

Assignment #5: Morphology and syntax

Due Tuesday, October 18

- (1) Determining word class: *onazi(-)* ‘same’

The word *onazi(-)* ‘same’ is often used as a modifier (as its translation would suggest) — but is it an adjective, a noun, or an adjectival noun?

You must give your answers in romanization (*kunrei*) for parts (a)–(d) of this question. If you wish, you are welcome to provide Japanese orthography also.

- (a) Give three inflectional (conjugational) forms that should be grammatical for *onazi(-)* if it is an A root.
- (b) Give one form or phrase that should be grammatical for *onazi(-)* if it is **either** a N or an AN, but should **not** be grammatical if it is an A root.
- (c) Give one form or phrase that should be grammatical for *onazi(-)* if it is a N, but should **not** be grammatical if it is an AN.
- (d) Give one form or phrase that should be grammatical for *onazi(-)* if it is an AN, but should **not** be grammatical if it is a N.
- (e) Now carry out a Google search experiment.
- Make a table that includes all six of the forms or phrases you have given in parts (a)-(d).
 - Search on each form, using Japanese orthography — and don’t forget to put quotation marks (" ") around your search terms. (Include the Japanese orthography for your search term in your table.)
 - The root *onazi(-)* is most often written 同じ
 - If you need to, you can use the online kana chart or the WWWJDIC dictionary (or copy and paste from previous handouts) to add other kana or kanji symbols to your search term
 - In your table, for each item, report the raw number of Google hits and the percentage of hits (out of all the hits reported in your table).
- (f) Based on the results of your Google search experiment, what can you say about the word-class status of *onazi(-)*? Does it clearly belong to one class or another? Are there any word classes (from among A, N, AN) to which it clearly does *not* belong? For full credit, give a thoughtful and well-structured argument here.

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(2) Use the X-bar model to draw trees for the following sentences. You only need to show the completed tree (step-by-step diagrams are not necessary), but be sure that the trees that you draw are compatible with the X-bar model. For these particular sentences, it is safe to use your intuitions about *constituent structure* in the English translations to make assumptions about the Japanese sentences.

(a) Ken-ga odot-ta.
Ken-NOM dance-PST 'Ken danced.'

(b) Ken-ga Aya-ni keeki-o age-ta.
Ken-NOM Aya-DAT cake-ACC give-PST 'Ken gave Aya (a) cake.'

(c) Aya-ga Ken-ga keeki-o yai-ta to omot-ta.
Aya-NOM Ken-NOM cake-ACC bake-PST C think-PST
 'Aya thought that Ken baked (a) cake.'

(3) Consider the following sentence. Give a plausible translation into English (more than one may be possible; you only need to give one). Then draw an X-bar tree for the sentence.

Warat-ta to omo-u.
laugh-PST C think-NPST

(4) Here are some sentences that are somewhat different from examples we have examined in class. Use what you know about the X-bar model to propose trees for these cases. If you are unsure about a particular aspect of a structure, feel free to include an explanation of the choice that you have made, or mention alternatives.

Some hints:

- Think about subject and predicate.
- Remember that words belonging to lexical/open-class categories (X) always project phrases (XP).
- Consider whether other phrases inside a particular phrase are required by the head of that phrase, or are optional additional information.

(a) Ken-ga oisi-i keeki-o yai-ta.
Ken-NOM delicious-NPST cake-ACC bake-PST 'Ken baked (a) delicious cake.'

(b) Keeki-ga oisi-katta.
cake-NOM delicious-PST '(The) cake was delicious.'