

- Pero Pero Penguin's 5-minute Japanese Class by Hitomi Hirayama

Vol. 50

I love the **onomatopoeia** that I studied in Vol. 49 because the subtle expressions covered in the class can be understood very easily and are easy to pronounce and remember, too. Japanese friends say I have gained a variety of conversational expressions in my Japanese, and that what I say is more understandable than before. So I really want to learn more onomatopoeic expressions. Could vou cover some more expressions? I want to

■■■ I'm very happy for you! I'm sure you have studied Japanese very hard, but perhaps your conversational style was a little awkward before. Why was that? It was because vou didn't use enough onomatopoeia! Conversational style can be awkward when students focus too much on grammar or if they study Japanese outside Japan. However, when they learn and start using onomatopoeia in their conversation, their Japanese will sound much more natural!!

object Verb onomatopoeia tense ました。 ます。 future tense past tense masu mashita ませんでした。 ません。 negative past negative masen deshita masen Time passed by so quickly. 時間 は どんどん すぎました。 どんどん don-don

jikan wa don-don sugimashita

Well, it's about time for me to go. じゃあ そろそろ 失礼します。 jā soro-soro shitsurēshimasu

I often went to Kyoto back then. 昔 は 京都 に ちょくちょく 行きました。 mukashi wa Kyoto ni choku-choku ikimashita (a long time ago)

Mr. Kinoshita gobbled down the sushi. 木下さん は 寿司 を ぱくぱく 食べました。 Kinoshita-san wa sushi o paku-paku tabemashita

は tense onomatopoeia wa

します。 future tense shimasu しません。 negative shimasen

past tense

しました。 shimashita しませんでした。 shimasen deshita 12. full of life いきいき iki-iki

smile

にこにこ

(that person) (95 years old)

受け付けの人 はいつもにこにこしています。 (reception) (person) (always)

6. being irritated/ bothered いらいら ira-ira

7. being in trouble/

confused

ごたごた

gota-gota

8 hanging out/

bura-bura

ぶらぶら

ばたばた

bata-bata

10 being humid

むしむし

11. lie around

ごろごろ

goro-goro

mushi-mushi

9 hectic

doing nothing



Traffic jams make you irritated, don't they? 渋滞 は いらいら しますね。 jūtai wa ira-ira shimasu ne (traffic iam)

That company has been in trouble all year. あの 会社 は 年中 ごたごた していますよ。 ano kaisha wa nenjū gota-gota shiteimasu yo (that company) (all the year around)

I just want to hang out every day without working. 仕事 を しないで 毎日 ぶらぶら したいですね。 shigoto o shinaide mainichi bura-bura shitai desu ne

(don't work) (every day) It's been busy (hectic) all day long.

きょうは 一日中 ばたばた していました。 kvo wa ichinichi-iū bata-bata shiteimashita (today) (all day long)

This year's rainy season is humid, too, isn't it? 今年 の 梅雨 もむしむし しますね。

kotoshi no tsuvu mo mushi-mushi shimasu ne (this year) (rainy season)

Most of the time, I just lie around at home when I have a day off.

休み は ほとんど ごろごろしています。 yasumi wa hotondo goro-goro shiteimasu (day off) (almost)

That person is 95 years old, but she's full of life. あの人は 95歳 ですが いきいき していますね。 ano hito wa kyūjū-go-sai desu ga iki-iki shiteimasu ne

The receptionist always has a nice smile. uketsuke no hito wa itsumo niko-niko shiteimasu



## **Onomatopoeia**

Put suitable onomatopoeia in the box.

1. My friends often travel abroad.

友達は tomodachi wa (friend)

often

海外旅行をします。 kaigai-ryokō o shimasu (abroad)(travel)

2. Your health will suffer if you keep getting irritated.

beina irritated

すると 体に悪いですよ。 suru to karada ni warui desu vo (health) (bad)

3. Well, as tonight is a celebration, さあ 今晩 は お祝い ですから sā komban wa oiwai desu-kara (toniaht) (celebration)

so everybody, have plenty to drink!

rapidly, steadily 飲んでくださいね。 nonde-kudasai ne (please drink)

4. Is it about time to have lunch?

it's about time

お昼にしましょうか。 ohiru ni shimashō ka (lunch)

5. I've been so busy (hectic)

busy (hectic)

していたので shiteita node

I'm sorry I didn't contact you earlier.

連絡が 遅くなり申しわけありませんでした。 renraku ga osokunari moshiwake arimasen deshita (become late) (I'm very sorry)

6. Didn't you get nervous when you went out on your first date?

初めてのデートは haiimete no date wa (first time)

nervous

しませんでしたか。 shimasen deshita ka

7. I was hanging out in Ginza last Sunday.

先週の日曜日に銀座を senshū no nichi-yobi ni Ginza o out (last week) (Sunday)

hanging

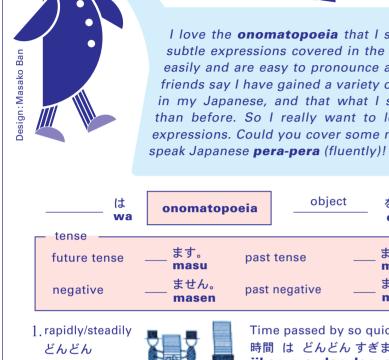
しました。 shimashita

Answers

1.-3 2.-6 3.-1 4.-2 5.-9 6.-5 7.-8

With cooperation from Yasuhiro Koga

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3. often ちょくちょく choku-choku

2. it's about time

soro-soro

そろそろ



5 nervous/with a

どきどき

doki-doki

pounding heart



past negative

I didn't get nervous when I gave my speech.

スピーチ は どきどき しませんでした。 speech wa doki-doki shimasendeshita niko-niko