

The influence of L1 syntactic patterns on Japanese EFL learners' interlanguage grammar

Mari Yamauchi* and Mitsumi Uchida**

(*Chiba University of Commerce & **Osaka Prefecture University)

The 9th Asia TEFL International Conference

Teaching English in a Changing Asia : Challenges and Directions
28/07/2011, Hotel Seoul KyoYuk MunHwa HoeKwan, Seoul, Korea

Goals

1. To identify and describe major features of Japanese EFL learners' interlanguage grammar at an earlier stage in development focusing on errors influenced by the L1 syntax
2. To develop a practicable way for language teachers to progressively build learner corpora using data from their own classes

Collecting E-writing Data

1. Moodle Forum Activities
Posting & Commenting on Assigned Topics
2. Data Extraction
Moodle Backup File (.xml) → CSV File
3. Towards Building Learner Corpus
Manual Analysis & Tagging

Moodle Forum Activities

Posting & Commenting on Assigned Topics

“Forum” on Moodle (2010) at CUC

English 1D 2010

You are logged in as [Mari Yamauchi](#): Student ([Return to my normal role](#))

[HOME](#) ▶ [Eng1D](#)

[Return to my normal role](#)

People

[Participants](#)

Activities

[Forums](#) [Resources](#)

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Administration

[Grades](#) [Profile](#)

Courses

[English 1A 2010](#) [English 2B 2010](#) [English 1D 2010](#)

Remote Courses [Moodle 科研プロジェクト <テレサ>](#) [交流授業コース](#) [TOEIC対策リーディングクイズ](#)

[All courses ...](#)

Weekly outline

このサイトは主に、(1)テキストの予習と(2)自由作文課題に使います。 後期のトピック：

- [How are you feeling?](#) 風邪を引いたら何をする◇後置修飾
- [I have sprained my ankle.](#) 病院での異文化体験◇関係代名詞の省略
- [Take me out to the movies](#) お勧めの映画は◇関係節
- [To read a book or not?](#) 漫画で読む日本の歴史◇関係節
- [From earth with love](#) ビニール袋は必要か◇比較
- [Go with chopsticks](#) 地球のためにできること◇助動詞
- [Shall we dance?](#) アメリカのバレンタインデー◇条件説 仮定法
- [What is "Yellow day" for?](#) 韓国のイエローデー◇仮定法

[News forum](#)

30 September - 6 October

今週の課題：Moodle コースに登録する

[U7 予習](#)

7 October - 13 October

◇テキスト：Unit 7 How are you feeling?
◇テキスト予習：Unit 8 (By 10/9 土)
◇作文課題：How was your summer vacation? (By 10/14 木)

[U7 Let's Listen](#) [英作文課題1：How was your summer vacation?](#) [U8 予習](#)

Latest News

(No news has been posted yet)

Upcoming Events

There are no upcoming events

[Go to calendar...](#)[New Event...](#)

Recent Activity

Activity since Saturday, 27 November 2010, 07:20 PM

[Full report of recent activity...](#)

Nothing new since your last login

5

“Forum” on Moodle (2010) at CUC

😊 次のどちらかをテーマに5文以上書きましょう（長い方が評価は高いです）

- 「今まで海外旅行をしたことがありますか」
- 「これまでどんな本を読んできましたか？」（漫画なども可）

😊 文章の内容が分かるタイトルを各自でつけてください。

😊 最初の投稿→最高6点／コメント→最高4点

😊 [注意] エキサイト翻訳は、そのままでは通じない英文が産出されます。

Add a new discussion topic

Discussion		Started by	Replies	Last post
Travel abroad	😊		0	Sat, 20 Nov 2010, 02:09 PM
book	😊		1	Wed, 17 Nov 2010, 11:25 PM
Traveling abroad	😊		2	Wed, 17 Nov 2010, 09:49 AM
My reading experience	😊		1	Tue, 16 Nov 2010, 01:37 PM
BOOK	😊		3	Tue, 16 Nov 2010, 01:33 PM
book	😊		0	Fri, 12 Nov 2010, 12:13 PM
book	😊		0	Fri, 12 Nov 2010, 12:11 PM
Travel abroad	😊		0	Thu, 11 Nov 2010, 04:55 PM
book	😊		0	Thu, 11 Nov 2010, 01:04 PM

“Forum” on Moodle (2010) at CUC

English 1D 2010



Jump to...



[HOME](#) > [Eng1D](#) > [Forums](#) > [英作文課題2 : School Festival / My favorite movie](#) > [My favorite movie](#)



[Search forums](#)

Display replies in nested form



My favorite movie

by [redacted] Saturday, 23 October 2010, 04:46 PM

My favorite movie is PIRATES of the CARIBBEAN series. I did not like it very much first. However, I became interesting as I looked with the second, the third. In addition, this series is my favorite because Johnny Depp of the part of Captain Jack Sparrow starring is cool.

[Reply](#)



Re: My favorite movie

by [redacted] - Wednesday, 27 October 2010, 07:59 PM

I try watching PIRATES of the CARIBBEAN series.

[Show parent](#) | [Reply](#)



My favorite movie Revised

by [redacted] - Thursday, 28 October 2010, 05:21 PM

My favorite movie is PIRATES of the CARIBBEAN series.

I did not like it very much first.

However, I became interesting as I looked with the second, the third.

In addition, this series is my favorite because Johnny Depp of the part of Captain Jack Sparrow starring is cool.

A product is a pleasure on the next time.

“Forum” on Moodle (2010) at OPU



201010399 英語BII【木I】

OPULSS ▶ 201010399 英語BII

You are logged in as 充美 内田 (Logout)

Switch role to... Turn editing on

People

Participants

Activities

Forums

Resources

Search Forums

Go

Advanced search ?

Administration

Turn editing on

Settings

Assign roles

Grades

Groups

Backup

Restore

Import

Reset

Reports

Questions

Files

Unenrol me from 201010399 英語BII

Profile

Topic outline

シラバス[配布版]

受講登録期間（10月1日～8日）のあと、毎週課題があります

課題提出のしかた

課題1. 自己紹介を5文以上の英文で書きましょう

英語表現メモ updated 20101116

1 Chapter 7 Food【前半】

Chapter 7 Food [J]

2 Chapter 7 Food【後半】

承諾メールをください

meadの情報：アルコールは成人になってから！

3 Chapter 8 Water【前半】 + ☆課題1【第1週】締切：2010102623:55

Chapter 8 Water [J]

4 Chapter 8 Water【後半】 + ☆課題1【第2週】締切：2010110223:55

5 Chapter 9 The Marsh Arabs【前半】 + ☆課題2【第1週】締切：20101109 23:55

Chapter 9 The Marsh Arabs [J]

課題2. 夏休みの印象的なできごとについて、5文以上の英文を書きなさい

TOEICやほかの試験のスコアをメモしてきてください

Latest News

Add a new topic...

(No news has been posted yet)

Upcoming Events

There are no upcoming events

Go to calendar...

New Event...

Recent Activity

Activity since Saturday, 27 November 2010, 07:06 PM

Full report of recent activity...

New forum posts:

27 Nov, 21:38

"Re: My winter vacation"

28 Nov, 00:54

"Re: my winter vacation"

28 Nov, 01:05


8

“Forum” on Moodle (2010) at OPU

OPULSS ► 201010399 英語BII ► Forums ► 課題3. 冬休みをどのように過ごす予定ですか？ 5文以上の英文でまとめましょう

[Update this Forum](#)

This forum forces everyone to be subscribed

 [Allow everyone to choose](#)

プライバシー保護の視点を忘れないように。
作品書き込みの締切：20101123 23:55
コメント書き込みの締切：20101130 23:55


[Add a new discussion topic](#)

Discussion		Started by	Replies	Last post
the long-awaited days		匿名さん	2	匿名さん Mon, 29 Nov 2010, 07:45 PM
My winter vacation		匿名さん	1	匿名さん Mon, 29 Nov 2010, 02:04 PM
winter vacation		匿名さん	1	匿名さん Sun, 28 Nov 2010, 03:01 PM
off !		匿名さん	1	匿名さん Sun, 28 Nov 2010, 11:33 AM
Short winter vacation		匿名さん	1	匿名さん Sun, 28 Nov 2010, 01:20 AM
Stay or Not?		匿名さん	2	匿名さん Sun, 28 Nov 2010, 01:05 AM
my winter vacation		匿名さん	1	匿名さん Sun, 28 Nov 2010, 12:54 AM
My winter vacation		匿名さん	1	匿名さん Sat, 27 Nov 2010, 09:38 PM

“Forum” on Moodle (2010) at OPU

OPULSS ▶ 201010399 英語BII ▶ Forums ▶ 課題3. 冬休みをどのように過ごす予定ですか？ 5文以上の英文でまとめましょう ▶ my winter vacation

Display replies flat, with oldest first | Move this discussion to ... | Move

 **my winter vacation**
by [redacted] | Sunday, 21 November 2010, 06:24 PM

Hello!

My ideal winter vacation is to travel with my friends of my high school day's. We planned going to Tokyo Disney Resort. But my winter vacation is too short and my friend and I don't have much money each other. So, we postpone our trip in spring vacation.


In this reason I have no plan in my winter vacation.

Actually, I will work so hard. Because my place of work is a hot pot cooked at the table example "syabu-syabu" and "sukiyaki", in winter there is too busy. So, I will have to work hard.

Sure I will eat "Osechi", "Zoni" and so on. Or I will go to a shrine. I hope to a shrine in Kyoto like "Yasaka shirine", "Kitano shirine".

Thank you for reading.

[Edit](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

 **Re: my winter vacation**
by [redacted] | Sunday, 28 November 2010, 12:54 AM

Hi Rika-san,

If you have time, please go to see Cirque du Soleil's show. Their theater is inside of the Tokyo Disney Resort. The show is so amazing, it's a really something to see!

I hope you will have a great time during the winter vacation.

[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#) | [Reply](#)

Data Extraction

Moodle Backup File (.xml) → CSV File

Activity Reports on Moodle

Activity Reports on Moodle

by students

Topic 12
 **Resource:** 課題5. 第2週 コメントを書きましょう
Never seen
 **Forum:** 課題5.5 My New Year's Resolution 締切 20110118 23:55
Grade: -

 **My New Year's Resolution**
by 1100503051  - Friday, 14 January 2011, 02:06 PM
Hello!!
I have many New year's resolutions.
Above all,there is what I want to come to do for my future.
I want not to have strong likes and dislikes about food thir year.
Now,there are many foods I don't like.
For example,curry and rice,mushrooms,eels,and so on.
When I will become a mother,I may be in trouble.
I hate that my children don't know curry and rice.
So I want to come to eat everything!!
[Edit](#) | [Delete](#)

 **Re: resolution**
by 1100503051  - Thursday, 20 January 2011, 05:19 PM
Hi,Takabe!!
I want you to practice on the guiter and to play it better than now.
I practice hard on the drums too.
If there are what you don't get,please tell me.
If I know that,I teach you.
But I can't play the guiter.(laugh)
I am looking forward to playing 'Kokasen' together!!
[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#)

Topic 13
 **Resource:** Chapter 13 Penguin Feather Fabric [J]
1 views - most recently Wednesday, 26 January 2011, 09:32 PM
 **Forum:** 課題5. もし携帯電話がなかったらどんな不便があると考えられますか、 5文以上の英文でまとめましょ
う
Grade: -

 **Without cellphones**
by 1100503051  - Thursday, 20 January 2011, 08:14 PM
Hello!!
If everyone didn't have cellphones,I wasn't in trouble.
But if only I didn't have a cellphone,I got angry with my friends.
Because when my friend were late for the time that I promised her,she couldn't get me.
So I was waiting her as I was angry with her.

Activity Reports on Moodle

by students

Topic 12

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Never seen

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[Show parent](#) | [Edit](#) | [Split](#) | [Delete](#)

Topic 13

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1 views - most recently Wednesday, 26 January 2011, 09:32 PM

Forum: 課題6. もし携帯電話がなかったらどんな不便があると考えられますか、 5文以上の英文でまとめましょ

Grade: -

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by topics

Learning forums

Section	Forum	Description	Discussions
5	課題2. 夏休みの印象的なできごとについて、 5文以上の英文を書きなさい	自分とクラスメイトのプライバシー保護のことを忘れないようにしまし...	37
7	課題3. 冬休みをどのように過ごす予定ですか？ 5文以上の英文でまとめましょう	プライバシー保護の視点を忘れないように、 作品書き込みの締切...	37
9	課題4. 家庭でのクリスマスや年末年始の習慣について、 5文以上の英文で書きなさい	プライバシーへの配慮を忘れないようにしましょう、 作品の書き込み...	37
11	課題5. どちらか選択：日本以外を旅したことはありますか／これまでにどんな本を読んできましたか？ 5文以上の英文でまとめましょう	作品書き込みの締切：20101221 23:55、コメント書き込みの締切：20101228 23:55	37
12	課題5.5 My New Year's Resolution 締切 20110118 23:55	新年の誓い（今年の目標）を5文以上の英文にまとめましょう、 プライ...	37
13	課題6. もし携帯電話がなかったらどんな不便があると考えられますか、 5文以上の英文でまとめましょう	作品書き込みの締切：コメント書き込みの締切：	37

Activity Reports on Moodle

by students

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Never seen

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Edit | Delete

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Show parent | Edit | Split | Delete

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not convenient for manual
analysis/data storage

Source: Moodle XML file (Moodle Backup Format)

```
<MOODLE_BACKUP>
  <INFO>
    <DETAILS>
      <MOD>
        <NAME>forum</NAME>
        ... forum data ...

      <USER> ... user data ... </USER>

    <DISCUSSIONS>
      <DISCUSSION> ... discussion topic ... </DISCUSSION>
      <POST> ... discussion post ... </POST>
```

Extracted Data

(Output Data: comma/tab-separated)

Extracted Data

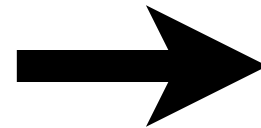
(Output Data: comma/tab-separated)

1. forum ID
2. forum title
3. post ID
4. reference ID
5. topic title
6. student ID
7. name
8. data
9. title of post
10. text body

Extracted Data

(Output Data: comma/tab-separated)

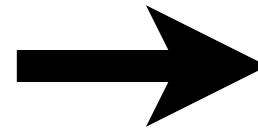
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Extracted Data

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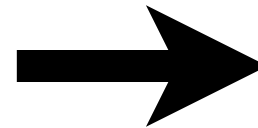
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Extracted Data

(Output Data: comma/tab-separated)

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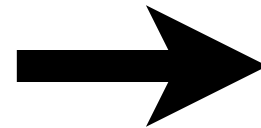


Numbers

Extracted Data

(Output Data: comma/tab-separated)

1. forum ID
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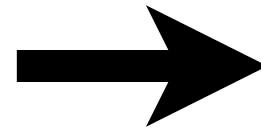
Numbers



Extracted Data

(Output Data: comma/tab-separated)

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8. data
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Numbers



A converting tool currently under development

Towards Building Learner Corpus

Manual Analysis & Tagging

Manual Analysis on Spreadsheet

Forum ID	Forum title	Post ID	Ref ID	Topic title	student ID	name	date_time	title	body	notes
76	課題提出のしかた	102	0	self-introductio	1100503050	kana maruhashi	Sun Oct 17 21:25:01 2010	self-introduction	Hello! My name is Kana Maruhashi. I'm from Hyogo. I'm nineteen years old. My hobby is shopping, listening to music and playing sports. That's why I often spend a holiday going shopping with my friends , go to school while listening to music and belong to softball club. To tell the truth, I'm weak at English, and so I'll study it as hard as I can. I want to speaking English fluently someday.	<ingwithoutbe> I want to speaking English fluently someday. </ingwithoutbe>
76	課題提出のしかた	183	102	self-introductio	1100503039	kana maruhashi	Wed Nov 3 11:38:53 2010	Re: self-introduction	Hellow,maruchan! I was glad to know about you when I read your introduction. My hobby is shopping too, and I also listening to music while go to our school. I envy you because you always wear cute clothes. Let's go shopping together and please select my clothes with me. In your introduction, you said honestly you are weak at English. I think honesty is one of your good points.(^^) See you next time!	<ingwithoutbe>I also listening to music while go to our school. </ingwithoutbe>
76	課題提出のしかた	116	0	Hello!	1100503032	marina takeda	Wed Oct 20 20:52:49 2010	Hello!	Hello! My name is Marina Takeda.My family is consist of five members,father,mother,two older sisters and me. I live in Kyoto.What do you imagine about Kyoto?-----Kyoto has many famous sightseeing spots.For example,Arashiyama,Kiyomizu temple and so on.They are very tasteful spots.These places are worth a visit. By the way,I want to travel many places during student life.Also,I like taking a picture.Pictures remind me of many memory even if they are old thing.So,I want to take many nice pictures when I travel. Thank you !	<topicbe>My family is consist of five members,father,mother,two older sisters and me. </topicbe>

Manual Analysis on Spreadsheet

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76	課題提出のしかた	102	0	self-introductio	1100503050	kana maruhashi	Sun Oct 17 21:25:01 2010	self-introduction	Hello! My name is Kana Maruhashi. I'm from Hyogo. I'm nineteen years old. My hobby is shopping, listening to music and playing sports. That's why I often spend a holiday going shopping with my friends , go to school while listening to music and belong to softball club. To tell the truth, I'm weak at English, and so I'll study it as hard as I can. I want to speaking English fluently someday.	<ingwithoutbe> I want to speaking English fluently someday. </ingwithoutbe>
76	課題提出のしかた	183	102	self-introductio	1100503039	kana maruhashi	Wed Nov 3 11:38:53 2010	Re: self-introduction	Hellow,maruchan! I was glad to know about you when I read your introduction. My hobby is shopping too, and I also listening to music while go to our school. I envy you because you always wear cute clothes. Let's go shopping together and please select my clothes with me. In your introduction, you said honestly you are weak at English. I think honesty is one of your good points.(^^) See you next time!	<ingwithoutbe>I also listening to music while go to our school. </ingwithoutbe>
76	課題提出のしかた	116	0	Hello!	1100503032	marina takeda	Wed Oct 20 20:52:49 2010	Hello!	Hello! My name is Marina Takeda.My family is consist of five members,father,mother,two older sisters and me. I live in Kyoto.What do you imagine about Kyoto?-----Kyoto has many famous sightseeing spots.For example,Arashiyama,Kiyomizu temple and so on.They are very tasteful spots.These places are worth a visit. By the way,I want to travel many places during student life.Also,I like taking a picture.Pictures remind me of many memory even if they are old thing.So,I want to take many nice pictures when I travel. Thank you !	<topicbe>My family is consist of five members,father,mother,two older sisters and me. </topicbe>

simple and versatile

Data for Pilot Study

	CUC	OPU	Total
words	5,694	40,931	46,625
sentences	724	4,616	5,340
posts	140	532	672

Findings So Far

1. Mapping of Topic–Comment Structure
 - 1'. BE-Verb Used for WA
2. Confusion of POS, Predicate-Argument Relations
3. Omission of Reference to Known Information

Numbers of Samples

(numbers of posts containing errors)

	CUC	OPU	Total
T-C (<i>be</i> as TM)	24	28	52
POS, P-A	17	50	67
Known Information	6	10	16

Frequency of Errors

(on basis of post numbers)

	CUC	OPU	Total
T-C (be as TM)	19.4%	5.3%	7.7%
POS, P-A	12.1%	9.4%	10.0%
Known Information	4.3%	1.9%	2.4%

Topic–Comment [J]
vs.
Subject–Predicate [E]

Topic–Comment [J] vs.
Subject–Predicate [E]

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Topic [J] corresponds to Subject [E]

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Topic [J] corresponds to Subject [E], **sometimes**..

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Topic [J] corresponds to Subject [E], **sometimes**..

I. I played baseball with my cousins.

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Topic [J] corresponds to Subject [E], **sometimes**..

I. I played baseball with my cousins.

watashi-wa itoko-to yakyu-o shita.

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Topic [J] corresponds to Subject [E], **sometimes**..

1. **I** played baseball with my cousins.

watashi-wa itoko-to yakyu-o shita.

2. **He** is very busy.

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

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kare-wa totemo isogashii

3. **They** are a nice couple.

karera-wa sutekina kappuru da.

Topic [J] corresponds to Subject [E]

Only when certain conditions are met

I. I played baseball with my cousins.

watashi-wa itoko-to yakyu-o shita.

verbal
predicate


- ☑ [E] and [J] use similar verbal predicates
- ☑ The predicates have similar argument structures

Topic [J] corresponds to Subject [E]

Only when certain conditions are met

2. **He** is very busy.

kare-wa totemo isogashii



adjectival
predicate

- ✓ [E] and [J] use similar adjectival predicates
- ✓ The predicates have similar argument structures

Topic [J] corresponds to Subject [E]

Only when certain conditions are met

3. **They** are a nice couple.

karera-wa sutekina kappuru da.

nominal
predicate

- ✓ [E] and [J] use similar nominal predicates
- ✓ The referent of the predicative noun belongs to the same category as the topic referent in the Japanese sentence

Or else... Errors!

nominal
predicate

- **My home** is Hirakatashi.

watashinoie-wa Hirakatashi da.

- **I'm** also hard schedule.

watashi-mo haado sukejuuru da.

☑ [E] and [J] use similar nominal predicates

* The referent of the predicative noun belongs to the same category as the topic referent in the Japanese sentence

“My home” and “Hirakatashi” don’t belong to the same category

Or else... Errors!



nominal
predicate

- I became a smile.

watashi-wa egao-ni natta.

- I became muscular pain.

watashi-wa kinnikutsuu-ni natta.

* [E] and [J] use similar nominal predicates

* The referent of the predicative noun belongs to the same category as the topic referent in the Japanese sentence

Or else... Errors!



nominal
predicate

- I'm a rich.

watashi-wa kanemochi da.

- This is a surprising.

kore-wa odoroki da.

* [E] and [J] use similar nominal predicates

* The referent of the predicative noun belongs to the same category as the topic referent in the Japanese sentence

Or else... Errors!



nominal
predicate

- **Mobile phones** is very importance.

keetaidenwa-wa totemo juuyoo da.

- **I'm** overconfidence.

watashi-wa jishinkajoo da.

* [E] and [J] use similar nominal predicates

* The referent of the predicative noun belongs to the same category as the topic referent in the Japanese sentence

Topic–Comment [J] vs.
Subject–Predicate [E]

Topic–Comment [J] vs.
Subject–Predicate [E]

Further examples: *be* as a topic marker?

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Further examples: *be* as a topic marker?

I. Because **convenience store** *is* various commodities are sold.

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Further examples: *be* as a topic marker?

1. Because **convenience store** *is* various commodities are sold.
kombini-wa iroiro-na nichiyoochin-ga urarete iru.

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Further examples: *be* as a topic marker?

1. Because **convenience store** *is* various commodities are sold.
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2. **The story** *is* a girl encounters a kidnapping,
and a diplomat solves a case.

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Further examples: *be* as a topic marker?

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kombini-wa iroiro-na nichiyohin-ga urarete iru.
2. **The story** is a girl encounters a kidnapping,
and a diplomat solves a case.
monogatari-wa shoujo-ga yuukai-ni ai, gaikookan-ga jiken-wo kaiketsu suru.

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Further examples: *be* as a topic marker?

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3. **I watched a movie** *is* four weeks ago.

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

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monogatari-wa shoujo-ga yuukai-ni ai, gaikookan-ga jiken-wo kaiketsu suru.

3. **I watched a movie** is four weeks ago.

watashi-ga eiga-wo mita-no-wa yon shuukan mae da.

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

[J]	kare	wa	totemo isogashii
[IL]	He	is	very busy
[IL]	the story	is	S + V
[IL]	S + V	is	four weeks ago

Topic
Marker!?

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

A probable analysis

[J]	kare	wa	totemo isogashii
[IL]	He	is	very busy
[IL]	the story	is	S + V
[IL]	S + V	is	four weeks ago

Topic
Marker!?

Topic–Comment [J] vs.
Subject–Predicate [E]

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

Teachers should emphasise,
at an early stage, that
the English *be* verb is

Topic–Comment [J] vs. Subject–Predicate [E]

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the English *be* verb is



BE + Verb (BE Used for WA)

- I'm belong to a tennis club.

watasi-wa tenisu kurabu-ni haitteimasu

- My family is consist of five

uti-no kazoku-wa 5 nin iru

- I'm enjoy summer vacation with my friend.

Watashi-wa yuujin-to natuyasumi-wo tanosimimasu.

- Without constant practice, kyudo skills are become worse.

itumo renshu sinai-to kyuudoo no ude-wa otiru.

cf. Ahn (2006) on Korean EFL learners' interlanguages

Mapping of Topic–Comment Structure

- **The new year** is very busy.

Sinnen-wa totemo isogasii.

‘We’re very busy on the New Year’s Days’

- **My family** is nothing all special in winter time.

Uchi-wa fuyu-wa tokuni nanimo...

‘We do nothing special in winter time’

- **I’m** also hard schedule.

Watashi-mo haado-sukejuuru da.

‘My schedule is tight too.’

BE-Verb Used for WA

- i think that no mobile phone **is** unconvinient.

keitai nasi-wa hubenda to omou.

‘I think that it would be inconvenient if there were no mobiles.’

- The story **is** a girl encounters a kidnapping.

Sono monogatari-(de)wa onnanoko-ga yuukai ni au.

‘The story is about a girl who gets kidnapped.’

BE-Verb Used for WA

- My favorite movie is Tonarimoto. I watched a movie **is** four weeks ago.
watasi-ga sono eiga-o mita no-wa 4 shuukan mae da.
'It was four weeks ago when I watched the movie.'
- I agree with the round-the-clock of the convenience store. Because convenience store **is** various commodities are sold.
konbini-wa ironna mono-ga utteru kara da
'Because convenience stores sell various commodities'

Different POSs

Different Predicate-Argument
Relations

Arguments of Psych Predicates I

means

‘I feel sorry for X’, and **not**
‘X is sorry’

Arguments of Psych Predicates I

X -wa kawaisou. []

means

‘I feel sorry for X’, and **not**
‘X is sorry’

Arguments of Psych Predicates I

X -wa kawai sou. [J]

topic marker 'sorry'

means

'I feel sorry for X', and **not**

'X is sorry'

Arguments of Psych Predicates 2

Both experiencer and scarer can be
the single argument of the adjective

Arguments of Psych Predicates 2

watashi -wa kowai. [J]

Both experiencer and scarer can be
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watashi -wa kowai. [J]
I *topic marker* 'scared'

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the single argument of the adjective

Arguments of Psych Predicates 2

watashi -wa kowai. [J]

I topic marker 'scared'

sore -wa kowai. [J]

Both experiencer and scarer can be
the single argument of the adjective

Arguments of Psych Predicates 2

watashi -wa kowai. [J]

I *topic marker* 'scared'

sore -wa kowai. [J]

It *topic marker* 'scary'

Both experiencer and scarer can be
the single argument of the adjective

Confusion of Predicate-Argument Relations

Ambiguous predicate-argument relations

(Watashi -wa) kowai.
I topic marker *am scared*

Sore -wa kowai.
That topic marker *is scary*

This may result in...

This may result in...

Every year, I went to two hometown, so
the new year is very busy. [IL]

This may result in...

Every year, I went to two hometown, so
the new year is **very busy**. [IL]

'I am very busy during the New Year's holidays.'

This may result in...

Every year, I went to two hometown, so **the new year** is **very busy**. [IL]

'I am very busy during the New Year's holidays.'

Because I'm not good at get up early, I'm **hard** to go to school every Thursday morning. [IL]

This may result in...

Every year, I went to two hometown, so **the new year** is **very busy**. [IL]

‘I am very busy during the New Year’s holidays.’

Because I’m not good at get up early, I’m **hard** to go to school every Thursday morning. [IL]

‘it’s hard for me to go to school.’

Confusion of Predicate-Argument Relations

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Teachers should emphasise,
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are



**strictly
determined**

Confusion of Predicate-Argument Relations


- I'm **interesting** in tennis.
- Climbing it was very **tired**.
- I'm **hard** to go to school.
- This summer vacation was so **hard** to me.
- I feel that many people are **inconvenient**.
- This movie **can sympathize**.

Omission of Reference to Known Information

Zero Anaphora is the Default Norm



known
and omitted



known
and omitted

Zero Anaphora is the Default Norm

watashi-wa X-o yonda.



known
and omitted



known
and omitted

Zero Anaphora is the Default Norm

watashi-wa X-o yonda.

'I read X.



known
and omitted



known
and omitted

Zero Anaphora is the Default Norm

watashi-wa X-o yonda.

'I read X.

φ_1 omoshirokute φ_2 kandoo shita []

known
and omitted

known
and omitted

Zero Anaphora is the Default Norm

watashi-wa X-o yonda.

'I read X.'

φ_1 omoshirokute φ_2 kandoo shita [J]

***It** was interesting and **I** was moved.'*

known
and omitted

known
and omitted

Omission of Reference to Known Information

No anaphora are normally used in Japanese

A: *Harry Potter* omoshirokatta?
proper noun *was interesting*

B: φ omoshirokatta-yo
was interesting

B: **Harry Potter-wa*/**sore-wa* omoshirokatta -yo
proper noun / *It was interesting*

This may result in... I

- But the story looks like fun. I want to **read** **φ**! [IL]
demo hanasi-wa omosirosou. yonmitai desu.
- my favorite movie is “the bucket list”. i **have**
seen **φ** many times. [IL]
watasi-no daisukina eiga-wa baketurisuto da. nandomo mita.
- After school **φ** **went** to KARAOKÉ at 2:30.[IL]
gakkou-ga owatte kara 2 ji han-ni karaoke-ni itta.

This may result in... 2

- I don't like reading book. **But** **φ** **like** Naruto.

watasi-wa hon-o yomuno-wa kirai demo naruto-wa suki.

- I was very tired. But it was very good.
And **φ** **went** to grand mather's house.

*watasi-wa sugoku tukareta demo totemo tanosikatta.
sorekara sobo-no ie-ni itta.*

Omission of Reference to Known Information

Omission of Reference to Known Information

Teachers should emphasise, at an early stage, that pronouns in English are

Omission of Reference to Known Information

Teachers should emphasise, at an early stage, that pronouns in English are



**not easily
omitted**

Discussion and Implications

1. “Borrowing” as a Communicative Strategy
2. *Wa* as a Syntactic False Friend for Japanese EFL Beginners
3. Knowledge of LI Syntax Should Help EFL Teachers
4. Our Study Based on Learner Corpus Will Contribute

“Borrowing” as a Communicative Strategy


“the use of items from a second language, typically the mother tongue, particularly syntactic and lexical, to make good the deficiencies of the interlanguage”

(Corder, 1992: 26)



Wa as Syntactic False Friend

- My home is Hirakata-shi.
- I'm belong to a tennis club.
- I'm also hard schedule.
- This movie can sympathize.
- convenience store is various commodities are sold.
- The story is a girl encounters a kidnapping.




Wa as Syntactic False Friend

- My home is Hirakata-shi.  preposition?
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Wa as Syntactic False Friend

- My home is Hirakata-shi.  preposition?
- I'm belong to a tennis club.  verb?
- I'm also hard schedule.
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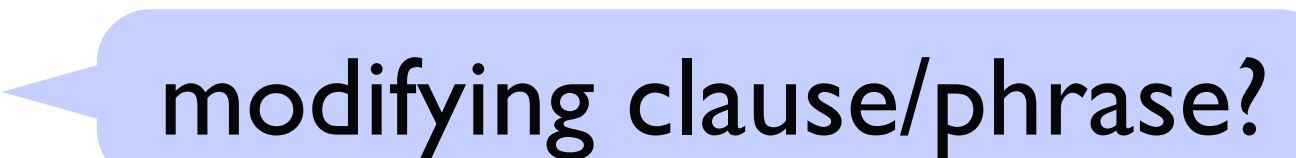
Wa as Syntactic False Friend

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- I'm also hard schedule.  subject/predicate?
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- I'm belong to a tennis club.  verb?
- I'm also hard schedule.  subject/predicate?
- This movie can sympathize.
- convenience store is various commodities are sold.  voice?
- The story is a girl encounters a kidnapping.

Wa as Syntactic False Friend

- My home is Hirakata-shi.  preposition?
- I'm belong to a tennis club.  verb?
- I'm also hard schedule.  subject/predicate?
- This movie can sympathize.
- convenience store is various commodities are sold.  voice?
- The story is a girl encounters a kidnapping.  modifying clause/phrase?

Knowledge of “borrowing” from LI Syntax Should Help EFL Teachers

- To decode underdeveloped interlanguages and understand what was meant
- To decide what to correct first and how
- To find a better way to introduce a new structure and give exercises

Our Study Based on Learner Corpus Will Contribute

- Our initial data suggests that the *wa*-construction could have great impact on Japanese EFL learners' interlanguages
- We will work on to find and shortlist other features of Japanese syntax that can strongly affect their interlanguage grammar

References

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Detecting the Influence of LI Syntactic Patterns on Japanese EFL Learners' Interlanguage Grammar

Thanks a lot!

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