

Verb
(ます-stem)

+

がくん

+

いです

Action Difficulty

(難易・使いにくさ)

**Hard /
Difficult
to do
[Verb]**

Describing Action Difficulty

たべやすいです。
(Smooth & Easy)



たべにくいです。
(Hard & Clunky)

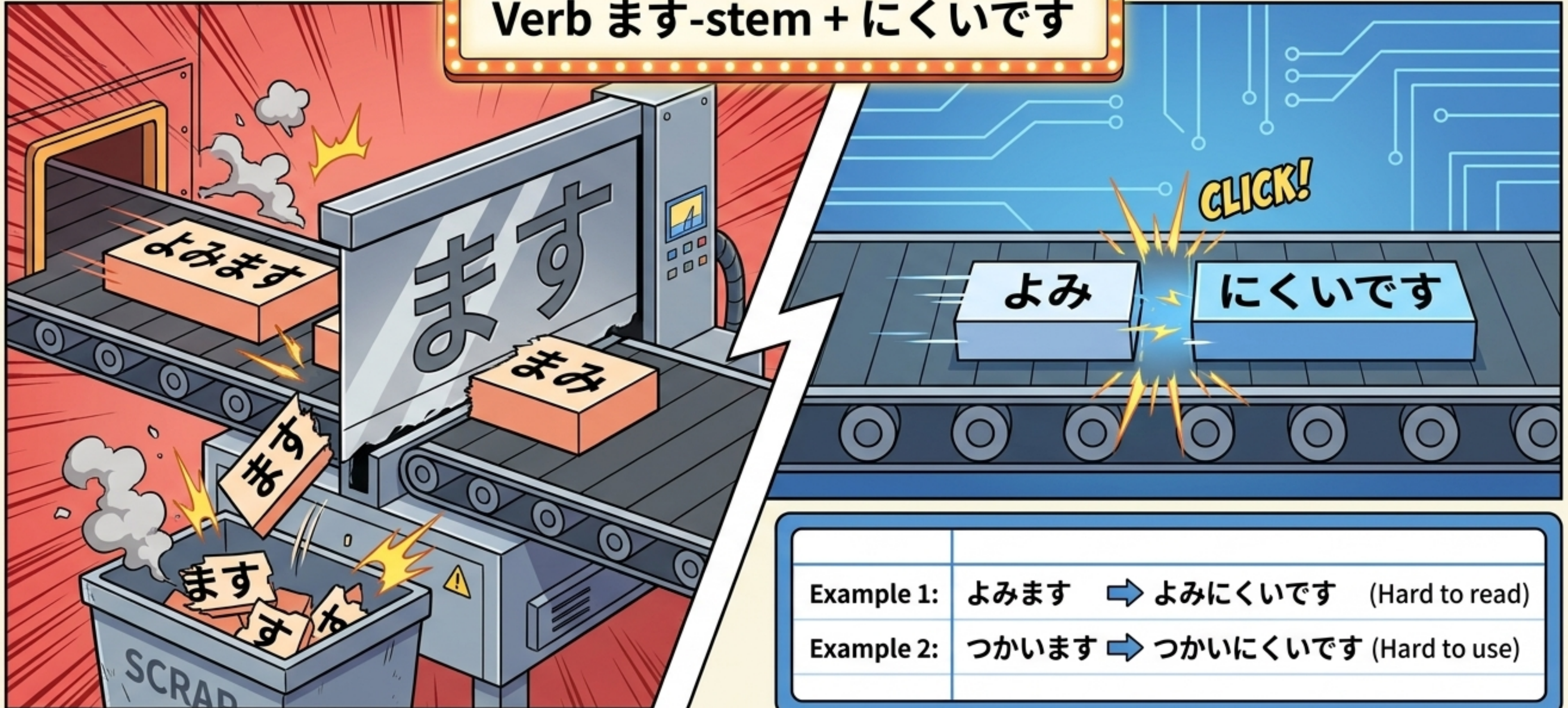


When a tool or complex process makes an action difficult to perform, we attach *nikui desu*!

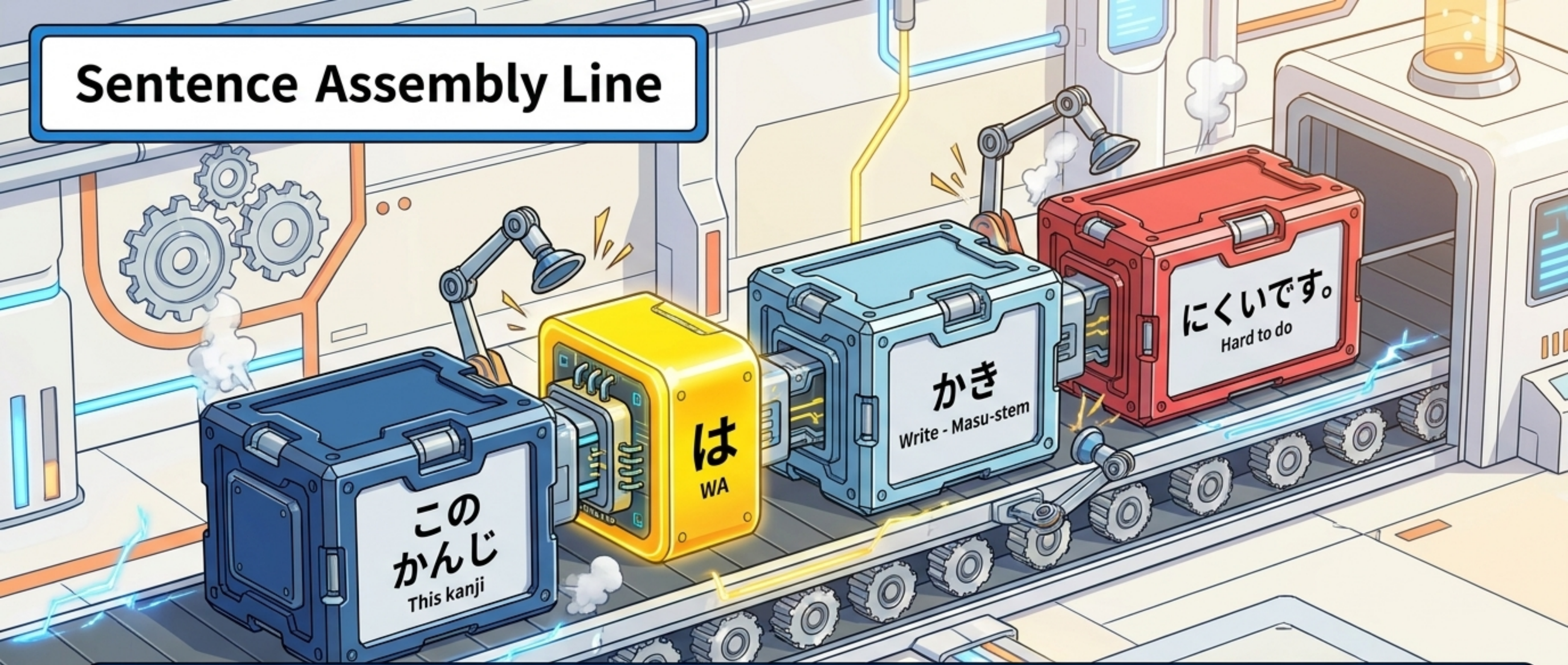


The MASU-Chopper

Verb ます-stem + にくいです



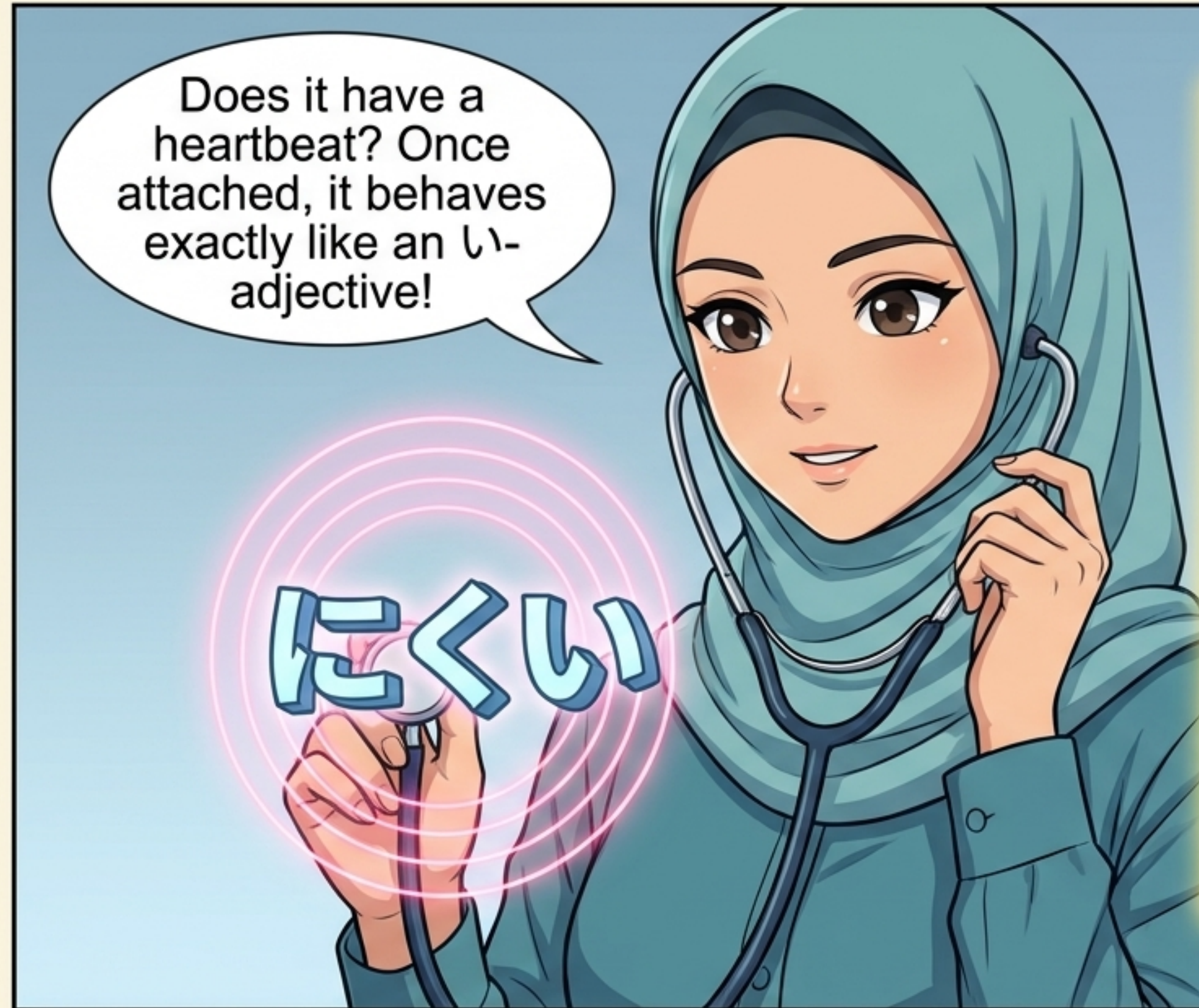
Sentence Assembly Line



このかんじ **は** かき **にくいです。**
(This kanji is hard to write.)



Raya's Hack: The Heartbeat Rule



Does it have a heartbeat? Once attached, it behaves exactly like an い-adjective!

Verb stem + にくい → い-adjective Rules	
Present:	つかい にくい です (Is hard to use)
Past:	つかい にくかった です (Was hard to use)
Modifying a Noun:	つかい にくい スマホ (A hard-to-use smartphone)

Don't do this!

よみます にくいです!

✗ Keeping the “ます”

Joy, don't leave the masu attached!
You **MUST** chop it off completely!

○ このほんはよみにくいです

N4 Grammar Cheat Sheet

Structure: [Verb ます-stem] + にくいです。

Meaning: Hard / Difficult to do [Verb].

Grammar Behavior: Functions perfectly as an い-adjective (e.g., nikui, nikukatta).

Core Examples:

- つかいにくい (Hard to use)
- よみにくい (Hard to read)
- わかりにくい (Hard to understand)

