

# Some linguistic aspects of compounds in Japanese Practice using JDIC and BCCWJ

Background:

• Handout: Word classes in Japanese

- Midterm exam on Th Oct 12
  - Review in class on Tu Oct 10 use Padlet to submit questions and topics for discussion
  - Grad students will have an optional alternative (details next time)

#### 0. Today's plan

- Compounds and *rendaku*
- Word classes: Verbal nouns (VNs)
- Hands-on analysis with WWWJDIC and the BCCWJ

# 1. Compounds (1): Rendaku

- What is a **compound** (also called *compound word*)?
  - Do they exist in English? What are some examples?

# 1. Compounds (1): *Rendaku*

- Data set <u>Compounds and *rendaku*</u>
  - What is *rendaku*?
  - What happens to /h/?
  - What is a **semantic** restriction on *rendaku*?
  - What is the phonological restriction on *rendaku* known as **Lyman's Law**?

# 1. Compounds (1): *Rendaku*

#### Group activity #1

- Data set GDocs for discussion groups page 1 Links are on <u>Daily syllabus</u> page
  - Which of these compounds do you predict should undergo *rendaku*, and which not? Why?
  - Use native-speaker intuitions and <u>WWWJDIC</u> to check your predictions (JDIC of course gives normative 'standard Japanese')

## 2. Compounds (2): Verbal nouns

- Handout <u>Word classes in Japanese</u>, sec 5 (VNs)
- Some points for discussion:
  - How is a VN like, and not like, (other) Ns?
  - Review: What is the case suffix -o (を)?
  - What are some noteworthy characteristics of the verb 'do' in general? With respect to VNs?

# 2. Compounds (2): Verbal nouns

#### Group activity #2

- Data set *GDocs for discussion groups* page 2
  - BCCWJ: Which of these is/are a VN?
  - JDIC: What word class is given for these words? How are VNs represented in JDIC?

# 3. Today's key points

- **1.***Rendaku* is a (somewhat) regular process seen in Japanese compounds that has restrictions based on
  - phonology
  - semantics
  - morphological structure
- **2.** VN is a word class in Japanese that is nearly identical to N, except that VN can combine with *suru* 'do' to create compound words that function as verbs
- **3.** Hands-on practice with JDIC and BCCWJ