

Today's topics:

- **Morphology check-in**
- **Word class — Morphological and distributional criteria**

Background:

- *Morphology handouts and data sets*

0. Today's objectives

After today's class, you should be able to:

- Feel confident applying key skills and concepts from our analyses of V, A morphology
- Consider evidence for **word classes** in Japanese
 - Use **morphological & distributional** evidence:
 - determine whether a set of words forms a single word class
 - identify similarities and differences between word classes

1. Warm-up and review

- Any questions or points to clarify from our morphology unit so far?
 - Handout: [Morphology in the mental grammar](#)

2. Word classes

Discussion

- **Word class:**
also called **syntactic category**, “part of speech”
 - What are some examples?
 - How do we determine word class?

2. Word classes

Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#), (1) (4) (6) (10)

- What does the *Genki* textbook have to say about word classes?
- We will focus on determining **word class** by
 - **Morphological** criteria
 - **Distributional** criteria

3. Word classes: V vs. A

Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#), (4) (5) (8)

Discussion

- Should we make a distinction between **V** and **A**?
 - Points in favor?
 - Points against?

3. Word classes: V vs. A

Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#), (4) (5) (8)

Discussion

- Should we make a distinction between **V** and **A**?
 - Points in favor?
 - Is there a bigger difference between V and A than between consonant-V and vowel-V?
 - Points against?
 - Which word classes inflect (conjugate) for tense?

4. Word classes: Copula distribution

Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#), (12 e)

Work groups

- Compare **N** and **A** as sentence predicate with respect to **copula** ('linking verb') use:
 - When does the copula carry **tense** and **negation** information, and when does it not?
 - When can the copula be used with either the **informal or formal** form, and when does it have to be formal?

Try it with: *hon* (本) N 'book' *taka-i* (高い) A 'high'

4. Word classes: Copula distribution

Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#), (12 e) | N vs A

- Which word class can be used with all copula forms?

hon (本) N

hon *da*

hon *desu*

hon *datta*

hon *desita*

hon *zya nai*

hon *zya arimasen*

hon *daroo*

hon *desyoo*

taka-i (高い) A

* *taka-i* *da*

taka-i *desu*

* *taka-i* *datta*

* *taka-i* *desita*

* *taka-i* *zya nai*

* *taka-i* *zya arimasen*

taka-i *daroo*

taka-i *desyoo*

5. Word classes: N, AN, A

Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#), (7 b), (14), (15)

Discussion

- Are **N**, **AN**, and **A** all distinct categories?
 - What kinds of meanings do they have?
 - What is their morphological and distributional behavior?

5. Word classes: N, AN, A

Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#), (7 b), (14), (15)

Discussion

- What morphological or distributional properties distinguish **AN** from **N**?
- What morphological or distributional properties distinguish **AN** from **A**?

6. Word classes in JDIC

- JDIC Japanese/English dictionary: [Word Search tool](#)
- How do JDIC entries represent **word class**?
Some items to look up:
 - *tabe-ru* (食べる) V/vowel-root 'eat'
 - *ik-u* (行く) V/consonant-root 'go'
 - *hon* (本) N 'book'
 - *taka-i* (高い) A 'high'
 - *kiree* (綺麗) AN 'beautiful'
- Where do JDIC entries show **pronunciation**?

7. For next time

- We will begin to use dictionary and corpus tools to form and test hypotheses about word class
- Prep questions will...
 - follow up on today's material
 - give you a chance to practice with online tools
 - [JDIC dictionary](#)
 - SoJ class [kana charts](#)