



Design: Masako Ban

来ます kimasu

One of my customers got angry when I apparently made a mistake in my Japanese yesterday. I was going to give a presentation about our company at a hotel and I asked him, "**ashita nanji ni hotel ni ikimasu ka?** (What time are you going to be at the hotel tomorrow?)" The customer looked puzzled and said: "I thought you were going to be at the hotel. This will make things very inconvenient." I was planning to be at the hotel. Why did he misunderstand me?

The following Japanese verb is usually translated as: 来ます (**kimasu**) = to come
Its usage, however, varies depending on the situation. It is better to determine which situation the verb is to be used, rather than learning the translated word by rote.

来ます kimasu = Someone/something is coming toward I/the speaker as the arrow indicates.

 I/speaker	① Someone is coming toward me. someone は wa <input type="checkbox"/> ni kimasu
 I/speaker	② "Event/vehicle (e.g., phone call, car)" is coming toward me. event vehicle が ga <input type="checkbox"/> ni kimasu
 I/speaker	③ Someone will come toward me in the future (future trips). I will come back to where I am now in the future. I/someone は wa <input type="checkbox"/> ni kimasu

Note the difference in usage ③.

- **ashita party ni ikimasu ka?** (See Vol. 59)
(Are you going to the party tomorrow? This implies the speaker is also invited to the party.)
- **ashita party ni kimasu ka?**
(Are you coming to the party tomorrow? This implies the speaker is hosting the party and he is talking as if he is already at the party and waiting for the listener.)

Practice: How do you say in Japanese?

- I got a lot of letters and faxes yesterday.
② (Implies: A lot of letters and faxes came to me.)
- My parents are coming to Japan next month.
① (Implies: My parents are coming to me.)
- If he calls me, please listen to what he has to say.
② (Implies: The call from him will come to me.)
- A lot of typhoons head toward Japan at the end of summer.
② (Implies: Typhoons come toward us.)
- There seems to be no taxis.
② (Implies: Taxis aren't coming toward me.)
- How many people do you think will come to the sale tomorrow?
③ (Implies: People will come to the sale.)

- I'll come to work at 8 o'clock tomorrow.
③ (Implies: I'm in the office now and I'm coming back here.)
- I want to get married before my birthday!
② (Implies: My birthday is getting close.)

Answers

- kinō tegami to fax ga takusan kimashita
- raigetsu ryōshin wa Nihon ni kimasu
- denwa ga kitara hanashi o kiteoite-kudasai
- natsu wa taifū ga takusan-kimasu
- taxi ga naka-naka kimasen ne
- ashita no sale ni nan-nin kuru deshō ka?
- ashita hachiji ni kaisha ni kimasu
- tanjōbi ga kuru made ni kekkonshitai!

Pera Pera Penguin's

5-minute Japanese Class by Hitomi Hirayama

Vol. 60

■■■ I'm afraid you made a mistake by using "**ikimasu**." Take a look at the usage of "③ future trip" of "**kimasu**" in the explanation below. Even if you are in your office at the time, and are discussing a future event, you should talk to the customer as if you are in the hotel already and waiting for him in the lobby. You should have said, "**ashita nanji ni kimasu ka?**" (What time are you coming to the hotel tomorrow?) Then he would not have misunderstood you because you would have implied that you would also be there.

Going to a particular place to do something and coming back

	1) <u>place</u> ni 行って来ます。 itte ittekimasu
	2)-1 ます masu ni 行って来ます。 verb ittekimasu
	2)-2 <u>te-form</u> + 来ます。 verb kimasu

2)-2 is a short form of 2)-1, and it takes less time to come back than 2)-1.

Practice: How do you say in Japanese?

- I'm going outside to buy a boxed lunch. (I'll come back after buying it.)
- I went to the video shop to return the video tapes I rented (and I came back.)
- I'm going to the bathroom. (I'll be back soon.)
- I went to the Immigration Bureau to renew my visa (and I came back.)
- I'm going to the bank to withdraw money because it's payday. (I'll be back after withdrawing it.)
- I'm going to a train station to get what I left behind. (I'll be back after receiving it.)
- I'm going to the clinic because I don't feel well. (I'll be back soon.)
- I'm going to have my hair cut because it's hot these days. (I'll be back after having my hair cut.)
- Wow, that was a big earthquake. I will go outside to take a look. (I'll be back after looking outside.)
- I will go outside to smoke a cigarette. (I'll be back after smoking it.)

Answers

- ohiru nanode obentō o **kai ni ittekimasu** (katte-kimasu)
- karita video o **kaeshi ni ittekimashita** (kaeshite-kimasu)
- chotto **toile(t) ni ittekimasu**
- visa-koshin no tame ni **nyūkoku-kanrikyoku (nyūkan) ni ittekimashita**
- kyūryōbi nanode ginko ni okane o **oroshi ni ittekimasu**
- eki ni wasuremono o **tori ni ittekimasu** (totte-kimasu)
- guai ga warui node **byōin ni ittekimasu**
- atsui node kami o **kiri ni ittekimasu** (kitte-kimasu)
- ōkii jishin datta ne? **soto o mi ni ittekimasu** (mite-kimasu)
- chotto **tobacco o sui ni ittekimasu** (sutte-kimasu)



来

ki (masu) / rai

Choose either a) or b) of the kanji to make a correct word, and then complete sentences (1) to (6).

- (1) future **shōrai** (2) a visitor **raikyaku** (3) being capable **dekiru**
 (a) 将 来 (a) 各 客 (a) 出 来る
 (b) 正 rai (b) 客 rai (b) 串 ki ru
- (4) visiting a store **raiten** (5) since then **irai** (6) original **honrai**
 (a) 点 (a) 以 来 (a) 木 来
 (b) 店 (b) 井 rai (b) 本 rai

- I consulted a fortune-teller about my future.
星占いで _____ を占ってもらいました。
hoshi-uranai de _____ **o uranatte-moraimashita**
(horoscope) (have one's fortune told)
- I haven't kept in touch with him since then.
あれ _____ 連絡していません。
are _____ **renraku-shiteimasen**
(not to keep in touch)
- (announcement in a department store)
"We would like our customers to listen to this message."
ご _____ の皆様にお知らせ致します。
go _____ **no minasama ni oshirase-itashimasu**
(all the customers) (make an announcement)
- Please wait a moment because we are dealing with a visitor right now.
_____ 中ですので少々お待ち下さい。
_____ **chū desu node shōshō omachi-kudasai**
(because) (a moment) (please wait)
- I won't know whether I can do it or not until I try.
Dic.-form か nai.-form かはやってみないとわかりません。
_____ **ka** _____ **ka wa yattenaito wakarimasen**
(if I don't try) (don't know)
- This is not the original purpose.
_____ の目的を外れています。
_____ **no mokuteki o hazurete imasu**
(purpose) (out of)

Answers

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| ① - (1) - (a) 将来 shōrai | ② - (5) - (a) 以来 irai |
| ③ - (4) - (b) 来店 raiten | ④ - (2) - (b) 来客 raikyaku |
| ⑤ - (3) - (a) 出来る dekiru/dekinai | ⑥ - (6) - (b) 本来 honrai |