

# Week1: Particle “WA” and Polite Ending “DESU”

## Grammar Overview

---

This week, we learned two key grammar points in Japanese: WA – the topic marker, and DESU – the polite ending. You’ll use them in a lot of Japanese sentences!

### 【GRAMMAR】

#### 💡 1: What is “WA”?

→“WA” is a topic marker. It shows what the sentence is about and comes after the topic - the main thing you are talking about in the sentence.

#### 💡 2: What is “DESU”?

→ “DESU” is a polite ending in Japanese. It is used at the end of the sentence to make it sound polite, natural, and complete, but “DESU” does not add much meaning by itself.

If you think about English, If someone asks you a question, you can answer:

“Yes.” → **correct**,

**but neutral** “Yes, please.” → **more polite**

It doesn’t change what you are saying, but it changes how polite your sentence sounds.

#### 💡 3: How Japanese Sentences work? (simple idea)

→ Many simple Japanese sentences have two parts:

1. Topic – what you want to talk about
2. Description – what you want to say about it Example

**Example: “I am Japanese”**

1. You want to talk about yourself (I) → Topic
2. You want to say what you are (Japanese) → Description

#### 💡 4: When to use?

→ Use “DESU” when you want to describe or give information about the topic politely.

- Talking about what something is
- Describing how / what something is (beautiful, delicious, etc.)

❌ You cannot use “DESU” with actions or locations — because those need verbs instead.

Think of “DESU” as the polite ending for “is / am / are” type sentences, but when there’s an action (eat, go, live, be in a place), you’ll use a verb instead, not “DESU”.