

- **Word class**
- **N, AN, A and corpus data**

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*Background:*

- *Handout: Word classes in Japanese*

# 0. Today's plan

- Finishing up: V morphology (from last time)
- Word classes
- Distributional/morphological evidence from corpus data

# 1. Word classes: V vs. A

- Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#)

## **Discussion**

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

# 1. Word classes: V vs. A

- Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#)

## 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?

## 2. Word classes: Copula distribution

- Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#)

### Discussion

- Which word classes use a form of the **copula** when they are the predicate of a sentence, and when?
  - 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?

### 3. Word classes: N, AN, A

- Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#)

#### **Discussion**

- Is there a difference between N, AN, and A?
  - What kinds of meanings do they have?
  - What is their morphological and distributional behavior?

### 3. Word classes: N, AN, A

- Handout - [Word classes in Japanese](#)

#### Discussion

- Is there a difference between N, AN, and A?
  - What kinds of meanings do they have?
  - What is their morphological and distributional behavior?
- Corpus data bearing on some of these questions:
  - Data set - [Distributional evidence for word class](#)
  - Data set - [Corpus data on N, AN](#)

## 4. Preview: The BCCWJ *Syoonagon* corpus

- Handout - [Guide to using the BCCWJ 少納言 \(Syoonagon\) corpus](#)
  - Orientation to the corpus
- We will work with this in class next time
  - Useful resources:
    - [WWWJIC dictionary](#)
    - [Google Translate](#) (Japanese → English)
    - SoJ class [kana charts](#)



## 5. Today's key points and skills

- 1 Apply the concept of **morpheme** as *systematic sound-meaning correspondence* to a data set
- 2 Understand some differences between **open-class** and **closed-class** syntactic categories (word classes)
- 3 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