

## ■ Compound Case Particles

The usage of compound case particles, along with usage examples, is shown in Chart 2-11 below.

---

### Chart 2-11: Overview of Compound Case Particles

[ ] variants, N = noun

---

«*Ni taishite*» [*ni taishi, ni taishimashite, ni taisuru N, ni taishite no N*]

Usage 1: Object — Explicitly shows that the object is a case *ni* object which the action does not directly affect.

(1) *Gaishō no hatsugen ni taishite kinrin shokoku ga kōgi shita.* ‘Neighboring countries protested against the remark by the foreign minister.’

Usage 2: Comparison — Compares and contrasts two events or things.

(2) *A-Shi wa jinkō ga kyūzō shite iru. Kore ni taishite B-Shi wa gekigen shite iru.* ‘The population is rapidly growing in City A. In comparison, it is sharply dropping in City B.’

---

«*Ni totte*» [*ni tori, ni torimashite, nitotte no N*]

Usage 1: Value judgment, viewpoint of evaluation — Expresses the standpoint of the subjective value judgment or the viewpoint of the evaluation represented in the predicate.

(1) *Haha wa sutenasai to iu keredo, watashi ni totte kono nuigurumi wa taisetsu na tomodachi na no desu.* ‘My mother tells me to throw it away, but to me, this stuffed animal is a dear friend.’

Usage 2: Viewpoint from which the relationship is viewed — Expresses the standpoint from which the relationship is viewed.

(2) *Yamashita sensei wa watashi ni totte oji ni atarimasu.* ‘Prof. Yamashita is an uncle of mine.’

---

«*Ni tsuite*» [*ni tsuki ((2) only), ni tsukimashite, ni tsuite no N*]

Usage 1: Object of the linguistic information — Expresses the object of the action that contains linguistic information (e.g., *hanasu, kangaeru, kenkyū suru*).

(1) *Watashi no chiisa na koro no omoide ni tsuite o-hanashi shimasu.* ‘I am going to talk about my memories from when I was a little child.’

★ *Ni kanshite* has almost the same meaning, but it sounds of written style.

★ *Megutte* is used with multiple subjects where the object involves a long-lasting dispute or struggle, as in *ryōchi o megutte* ‘concerning the territories,’

Usage 2: Quantitative Comparison — Expresses quantitative change with the preceding noun.

(2) *Nyūjōryō wa ohitorisama ni tsuki 500yen desu* ‘The admission fee is 500 yen per person.’

---

«*Ni tsuki*» [ø]

Usage 1: Reason — Often used in announcements toward an unspecific group of people through indirect media, such as posters ; explains the reason for the current situation.

(1) *Kaisō-chū ni tsuki rinji kyūgyō itashimasu*. ‘We will be temporarily closed due to remodeling.’

- ★ Cannot be used in the past tense. Example: \**Kaisō-chū ni tsuki rinji kyūgyō itashimashita*. See *no tame*.
- 

«*Ni yotte*» [*ni yori, ni yorimashite, ni yoru N, (ni yotte no N)*]

Usage 1: Means/Method — Used with a volitional verb to express the means with which the said action is conducted. Somewhat more formal than *de*.

(1) *Intaanetto ni yotte shōbai o kakudai suru* ‘expand one’s business through the use of the Internet.’

- ★ When the source of information is the topic, *ni yoruto* or *ni yoreba* is used.

Example: *Tenkiyōhō ni yoreba asu wa ōyuki dasōda* ‘According to the weather forecast, there will be a heavy snow tomorrow.’

Usage 2: Cause, Reason — Expresses that the phenomenon in the main clause occurs due to another phenomenon that precedes it.

(2) *Kabu no bōraku ni yotte A Bank wa ōkina higai o kōmutta*. ‘Due to the heavy fall in stock prices, Bank A suffered great losses.’

- ★ Cannot be used when the two phenomena are simultaneous. Example: \**Kare wa byōki ni yotte kyūyō-chū da*. (See *de*.)

Usage 3: Material, Building components — Same as *de*.

(3) *Kishiritōru wa sanso to suiso to tanso ni yotte dekite iru*. ‘Xylitol is made of oxygen, hydrogen, and carbon.’

Usage 4: Change, Response — Expresses change and diversity that correspond to the change shown by the preceding noun.

(4) *Gyūnyū wa hozon jōtai ni yotte wa shōmi kigen-nai demo kusatte shimau*. ‘Depending on the way it is preserved, cow’s milk may go bad even before the expiration date.’

Usage 5: Agent in the passive construction — See the section on the case of the agent in the passive sentence (2-E).

---

«*O motte*» [(*o mochi*), *o mochimashite*, *o motte no N*]

Usage 1: Appearance, Form — Stylistically formal. May be replaced by *de*.

(1) *Kaitō wa bunshō o motte tsūchi itashimasu.* ‘We will notify our response in writing.’

Usage 2: Juncture showing the beginning and ending — Used with verbs expressing the beginning and ending and expresses the period.

(2) *Tōten wa honjitsu o motte heiten itashimasu.* ‘The store closes its doors as of today.’

*De motte* expresses the time of termination, but not the startup time. Example: \**Shigatsu de motte hajimeru.* *De motte* has a corresponding usage to almost all the usages of *de*.

---

«*Ni kakete*» [*ni kake*, *ni kakemashite*, *ni kakete no N*]

Usage 1: Spatial and temporal range — Expresses that a certain phenomenon occurs between two terminal points.

(1) *Sakuya mimei, Kantō chihō kara Tōkai chihō engan ni kakete tsuyoi jishin ga arimashita.* ‘In the early hours last night, there was a big earthquake spanning the coast of the Kanto and Tokai regions.’

★ The preceding noun must express an expanse of a certain size. (cf. \**3ji chōdo ni kakete.*)

---

«*Ni watatte*» [*ni watari*, *ni watarimashite*, *ni watatte no N*, *ni watatta N*]

Usage 1: Spatial and temporal range — Expresses that a phenomenon occurs throughout the range.

(1) *Ame wa ikkagetsu ni watatte furitsuzuita.* ‘The rain kept falling for one month.’

---

«*To shite*» [*to shimashite*, *to shite no N*]

Usage 1: Qualification, Standpoint — Expresses the qualification or standpoint/position of the action or state, often temporary.

(1) *Zenkoku taikai ni gakuchō no dairi to shite sanku suru.* ‘I will attend the national convention on behalf of the president of the school.’

(2) *Kyōto wa furui machi to shite zen-sekaiteki ni yūmei daga, jissaini wa atarashii biru ga ōi.* ‘Kyoto is famous worldwide as an old city, but in reality there are a lot of new buildings.’

(3) *Chūgoku wa WTO no seishiki na kameikoku to shite shōnin sareta.* ‘China has been recognized as an official member nation of the WTO.’

---

«*O towazu*» [*o towanai N*]

Usage 1: Absence of change in the face of diversity — Succeeds a noun that contains a counter-concept or multiple options, and expresses that the predicate holds true for any of the situations.

(1) *Kōji wa chūya o towazu tsuzukerareta.* ‘The construction was carried on continuously night and day.’

*Ni kakawarazu* tends not to be used with a word that expresses the counter concept. Example: \**chūya ni kakawarazu.*

---

«*Ni oite*» [*ni okimashite, ni okeru N*]

Usage 1: Place of origin of an event — Expresses the place where an action or event occurs.

(1) *Sotsugyōshiki wa dai hōru ni oite okonawaremasu* ‘The commencement will be held in the big hall.’

Notes:

The first set of criteria that should be used to decide whether the expression is a compound case particle is if it does not alter the said meaning and usage, and if it does not occur at the end of the sentence. In *Sono kashu wa ankōru ni ōjite mō ikkyoku utatta* ‘The singer sang one more song in response to the audience’s demand for an encore’, *ni ōjita* may also be used, and therefore, it is not a compound case particle; it should be recognized as the *te* form of the verb. On the other hand, *ni ōjite* in *Kingaku ni ōjite ittei no wariai o henkin suru* ‘reimburse a certain percentage based on the amount of money’ cannot be rephrased, \**henkin wa kingaku ni ōjita/ōjiteiru*, etc., and is grammatically recognized as a compound case particle.

So-called bare adverbial forms (e.g., *ni taishi*, as opposed to *ni taishite*) sound somewhat formal in terms of style, but the meaning remains the same. Considering that case particles originally are function words that express the relationship between the noun and the predicate, the polite form (e.g., *ni taishimashite*) might seem overly polite, yet its use in this function is quite common.

The adnominal form (e.g., *ni taisuru*) as well as the adnominal particle form (e.g., *ni taishite no*) are both used at about the same frequency. However, when it follows a noun that does not imply action (e.g. *kōtai* ‘antibody’, as in *infuruenza {ni taisuru/?taishite no} kōtai* ‘the flu antibody’), the adnominal form is more acceptable.

---

→Verbs and Case Particles (2-D), Usage of Case Particles (2-D)

● References

Morita, Yoshiyuki & Matsumoto Masae (1989) *Nihongo hyōgen bunkei* (Japanese Expressional Patterns). ALC.

Yamazaki, Makoto & Fujita Yasuyuki (2001) *Gendaigo fukugōji yōreishu* (Usage Examples of Contemporary Compound Words). National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics.

Yamada, Toshihiro (2002) ‘Kakujoshi oyobi fukugō kakujoshi no rentai yōhō ni tsuite’ (On the Adnominal Use of Case Particles and Compound Case Particles) in *Gifudai Kokugo Kokubun*, Vol. 29.

(Yamada Toshihiro)