

Japanese Grammar - Particles

Japanese particles are small words that indicate relations of words within a sentence.

They follow other words such as nouns, verbs, adjectives are parts of a sentence. Some but not all can be compared to prepositions in English.

No	Particle	Meaning / usage
1	は (wa)	Indicates the topic of a sentence
2	か (ka)	At the end of a sentence indicating a question
3	が (ga)	Indicates the subject of a sentence
4	に (ni)	Indicates a location
5	の (no)	Indicates possession
6	は (wa)	Indicates a contrast between 2 items
7	に (ni)	Indicates time or frequency
8	へ (e)	Indicates direction
9	を (wo/o)	Indicates the direct object of a verb
10	と (to)	Used to connect and list up multiple items
11	や (ya)	Used to connect and partially list up multiple items
12	など (nado)	Used with や (ya) to partially list up multiple items
13	も (mo)	means “too”, “either”, “also”
14	も (mo)	both...and..., neither...nor...
15	に (ni)	Indicates the indirect object of a verb
16	に (ni)	Indicates the surface of a object where some action takes place
17	で (de)	Indicates the location of an action
18	と (to)	Together with
19	の (no)	Indicates an apposition
20	から (kara)	Indicates a starting point in time or place
21	より (yori)	Indicates a starting point in time or place but more formal than kara (20)
22	まで	Indicates a limit on time, space or

	(made)	quantity
23	くらい (kurai)	Indicates an approximate amount
24	ほど (hodo)	Indicates an approximate amount
25	ばかり (bakari)	Indicates an approximate amount
26	で (de)	Indicates a means or material
27	か (ka)	Indicates a choice or alternative
28	を (wo/o)	Indicates a point of departure
29	を (wo/o)	Indicates a route of a movement/motion
30	に (ni)	Indicates a point of arrival
31	に (ni)	Indicates an entering motion
32	に (ni)	Used together with a verb to express a purpose
33	と (to)	Used when quoting someone
34	という (to iu)	Indicates the name of something
35	とか (toka)	“something like”
36	で (de)	Indicates a limit or scope
37	と (to)	Indicates a comparison
38	より (yori)	Indicates a comparison
39	より (yori)	Indicates superlative
40	くらい (kurai)	Indicates a comparison
41	ほど (hodo)	Indicates a comparison in a negative sentence
42	か (ka)	someone, something
43	も (mo)	“nothing”, “nobody”, “nowhere” if used with an interrogative word
44	に (ni)	Used with a verb to indicate a change or choice

45	を する (wo/o suru)	Expresses an occupation or position
46	でも (demo)	Indicates emphasis
47	でも (demo)	Together with an interrogative word it means “anything”, “anyone”, any time”
48	で (de)	Indicates a cause or a reason
49	から (kara)	Indicates a source such as a giver, a cause or material
50	に (ni)	Indicates a person who gives something or who provides a service
51	は (wa) + が (ga)	Indicates the relation between an object / subjects and a verb or adjective
52	が (ga)	Connects two sentences with the meaning “but…”
53	を (wo/o)	Used with an verb expressing emotions, it indicates the cause of this emotion
54	で (de)	Indicates a state / condition of something
55	で (de)	Limits numbers
56	だけ (dake)	Indicates a limit on things or amounts
57	だけ (dake)	Indicates a limit on an action or state
58	で (de)	Indicates the time of completion or expiration of something
59	でも (demo)	Following a noun, means “or something like this”
60	も (mo)	Emphasizes in a positive or negative way
61	でも (demo)	Indicates two or more items as an example of a larger list
62	ばかり (bakari)	Indicates that an item, state or action is a single one
63	ばかり (bakari)	Indicates an action was just completed
64	ところ (tokoro)	Indicates that an action takes place, just took place or is about to take place

65	が (ga)	Indicates the subject of subordinate clause when it is different from the subject of the main clause
66	から (kara)	conjunction meaning “after” or “since”
67	ながら (nagara)	Indicates that an action is happening simultaneously
68	が (ga)	Indicates the subject of a relative clause
69	の (no)	Indicates the subject of a relative clause
70	から (kara)	Used as a conjunction and indicates a cause or reason