

ように

so that / in order to

Romaji: **you ni**

ように most often means "so that" — it links a goal to the action taken to reach it: 忘れないようにメモした means "I took a note so that I wouldn't forget." The verb before ように is typically potential or negative, because you are aiming at a state rather than describing a deliberate act. ように also expresses similarity, "like" or "as": 鳥のように飛ぶ, "fly like a bird." Two related set forms are ようになる ("come to do" — a change over time) and ようにする ("make an effort to do").

構文 CONSTRUCTION

Verb (potential/negative) + ように + action

後ろまで聞こえるように大きい声で話した。 — I spoke loudly so that I could be heard at the back.

Noun + のように / Clause + ように (simile)

彼は魚のように泳ぐ。 — He swims like a fish.

Verb (dictionary/potential) + ようになる (change)

漢字が読めるようになった。 — I have become able to read kanji.

Verb + ようにする (effort/habit)

毎日運動するようにしている。 — I make a point of exercising every day.

例文 EXAMPLES

① かぜ 風邪をひかないように、あたたか 暖かくして寝た。ね

I bundled up warm for bed so that I would not catch a cold.

② ねこ ゆき その猫は雪のようにしろ 白い毛をしていた。け

The cat had fur as white as snow.

③ にほんご ゆめ み 日本語で夢を見るようになった。

I have started dreaming in Japanese.

注意点 NUANCES

- ▶ ように vs ために: ために takes volitional verbs with the same subject in both clauses ("in order to"); ように takes potential, negative, or non-volitional verbs and allows different subjects (子どもが読めるように — "so that the kids can read").
- ▶ In the simile use, ように modifies verbs and adjectives while ような modifies nouns: 夢のような話 ("a story like a dream").
- ▶ ようになる reports a change that happened (ability gained, habit formed); ようにする is a conscious ongoing effort — learners frequently swap them.
- ▶ ように also softens commands and wishes: 遅れないように! ("Don't be late!"), 合格しますように ("I hope I pass").

やってみよう YOUR TURN

Write one sentence about a goal ("so that I can...") and one comparison ("like a...") using ように.