

# Lesson 15: する + なる

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Link to the video lesson version: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CvLa54XTJj8>

## Learning Objectives

- ❖ Understand the use of the に particle in conjunction with なる.
- ❖ Differentiate between "な adjectives" and "い adjectives" when using with なる.
- ❖ Grasp the concept and use of なる as it pertains to changes in state or being.
- ❖ Familiarize with the concept of にする and how it differs from just する.

## なる

### に Particle and な Adjectives with なる

The に particle marks the destination of an action. However, it can also be used as a target to target a certain SITUATION or a STATE OF BEING. What that means is, instead of a location or destination, it is a target description of something that is placed in front of the に particle.

#### Example

きれいになる

In this case, we have the “な” adjective, きれい “kirei” (to be beautiful). In this sentence, the TARGET DESCRIPTION is きれい and it implies that the outcome of the action process would become this action. きれいになる simply means to become beautiful. “Beautiful” in this case is this description/state of being that becomes a goal. You can even call it the destination!

**HOWEVER, なる is not considered an action!** Why? This is because “becoming” is not an action that affects something, it is a target of change. If you think about it, when you say “to become someone” you are not ‘becoming’ that someone. becoming is a verb that directly relates to the subject, rather than the object. **Since なる is not an action, it is never associated with an object particle; We would never say がる or をなる.**

#### Example

私は日本語が上手になった  
(わたしはにほんごがじょうずになった)  
My Japanese has gotten better.

In this sentence, we can see that there is a change in a state of being. The person has “gotten better” at speaking Japanese. This is a state that has gone through a change. になる implies that there has been a change in a state of being to a result. なった is just the past tense of なる. Here is how it looks simplified:

**(result)になる = to become (result)**

## い Adjectives with なる

い adjectives do not use に with なる。You conjugate them to their adverbial form then add なる.

### Formula

Replace final い with く + なる

### Examples

背が高くなったね  
(せがたかくなったね)  
You have gotten taller!

運動をして強くなった  
(うんどうをしてつよくなった)  
After exercising, I have become stronger.

### ? Questions ?

Which of the following use "い" adjectives?

1. ばかになる
2. 一生懸命になる
3. かわいくなる
4. だめになる
5. 寒くなる

### ○ Answers ○

Highlight the area above to see the answer

### ? Questions ?

For the following adjectives, conjugate them so you can add なる

1. 可愛い (かわいい)
2. 賢い (かしこい)
3. 優秀 (ゆうしゅう)
4. びり

## ○ Answers ○

Highlight the area above to see the answer

### にする

する means “to do,” but adding に changes it to “to choose,” **I suggest you remember them as two separate words. する (to do) and にする (to choose).**

### Examples

ケーキにする = I'll go with cake (I'll choose cake)

これにする = I'll go with this one

In a literal translation, it means “to do towards cake”, which kind of sounds like “to choose” in a way.

In various situations, especially at restaurants or when shopping, にする is a handy phrase to express your decision or selection. It's more about conveying the act of making a choice rather than performing an action on the object itself.

## ? Questions ?

Translate the following:

1. 賢くなる
2. りんごにする
3. 孤独になる

vocab:

賢い(かしこい) = To be smart

りんご = Apple

孤独(こどく) = Lonely

## Answers

Highlight the area above to see the answer

### Summary



- ❖ Xになる means to become X, used with な adjectives and nouns
- ❖ Xくなる means to become X, used with い adjectives
- ❖ Xにする means to choose X

### Homework:

<[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nrEc\\_mCTLUB4M-0ZKiIM\\_RzwTR-CwYZF\\_6a8xmYjdC4/edit?usp=drivesdk](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nrEc_mCTLUB4M-0ZKiIM_RzwTR-CwYZF_6a8xmYjdC4/edit?usp=drivesdk)>

### Extra Resources

#### Websites

-  Tae Kim's Guide|<<http://www.guidetojapanese.org/learn/grammar/surunaru>>
-  Wasabi|<<https://www.wasabi-jpn.com/japanese-grammar/expressing-change/>>

#### Videos

-  Japanese from Zero|<<https://youtu.be/CYE2Dff17yA>>
-  Miku Real Japanese|<<https://youtu.be/zsV7E2ISvkY>>

#### Practice Exercises



Wasabi|<<https://www.wasabi-jpn.com/japanese-lessons/japanese-grammar-using-suru-naru-wit-h-the-ni-particle/>>