

Verb morphology

- Start by considering data sets (1)-(3) separately. For each, what morphemes can you identify?
- For data set (4):
 - (a) What is the past-tense morpheme?
 - (b) Why does it change its shape? Propose a phonological rule.
 - (c) What effects does it have on the verb roots? Can we make any generalizations here based on what we know about Japanese phonology?
- Note: The Japanese data in this data set are mostly given in transliteration, which is essentially equal to phonemic transcription, but some alveolar consonant allophones are also shown.
- For people with a background in linguistics: Can we make abstract proposals for URs of any of the verb suffixes in (1)-(3)? What (morpho-)phonological rules would be needed to produce the observed surface forms?

(1) This data set represents one of the two types of regular verb in Japanese.

		<i>nonpast</i>	<i>negative nonpast</i>	<i>negative past</i>	<i>provisional</i>	<i>volitional</i>	<i>imperative</i>	<i>formal nonpast</i>
a	'eat'	taberu	tabenai	tabenakatta	tabereba	tabeyoo	tabero	tabemasu
b	'see'	miru	minai	minakatta	mireba	miyoo	miro	mimasu
c	'praise'	homeru	homenai	homenakatta	homereba	homeyoo	homero	homemasu
d	'fall'	otçiru	otçinai	otçinakatta	otçireba	otçiyoo	otçiro	otçimasu

(2) Here is the other type of regular verb.

- Is there any consistent phonological difference between the verb *roots* in the two types?

		<i>nonpast</i>	<i>negative nonpast</i>	<i>negative past</i>	<i>provisional</i>	<i>volitional</i>	<i>imperative</i>	<i>formal nonpast</i>
a	'win'	katu	katanai	katanakatta	kateba	katoo	kate	katçimasu
b	'read'	yomu	yomanai	yomanakatta	yomeba	yomoo	yome	yomimasu
c	'die'	çinu	çinanai	çinanakatta	çineba	çinoo	çine	çinimasu
d	'call'	yobu	yobanai	yobanakatta	yobeba	yoboo	yobe	yobimasu
e	'lend'	kasu	kasanai	kasanakatta	kaseba	kasoo	kase	kaçimasu
f	'write'	kaku	kakanai	kakanakatta	akeba	kakoo	ake	kakimasu
g	'sharpen'	togu	toganai	toganakatta	togeba	togoo	toge	togimasu
h	'take'	toru	toranai	toranakatta	toreba	toroo	tore	torimasu

(3) Are these verbs more like the verbs in (1), or the verbs in (2)? What is surprising here?

		<i>nonpast</i>	<i>negative nonpast</i>	<i>negative past</i>	<i>provisional</i>	<i>volitional</i>	<i>imperative</i>	<i>formal nonpast</i>
a	'buy'	kau	kawanai	kawanakatta	kaeba	kaoo	kae	kaimasu
b	'think'	omou	omowanai	omowanakatta	omoeba	omooo	omoe	omoimasu
c	'inhale'	suu	suwanai	suwanakatta	sueba	suoo	sue	suimasu
d	'say'	iu	iwanai	iwanakatta	ieba	ioo	ie	iimasu

(4) Past-tense forms for the verbs in the groups above

		<i>nonpast</i>	<i>past</i>
1a	'eat'	taberu	tabeta
1b	'see'	miru	mita
1c	'praise'	homeru	hometa
1d	'fall'	otçiru	otçita
2a	'win'	katu	katta
2b	'read'	yomu	yonda
2c	'die'	çinu	çinda
2d	'call'	yobu	yonda
2e	'lend'	kasu	kaçita
2f	'write'	kaku	kaita
2g	'sharpen'	togu	toida
2h	'take'	toru	totta
3a	'buy'	kau	katta
3b	'think'	omou	omotta
3c	'inhale'	suu	sutta
3d	'say'	iu	itta