feel too bad. In this case, however, the Japanese family is right. We discussed "mashita" in a previous (Vol. 26) column. Let's continue the discussion in this lesson!

When I was waiting for a train, a child standing next to me yelled at his mother, "**aa, kita! densha ga kita yo!**" (It came! The train came!) And his mother said, "**sō ne, densha ga kita ne**" (yes, the train came). They were Japanese, not foreigners! But I think their Japanese was strange. The train was about to arrive at the platform, so shouldn't the correct Japanese be "**densha ga kite imasu**" (Here comes the train)? Or is my Japanese at fault?

Something is coming at that very moment.
(Something is about to come)

It is considered present tense even though you say,

(people... animate)
(something... inanimate)

" _____ **ga kimashita/kita**"
(polite form) (friendly form)

- _____ arrives (at that moment)
- _____ coming (at that moment)
- _____ happened (at that moment)

For example : communication, a vehicle, event,
animate object (person, animal, etc.)

Practice

How do you say the following sentences in Japanese?

Communication

1. A fax is here. (I've got a fax.)
The fax has come/arrived.
2. The telephone is ringing. (I've got a telephone call.)
The phone is ringing (at the moment).
3. A letter arrived. (I've got a letter.)
The letter has arrived.

Vehicle

4. Here comes the subway train.
The subway train has come.
5. A bus is coming. (Here comes a bus.)
The bus is coming. (The bus has come.)

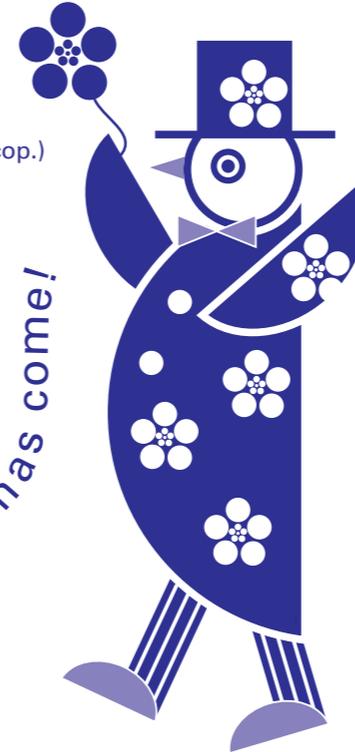
6. A taxi is coming. (Here comes a taxi.)
The taxi is coming. (The taxi has come.)
7. An ambulance is coming. (Here comes an ambulance.)
The ambulance is coming. (The ambulance has come.)
8. A motorcycle cop is coming. (Here comes a motorcycle cop.)
The police motorcycle is coming.
9. A fire engine is coming. (Here comes a fire engine.)
The fire engine is coming.

Event

10. Spring is here. (Spring has come.)
11. Christmas is here. (The Christmas season has come.)
12. A typhoon is coming.
The typhoon is here.

Animate

13. Mr. **Matsui** is coming. (Here comes Mr. **Matsui**.)
14. A dog is coming. (Here comes the dog.)



Spring has come!

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. ファックスが来た。 fax ga kita | 2. 電話が来た。 denwa ga kita | 3. 手紙が来た。 tegami ga kita |
| 4. 地下鉄が来た。 chikatetsu ga kita | 5. バスが来た。 bus ga kita | 6. タクシーが来た。 taxi ga kita |
| 7. 救急車が来た。 kyūkyūsha ga kita | 8. 白バイが来た。 shiro-bi(ke) ga kita | 9. 消防車が来た。 shōbōsha ga kita |
| 10. 春が来た。 haru ga kita | 11. クリスマスが来た。 christmas ga kita | 12. 台風が来た。 taifū ga kita |
| 13. 松井さんが来た。 Matsui-san ga kita | 14. 犬が来た。 inu ga kita | |



来

ku(ru) / rai / ki

Choose one of these kanji phrases to complete the sentences below.

- 1) an occurrence 2) a success 3) the impulse
- 出来事 上出来 出来心
de ki goto jō de ki de ki gokoro

- 4) to ring a bell 5) a future
- ピンと来た 未来
pi n to ki ta mi rai

- 6) Never refuse anything / Anyone who wants to can come.
- 来るものは拒まず
ku ru mo no wa koba ma zu

- 1) I was arrested when I shoplifted on a sudden impulse.

ほんの impulse で 万引きをして捕まった。
honno **de manbiki o shite tsukamatta**

- 2) Today's cake has been a great success.

今日のケーキは です。
kyō no cake wa **desu**

- 3) I take notes of the events of each day.

一日の をメモしておく。
ichinichi no **o memo-shiteoku**

- 4) I won't refuse any job that's offered because I'm unemployed right now.

失業中なので どんな仕事でもします。
shitsugyō-chū nanode **donna shigoto demo shimasu**

- 5) It rang a bell when I heard about Mr. Kitajima.

北島さんの話を聞いて
Kitajima-san no hanashi o kīte rang a bell

- 6) Let's eliminate wars for the future of our children!

世界の子どもたちの のために戦争をなくそう!
sekai no kodomo-tachi no **no tame ni sensō o nakusō**

Answers

- 1)-3) 2)-2) 3)-1) 4)-6) 5)-4) 6)-5)