

Japanese: Language in context

TV clip: "Duomo" evening variety show, KBC-TV (Fukuoka)

Things to look for:

- a. Pronouns and address forms (double underline) — Which are used? In what circumstances?
- b. Verbs of giving/receiving (G/R; dashed underline) used as auxiliaries — Which ones? Why?
- c. Who uses honorific language (wavy underline)? In what situations?
- d. The 'particle' *-wa* (dotted underline) — Are there cases of contrastive topic? Non-contrastive?
- e. Are social-distance polite forms used? In what situations?

- f. This clip also contains examples of Fukuoka dialect morphosyntax (**bolded**); in what situations?
- g. Use of sentence-final particles; frequent ones are
 - ▶ *yo*: mild emphasis, often new information
 - ▶ *ne*: generally used to seek agreement or confirmation from listener
- h. Use of the construction *n(o)* + copula (*na n da*, *na n desu*, *na no desu*); this is hard to pin down a translation for, but often signals that an explanation for something is being given. 'It's that'

Cast of characters:

- Henmi-san: Young(ish) male TV personality (his lines are *not* marked with '•')
- In (3)(a)-(b), Henmi-san is talking to two different adult female customers of the supermarket
- In (4)-(6), Tomomi (T) and Mie (M) are female college students (younger than Henmi-san)

(1) Henmi-san outside the Marukyoo supermarket in Ijiri, Fukuoka. Addressing camera.

- 01 Go-ran kudasai!
look G/R
- 02 Watakusi-no haato-ni sanzen-to kagayaku kono wakaba-maaku.
heart radiant-ly shine DEM young.leaf-mark
- 03 Kore-ga nani-o imi-suru ka to moosimasu to,
DEM what meaning-SURU Q C say-OBJ.HON CONJ
- 04 kon'ya-no Middonaito Kukkingu Tobetobe Supaisu,
this.evening Midnight Cooking ??? Spice
- 05 watakusi hazimete datta n-desu.
first-time COP NO-COP
- 06 Dakara kono syosin-ni modotte wakaba-maaku-o tukete,
therefore DEM beginning return-TE young.leaf-mark attach-TE
- 07 kyoo-wa tyoosen-site mitai to omotte orimasu.
today attempt-SURU-TE try C think-TE IRU-HUMBLE
- 08 Watakusi-wa kotira,
here
- 09 Middonaito Kukkingu o-nazimi-no Marukyoo, Iziri-ten-no hoo-ni kite orimasu.
familiar (store name) Ijiri-branch direction come-TE IRU-HUMB
- 11 Koko de, donna onna-no hito-ga matte iru no ka,
here at what.kind.of female person wait-TE IRU NO(-COP) Q

- 12 sosite donna ryoori-ga matte iru no ka,
and.then what.kind.of cooking wait-TE IRU NO(-COP) Q
- 13 hizyoo-ni tanosimi desu.
extreme-ly something.to.look.forward.to COP
- 14 Sore de-wa, itte mitai to omoimasu.
With that go-TE try C think

(2) Cut to studio. Several of the talk-show commentators sitting around a table.

Senior commentator introduces the segment; makes speech error; all are amused.

[Henmi-san:]

- 15 Konban wa! Henmi Akimasa desu.
good.evening (name) COP
- 16 E. Moo, nee! Supaisu kiita, maa, pisyatto sita repooto-o ne,
{...well...} spice be.effective INTERJ slap/splash SURU report PRT
- 17 dekireba ii n desu kedo.
can.do-if good NO-COP but
- 18 Watakusi hazimete to iu wake de gozaimasite, ne,
first-time C say reason COP-HON (PerfPol) PRT/INTERJ
- 19 ee, kono {???}-ga matte kita wake na n desu ga.
DEM wait-TE came reason COP NO-COP but
- 20 Nanka koo kantan soo na koo na da na to omou n desu kedomo,
somehow this.way simple that.way this.way COP PRT C think NO-COP but
- 21 zitu-wa muzikasii to.
truth difficult {C? or, F. dialect for 'no' (=NO-COP)?}
- 22 Nani-ga muzikasii ka to iimasu to desu ne,
what difficult Q C say CONJ {hesitation}
- 23 mazu, nee, mina-san-ni syuzai-no o-negai-o sinai to ikenai;
first everyone filming request SURU-NEG C go-NEG ('have to do')
- 24 de sikamo ryoori-o tukutte itadaku;
and furthermore cooking make-TE G/R
- 25 sosite sono ue-ni, o-uti-ni made agarasite moratte, taberu
and.then DEM top house up.to go.up-CAUS-TE G/R eat
- 26 to iu desu ne, kore-wa moo, hontoo.
C say {hesitation} DEM already true

[female studio personality:]

- 27 • Ki {?suzusii}.
spirit {chilly}

[Henmi-san:]

- 28 Ki {?suzusii} desyoo?
spirit {?chilly} COP-PROB

- 29 Hontoo-wa ki-(wa) amari nai desu yo, hontoo-ni, nee.
truth spirit not-much exist-NEG COP PRT truly PRT
- 30 Maa, {???} mon desu ne.
Well, thing COP PRT
- 31 Kuzi-o name-nagara no syuzai to iu koto de,
difficult.things go.through-while filming C say thing with
- 32 ee, konkai-wa doo natta ka, sassoku go-ran itadakimasyoo.
this.time how became Q right.away look G/R

(3) Inside Marukyoo, Henmi-san makes several unsuccessful attempts to convince adult female customers to participate in “Midnight Cooking”.

(a)

[Henmi-san:]

- 33 Sumimasen.
excuse.me

[Adult female customer #1:]

- 34 • Hai.
yes
- 35 A. {???} toko(ro) sumimasen.
place/moment excuse.me
- 36 Anoo, KBC-terebi Duomo to iu bangumi na n desu ga,
KBC-TV Duomo C say program COP NO-COP but
- 37 ziman-ryoori-o tyotto go-syookai itadakitai na to...
pride-cooking a.little introduction G/R-WANT PRT C
- 38 • Dekinai n desu.
can.do-NEG NO-COP
- 39 Hee?
huh?
- 40 • Zenzen dekinai (n desu.)
not.at.all can.do-NEG (NO-COP)
- 41 Iya, demo, ima o-niku-o.
no but now meat
- 42 • Kore-wa inu no esa na n desu.
DEM dog animal.food COP NO-COP
- 43 Inu no esa!
dog animal.food

(b)

[Adult female customer #2:]

- 44 • Watasi konaida demasita yo, Middonaito Kukkingu.
recently appeared PRT

[Henmi-san:]

- 45 Ge!!!

(4) Inside Marukyo, Henmi-san encounters female college students Tomomi and Mie.

[Henmi-san:]

- 46 Konniti wa! Niyaniya **sentotte!** [= sinaide ite]
good.day smirking don't.be.doing
- 47 Kyoo, hutari de nanka koo, nanka suru, kore?
today 2-CL as something this.way something SURU DEM
- 48 •M Nai, nai, nai!
exist-NEG
- 49 Nanka, ryoori to-ka **sen?** [= sinai]
something cooking etc. do-NEG
- 50 •T Nai, nai!
exist-NEG
- 51 Nanka, tyotto, ziman no ryoori-o ne?
something a.little pride cooking PRT
- 52 •M Nan.de tuketa **n,** sore, nan.de tuketa **n?** [= no]
why attached PRT DEM why attached PRT
- 53 Kore-wa syosinsya da kara.
this beginner COP because
- 54 Tyotto, nanka ryoori **tukuttyaran?** [= tukutte kurenai?]
a.little something cooking make-TE-G/R
- 55 •T Hee? Demo, **tukuri-kiran** desu. [= tukurenai]
huh but make-can't COP
- 56 Iya, nan.de.mo ii! Hitotu o-negai-si-tai.
no no.matter.what good 1-CL request-HON-WANT
- 57 Ano, zairyoohi-wa zenbu, kono gyuunyuu-mo hukumete, zenbu motu kara...
ingredients.cost all DEM milk-also include-TE all hold because
- 58 •T Katte kureru (no ne)?
buy-TE G/R NO-(COP) PRT
- 59 OK? OK! Kanozyo-wa?
her (=you)
- 60 •M Komattyau!
'it's going to end up being a problem!'
- 61 To iu koto de-mo OK to...! OK **yaroo?** [= daroo]
C say thing COP-even C COP-PROB
- 62 Saa! Sore de-wa, sassoku, ne!, zairyoo-o kaitai to omoimasu.
well that with right-away PRT ingredients buy-WANT C think
- 63 Mazu zya, tyotto sono mae ni o-namae-o...
first then a.little DEM before name

- 64 •T Hamada Tomomi desu.
(full name) COP
- 65 Tomomi-tyan? To...
and
- 66 •M Mie desu.
(given name)
- 67 Mie-tyan. {???) wa?
- 68 •M Imori.
(family name)
- 69 Imori Mie-tyan.
- 70 •M Hai.
yes

(5) Tomomi and Mie start to shop.

- 71 •T Sotti no hoo-ga ii **yan.** [= zya nai]
that.one option good COP.NEG
- 72 •M Dore-ga ii toko ka **wakaran** yo. [= wakaranai]
which good place Q understand-NEG PRT
- 73 •T Yasui no de ii yo nee.
cheap one COP-TE good PRT PRT
- 74 •M Soo nee. Kore ii.
that's.right PRT DEM good
- 75 •T Un.
yeah
- 76 "Yasui no de ii" to 232-en no ebisu-nankin-o. Ne.
cheap one COP-TE good C 232-yen (type of pumpkin) PRT
- 77 • Hai.
yes
- 78 Hai, kaimasita.
yes bought
- 79 • Kaimasita.
bought
- 80 Kyoo-wa nanka dokka itta kaeri?
today something somewhere went return (N)
- 81 •M Iya, zikka kara kaette kita de.
no family.home from return-TE came PRT
- 82 •T Zikka kara kaette kita.
family.home from return-TE came
- 83 Zikka kara kaette kita **to?** [= no]
family.home from return-TE came Q-PRT

- 84 •M Un. Tabemono-ga nai **ken!** [= kara]
yeah food exist-NEG because
- 85 Sositara iya, moo, kyoo zenbu motu kara!
in.that.case no already today everything hold because
- 86 Moo, **iran** mono-mo **koote!** [=iranai mono-mo katte]
already need-NEG thing-also buy-TE
- 87 •M Kore...
DEM
- 88 Burokkori-erabi-no pointo-wa nanka aru?
broccoli-choosing point something exist
- 89 •M Midori-ppoi no? Iya, wakaranai!
green-like no understand-NEG
- 90 Burokkori-wa midori **yan!** Aa, midori-no koi yatu? [=zuya nai]
broccoli green COP-NEG ah green deep one
- 91 •M Un. Soo.
yeah like.that
- 92 •T Totemo midori.
really green
- 93 Are? Totemo midori!
- 94 •T Totemo midori!
- 95 •M Atta!
exist-PST
- 96 •T Wa, atta!
INTERJ
- 97 •M Kore, kankei nai kedo, kawasete moraemasu?
DEM relation exist-NOT but buy-CAUS G/R-POTENTIAL
- 98 Aa, ii.
oh fine
- 99 [They all enthuse over the aloe yogurt.]
- 100 Kore ne, Akiyama-san ga suki **na n yo.** [=na n da yo]
DEM PRT (name) like COP NO-(COP) PRT
- 101 •T A, soo? {???
- 102 To iu koto de kyoo watakusi, wakaba-maaku-de hazimete na n desu kedo,
C say thing COP-TE today new.leaf-mark with first.time COP NO-COP but
- 103 donna ryoori-ga dekiru ka tanosimi.
what.kind.of cooking can-do Q thing.to.look.forward.to
- 104 Kore dake kaimasita!
DEM only/exactly buy

(6) At Tomomi's apartment.

- 105 Saa, tokoro kawarimasite, kotira-wa Tomomi-tyan-no o-uti desu ne?
place change-TE here house COP PRT
- 106 •T Hai.
- 107 Hai. Ee, subarasii o-taku. Yatin-wa, o-ikura?
wonderful house rent how.much
- 108 •T Yon-man, ni-sen.
4-man (unit of 10,000), 2-thousand
- 109 Aa, yon-man ni-sen en? Ii zya-nai desu ka!
yen good COP-NEG COP Q
- 110 Sosite koko-ga daidokoro. Ii desu ne!
and.so here kitchen good COP PRT
- 111 Zya! {???} hutari-ni doozi-ni hazimete moraimasyoo!
2-CL same.time begin-TE G/R-VOLITIONAL