

# JLPT N5 Particle Cheat Sheet

The key particles for N5, with every common use and an example sentence.

## は wa Topic and contrast

Topic marker: names what the sentence is about.	わたしは学生です。 I am a student.
Contrast: sets one thing against another.	コーヒーは飲みますが、お茶は飲みません。 I drink coffee, but not tea.

## が ga Subject and wants

Subject marker: introduces something new or highlights the subject.	猫がいます。 There is a cat.
With ability, wishes and feelings.	日本語が分かります。 I understand Japanese.
As a soft „but“ that links two clauses.	すみませんが、今いいですか。 Excuse me, but is now okay?

## を o Object and motion

Direct object of an action.	水を飲みます。 I drink water.
Place a movement passes through or leaves.	公園を散歩します。 I take a walk through the park.

## に ni Goal, place, time

Goal or direction of a movement.	学校に行きます。 I go to school.
Place of existence, with いる and ある.	部屋に猫がいます。 There is a cat in the room.
Specific point in time.	七時に起きます。 I get up at seven.
Recipient of an action (to).	友達に電話します。 I call a friend.

## へ e Direction

Direction of a movement, often interchangeable with に.	日本へ行きます。 I go to Japan.
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## で de Place, means, material

Place where an action happens.	家で食べます。 I eat at home.
Means, tool or mode of transport.	電車で行きます。 I go by train.
Material something is made of.	木で作ります。 It is made of wood.

## と to And, with, quote

„and“ in a complete list.	パンとたまごを買います。 I buy bread and eggs.
„with“ in the sense of together.	友達と話します。 I talk with a friend.
Quote or content, with 言う and 思う.	「はい」と言いました。 He said „yes“.

## も mo Also, even

„also“: replaces は or が.	私も行きます。 I will go too.
With a negative: „nothing, nobody at all“.	何भीありません。 There is nothing at all.

## の no Possession, attribute, nominalizer

Possession: shows who something belongs to.	私の本です。 It is my book.
Attribute: one noun describes another (of, for).	小学校の先生です。 She is an elementary school teacher.
Origin or belonging.	日本語の本を読みます。 I read a Japanese book.
Nominalizer: turns a phrase into „the one that...“.	赤いのがいいです。 The red one is good.

## から kara From, since, because

Starting point in time or place (from).	九時から始まります。 It starts at nine.
Reason: „because“.	寒いから、家にいます。 Because it is cold, I stay home.

## まで made Until, up to

End point in time or place (until, up to). 五時まで働きます。  
I work until five.

End point of a route. 駅まで歩きます。  
I walk to the station.

## か ka Question, or

Question particle at the end of a sentence. 元気ですか。  
How are you?

„or“ between alternatives. コーヒーかお茶を飲みます。  
I drink coffee or tea.

## ね ne Agreement

Seeks agreement (right?, isn't it?). いい天気ですね。  
Nice weather, isn't it?

## よ yo Emphasis

New information or emphasis for the listener. おいしいですよ。  
It is tasty, you know.



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