

Some particles appear in pairs or in groups with special meanings. They may be referred to as combined particles.

## Kaj... kaj

Double or multiple use of **kaj** (and) is used to emphasize and insist. In those cases, **kaj** is put before all of the linked items, even before the first item. In speech, the word **kaj** is usually particularly accented:

**Kaj Petro kaj Karlo laboras.** - Both Petro and Karlo are working.

Insistence that not only one but both are in fact working.

**Kaj pluvas kaj blovas.** - It is both rainy and windy.

Insistence that both phenomena occur.

**Petro kaj fumas kaj drinkas.** - Petro both drinks and smokes.

Insistence that he, in fact, performs both actions.

**Kaj ŝia amo, kaj ŝia malamo, kaj ŝia jaluzo** jam de longe malaperis. - Both their love and their hate, as well as their jealousy disappeared long ago.

Insistence that all three things disappeared.

## Nek... nek

An ordinary use of **nek** means "and also not", or "neither". Multiple use of **nek** means "and not". The combined use of **nek** is therefore equal to **kaj... kaj** (both...and...) plus a negation; in other words, to "neither...nor..":

**Mi renkontis nek lin, nek lian fraton.** = **Mi kaj ne renkontis lin, kaj ne renkontis lian fraton.** - I met neither him nor his brother. = I did not meet him, and did not meet his brother.

**Nek ĝojo, nek malĝojo daŭras eterne.** = **Kaj ĝojo, kaj malĝojo ne daŭras eterne.** - Neither happiness nor sadness lasts forever. = Both happiness and sadness don't last forever.

**Ŝi estis muta, povis nek kanti nek paroli.** = **Ŝi kaj ne povis kanti, kaj ne povis paroli.** - She was mute, so could neither sing nor speak. = She both could not sing and could not speak.

## Aŭ... aŭ

Multiple use of **aŭ** (or) shows that the alternatives presented are the only ones possible. It must be one of them, and nothing else. In these cases in spoken Esperanto, the word **aŭ** is normally accented emphatically.

**Nun ni devas aŭ venki aŭ morti!** - Now we have to conquer or die!

We can't do both, and we can't do anything else outside of these two options.

**Aŭ vi faris grandan eraron, aŭ mi ĉion miskomprenis.** - Either you made a big mistake, or else I misunderstood everything.

There is no other alternative.

**Oni povus diri, ke aŭ ŝi forgesis ĉion en la mondo, aŭ ŝi ne havis forton, por iri plu.** - One could say that either she forgot everything in the world, or she didn't have the strength to go on.

## Jen... jen

Usually **jen** (behold; French voilà) draws our attention to something. Double or multiple **jen** does not have that meaning, but introduces alternatives which alternate, or possibilities whose validity alternates. **Jen... jen = iufoje... alfoje**:

**Jen mi ardas de varmego, jen mi tremas de frosto.** - Now I'm burning up from heat, now I'm shivering from frost.

The two states alternate. Sometimes I'm hot, sometimes cold.

**Ŝia vizaĝo aperigis jen mortan palecon, jen koloron de sango.** - At one time her face appeared deathly pale, at another time the color of blood.

The face continued changing.

**Mario videble havis deziron jen koleri, jen ridi, jen premi la manon al tiu ventanimulo.** - One could see that Mario had the desire, in turns, to anger, to laugh, or to shake the hand of this wind bag.

**Li okupadis sin jen per tio, jen per alio.** - He busied himself now with this, now with that.

# Ju... des

**Ju** and **des** are always used together with **pli** (more) **malpli** (less). **Ju** and **des** are used together to show that one **pli**-expression depends on another. The **ju**-expression shows the thing in control. The **des**-expression shows what depends on the thing in control:

**Ju pli da mono ni havos, des pli rapide kaj bone iros kompreneble nia afero.** - The more money we will have, the more quickly and well our enterprise will understandably prosper.

If the money increase, then so will the speed and quality.

**Ju pli alte staras la lingvo, des pli rapide progresas la popolo.** - The higher the language stands, the more quickly the people will progress.

The progress of the people depends on their level of language.

**Ju pli da bruo, des malpli da ĝuo.** - The more noise, the less enjoyment.

**Ju pli grandaj ili fariĝis, des malpli ili volis tion toleri.** - The bigger they became, the less they wanted to tolerate it.

As they grew in size, their tolerance diminished.

**Ju pli klare vi elparolas, kaj ju malpli da malfacilaj vortoj vi uzas, des pli bone oni komprenas vin.** - The clearer you pronounce, and the fewer difficult words you use, the better one will understand you.

An increase in clarity and a decrease in difficulty will result in better comprehension.

Occasionally **des** appears alone, without **ju**. Then the **ju**-expression is understood through context:

**La saloneto ne estis vasta, tial des pli frapis la okulojn la eleganteco de ĝia aranĝo.** - The tiny living room was not spacious, therefore the elegance of its arrangement was all the more striking.

The underlying idea is: **Ju pli malvasta estas eleganta salono, des pli la eleganteco frapas la okulojn.** (The smaller the elegant parlor, the more the elegance catches the eye.)

**Des** used alone can often be replaced with **tiom**.

In some languages you can use the same word for both expressions with **pli** the controlling and the dependent. This is not possible in Esperanto. **Ju...ju** doesn't make sense. The controlling (mal)pli-expression should have **ju**, and the dependent (mal)pli-expression should have **des**. Don't say: **Ju pli rapide vi revenos hejmen, ju pli bone.** Say: **Ju pli rapide vi revenos hejmen, des pli bone.** Of course **des...des** is also not possible. But it is possible to have several **ju**-expressions which together control one or several **des**-expressions (or the like): **Ju pli zorge kaj ju pli malrapide vi faros la laboron, des pli kontenta kaj des pli ĝoja mi fariĝos.**

