

Japanese Particles 03: "mo"

mo: Rules:

1. when it follows a noun, nominal, or particle, it indicates a similar quality between two things (one before it, one after it)
2. when it's preceded by an adj or verb, it indicates that more than one action occurs.

NOTE: It's usually not used after "wa" or "ga", or before "o" because it replaces those particles.

kore wa bara desu.
"this is a rose"

are ~~wa~~ mo bara desu.
"this is a rose, too"

mizuno-san ga ki-mashita
"Ms. Mizuno has come"

sasaki-san ~~ga~~ mo ki-mashita
"Ms. Sasaki also came"

kanojo wa ringo o tabemashita
"she ate an apple"

kanojo wa mikan mo ~~o~~ tabemashita.
"she also ate an orange"

Also, it's related to "to" and "ya" for listing of nouns:

ringo to mikan to banana
"apples, oranges, and bananas"

ringo ya mikan ya banana
"apples, oranges, bananas, and the like"

ringo mo mikan mo banana mo
"also apples, oranges, and bananas"

Indicates two subjects are the same or of the same kind:

anata wa gakusei desu. (n) watashi mo gakusei desu.
"you are a student. i am a student, too"

kore wa suika desu, (n) are mo sukia desu.
"this is a watermelon, and that is a watermelon too"

watashi wa niku o tabemashita. watashi wa (n) sakana mo tabemashita.
"i ate meat. i ate fish too"

watashi wa kōhī o nomimasen. watashi wa (n) kōra mo nomimasen.
"i don't drink coffee. i don't drink soda either"

boku wa pikunikku ni kimasen deshita. (n) kanojo mo pikunikku ni ikimasen deshita.
"i didn't go on the picnic. she didn't go on the picnic either"

bara: (noun) rose
mikan: (noun) orange
suika: (noun) watermelon
niku: (noun) meat
gakusei: (noun) student
kōra: (noun) soda
pikunikku: (noun) picnic

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mo: (cont)

Lists two or more things in a similar category (... mo ... mo):

(n) anata mo (n) watashi mo onaji gakkō no **gakusei** desu.
"both you and i are students at the same school"

onaji: (adjective): same

watashi wa (n) wain mo (n) biru mo nomimasu.
"i drink both beer and wine"

boku wa benkyoo-suru (n) no mo hataraku (n) no mo kirai da.
"I don't like to study or to work"

hataraku : work
kurai (noun): dislike

kanojo wa (adj) utsukushiku mo arushi (adj) yasashiku mo aru.
"she is beautiful as well as kind"

utsukushii : beautiful / **utsukushiku**: beautifully
yasashii : gentle / **yasashiku** : kindly
arushi: "there is" / "certain" / "some kind of" / "some sort of"

Indicates an addition to something already present ("in addition" or "as well as"):

okaasan, kono (n) kēki mo tabete ii?
"Mom, can i eat this cake too?"

Emphasizes quantity, distance, or frequency:

kare wa (n) hachi-nin mo kyōdai ga aru.
"he has Eight Brothers!"

きょだい / kyōdai: (adj) huge, gigantic, enormous

ano inu wa kimi no setake (n) hodo mo aru.
"that dog is as tall as you"

kimi: (pronoun) you, buddy, pal (familiar language, towards a male)
setake: (noun) stature, height
hodo: extent / degree / measure / about, around, approximately.

Can emphasize the lack of something in a negative sentence:

(n) dare mo i-masen ka?
"is there no one [there]?"
imasu : (verb) to exist.

kyoo wa muse wa (n) doko mo shimatte-iru.
"today, stores everywhere are closed" / "no stores are open today"

shimatteiru: (verb / dictionary) : to close (a store) <-- not in our list