

- **Verb morphology**
- **Further issues in verb, adjective morphology**

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*Background:*

- *Handout: Morphology: Introduction*
- *Data set: Adjective morphology*
- *Data set: Verb morphology (part 1)*
- *Data set: Verb morphology (part 2)*

# 0. Today's plan

- Verb morphology: Overview
  - Verb classes
  - Important V suffixes
  - Phonological rules (quick sketch)
- Are V and A distinct word classes in Japanese?
- Negative for V and A
  - Suffix or separate word?
- Morphological analysis of the formal verb suffixes

# 1. Verb morphology — overview

- Quick review: How are we defining **morpheme**?

# 1. Verb morphology — overview

- Quick review: How are we defining **morpheme**?
  - Minimal unit of sound-meaning correspondence
  - What this means:
    - Sound shape is consistent (other than the effect of phonological rules)
    - Cannot be broken down into smaller parts that contribute consistent meaning
- **Today we will consider:** How well do these basic concepts fit verb morphology in Japanese?

# 1. Verb morphology — overview

- Data set - [Verb morphology \(full version\)](#)
  - What morphemes did you identify in (2)?
    - See also partial data set ([Verbs, part 2](#))
  - Which of these morphemes are roots, and which are affixes?
    - Are any of them hard to classify?
  - **Where** do we divide the verb roots from the affixes? How do we make this decision?

# 1. Verb morphology — overview

- Data set - [Verb morphology \(full version\)](#)
  - What morphemes did we identify in (1) last time?
    - See also partial data set ([Verbs, part 1](#))
  - Are there any systematic *phonological* differences between the affixes found in (1) and (2)?
    - What factors underly this big-picture pattern?
  - Should the affixes in (1) and (2) that share a meaning be considered to be the same morpheme or not? Why?
    - This is an advanced question — what do you think?

# 1. Verb morphology — overview

- Data set - [Verb morphology \(full version\)](#)
  - Two **classes** of verbs
    - **Vowel-root** verbs (1), '1-grade' (一段)
    - **Consonant-root** verbs (2), '5-grade' (五段)
      - Verbs in [JDIC](#) are labeled *v1* or *v5C*, where *C* is the root-final consonant
  - How are their **suffixes** different?
  - How should we characterize the verbs in (3)?  
How can we understand this pattern?

# 1. Verb morphology — overview

- Data set - [Verb morphology \(full version\)](#)
  - Which forms help diagnose vowel- / consonant-?
  - What vowels can a verb root end in?

<i>nonpast</i>	<i>provisional</i>	???	???	???	
kiru	kireba				'wear'
kiru	kireba				'cut'
deru	dereba				'go out'
keru	kereba				'kick'
nuru	nureba				'paint'



# 1. Verb morphology — overview

- Data set - [Verb morphology \(full version\)](#)
  - Which forms help diagnose vowel- / consonant-?
  - What vowels can a verb root end in? **[i], [e] only**

<i>nonpast</i>	<i>provisional</i>	<i>negative (nonpast)</i>	<i>formal (nonpast)</i>	<i>past</i>	
<b>ki</b> -ru	kireba	<b>kinai</b>	<b>kimasu</b>	<b>kita</b>	'wear'
<b>kir</b> -u	kireba	<b>kir</b> <u>a</u> nai	<b>kir</b> <u>i</u> masu	<b>kitt</b> <u>a</u>	'cut'
<b>de</b> -ru	dereba	<b>denai</b>	<b>demasu</b>	<b>deta</b>	'go out'
<b>ker</b> -u	kereba	<b>ker</b> <u>a</u> nai	<b>ker</b> <u>i</u> masu	<b>kett</b> <u>a</u>	'kick'
<b>nur</b> -u	nureba	<b>nur</b> <u>a</u> nai	<b>nur</b> <u>i</u> masu	<b>nutt</b> <u>a</u>	'paint'

## 2. V past and related suffixes

- Data set - [Verb morphology \(full version\)](#)
  - How and where does the **past suffix** (and related suffixes, like the gerund) **change** its surface form?
  - What kinds of changes affect **verb roots** when these suffixes are added?

## 2. V past and related suffixes

- Data set - [Verb morphology \(full version\)](#)
  - How and where does the **past suffix** (and related suffixes, like the gerund) **change** its surface form?
    - Becomes **voiced** after **voiced stops** (including nasals) (or: after voiced non-approximants?)
  - What kinds of changes affect **verb roots** when these suffixes are added?
    - Sometimes change place of articulation
    - Sometimes become nasal or vowel
    - Common factor: To create a **legal mora**

# 3. More about V and A morphology

## Group discussion

- Data set - [Exploring verb and adjective morphology](#)
  - Adjectives take tense and negation like verbs. Should we consider them a third class of verbs? Or is 'adjective' a distinct word class (part of speech) in Japanese?
  - Is there any evidence here about whether adjective negation involves one single suffix *-kuna-*, or is built from the adverbial suffix *-ku*?
  - Is there any evidence here about whether the multiple examples of *na*-shaped negation forms involve one single morpheme, or multiple (though similar) distinct morphemes?

## 4. Morphological analysis of the FORMAL suffix

- Can we break down these formal verbs any further?

	<i>nonpast</i>	<i>neg nonpast</i>	<i>volitional</i>	<i>imperative</i>	<i>past</i>
/tabe-/ 'eat'	tabe- <b>masu</b>	tabe- <b>masen</b>	tabe- <b>masyoo</b>	(tabe- <b>mase)</b>	tabe- <b>masita</b>
/jom-i-/ 'read'	yom-i- <b>masu</b>	yom-i- <b>masen</b>	yom-i- <b>masyoo</b>	(yom-i- <b>mase)</b>	yom-i- <b>masita</b>

- The formal suffix itself inflects (conjugates) like a verb: consonant-root verb or vowel-root verb?
- Two of the inflectional forms of this suffix are irregular — which ones?

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- The formal suffix itself inflects (conjugates) like a verb: **consonant-root verb** or ~~vowel-root verb~~?
- Two of the inflectional forms of this suffix are irregular — which ones? | **negative, volitional**

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- Advanced analysis: We can treat the /i/ that shows up in the consonant-root verbs before the formal suffix as a “stem-forming” morpheme (vowel-root verbs have a *zero morpheme* for their stem-forming morpheme);
  - More on this idea when we look at honorifics

## 5. Today's key points and skills

- 1 Apply the concept of **morpheme** as *systematic sound-meaning correspondence* to a data set
  - Divide words into morphemes
  - Justify your claims about morpheme divisions
- 2 What are some aspects of Japanese verb morphology where it gets tricky to:
  - identify morpheme boundaries?
  - determine whether two forms belong to the same morpheme?



## 5. Today's key points and skills

- 3 What **phonological rules** affect verb past-tense (and related) forms, and what is the general motivation for these rules?
- 4 Is there evidence for **adjective** as a distinct word class in Japanese?