

## ■ *Kara* and *De* of Ingredient/Material

The case particle *kara* is used to express the raw material, as in *budō kara wain o tsukuru* ‘produce wine from grapes,’ whereas *de* is used to express the material/ingredient(s) as in *kami de mokei o tsukuru* ‘make a mock-up using paper.’ In either usage a verb expressing production appears in the predicate position.

The difference between raw material and material/ingredient is whether the material undergoes qualitative transformation in the production process. Typically, when there is a qualitative change, *kara* is used; when there is no qualitative change, *de* is used.

*De* covers a wider range of usage than *kara*, and it is possible to say *budō de wain o tsukuru*. This is because material in a broad sense includes raw material. When change in quality is not in question, it is possible to use *de*.

However, *de* cannot replace *kara* in situations where the predicate not only signifies production but also logically implies change in quality, as in *jagaimo {kara/\*de} denpun o chūshutsu suru* ‘extract starch from potatoes,’ *kioku no danpen {kara/\*de} mōsō o tsukuridasu* ‘conjure up delusions from fragments of memory.’

While one cannot say *\*kami kara mokei o tsukuru*, but one can say *ichimai no kami kara fukuzatsuna mokei o tsukuru* ‘create a complex mock-up from a single piece of paper.’ This is because *kara* may be used when the sentence expresses a big change from the source material to the end product, and when there is a sense of distance.

*De* may be used to express a secondary ingredient in the process of production, as in *shio de aji o tsukeru* ‘season it with salt,’ and *senryō de iro o dasu* ‘use a dye to add color,’ but what *kara* marks has to be something that constitutes the starting point of the production or what is at the core of the product.

*Kara* and *de* can both express composing elements, but it is only one or the other that is appropriate in a specific expression, depending on the lexical characteristic of the predicate. Example: *Iinkai wa 7 nin no iin {kara/\*de} naru* vs. *Iinkai wa 7 nin no iin {\*kara/de} kōsei sareru* ‘The committee consists of 7 members.’

→動詞と格助詞 Verbs and Case Particles (2-D)

## ● References

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