Today's topic:

- **Discussion and review:**
  Syntax and *wa* as topic marker

Background preparation:

- *Syntax unit and* -wa *discussion*
- *Questions on Padlet or in class*

0. Today's plan

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

- Understand the structure, content, and expectations for the syntax/-*wa* quiz
- Feel more confident building syntax trees for Japanese sentences, including *wa*-marked phrases

0. Course information

- **Quiz #4** on F Nov 6 | info & review guide
  - Any questions about the quiz **structure** or **expectations**?
  - Any questions about the quiz **content**?
  - Any **topics** to review or discuss?
    - We will discuss the trees from the end of the slides from last time

1. Warm-up and review

- Draw a tree: (student pairs on boards)

a. boku-no tomodati *my*.*MASC*.*INFML*-*POSS* *friend*	‘my friend’
b. hon-o ut-ta *book*-*ACC* *sell*-*PAST*	‘sold (a/the) book(s)’
a. supein kara *Spain from*	‘from Spain’
d. hanasi-ga omosiro-i *stories*-*NOM* *interesting*-*NPST*	‘stories are interesting’

1. Warm-up and review

Some tree-drawing tips

- Look for:
  - Verb and direct object = VP
  - Postposition and its object = PP
  - Possessive or demonstrative with a noun = NP
  - Subject and predicate!
- Convention for our class: You do not have to draw the ‘bar level’ (N', P', V', etc.) unless the phrase has both a complement and a specifier in it
- Think about **constituents** in trees

2. Sentences with *wa*-phrases

- Can these *wa*-phrases be **noncontrastive**?
  Can they be **contrastive**?

(a) Aya-wa kono hon-o yon-da.
Aya-TOP *this book-ACC* *read-PAST*

(b) Zoo-wa hana-ga nagai.
elephant-WA *nose-GA* *long-NPAST*

(c) Kono hon-wa Aya-ga yon-da.
This book-WA *Aya-NOM* *read-PAST*

2. Sentences with *wa*-phrases

- Can these *wa*-phrases be **noncontrastive**?
  Can they be **contrastive**?

  (a) Aya-wa kono hon-o yon-da.

  Aya-TOP this book-ACC read-PAST

  - Initial position = could be noncontrastive
  - With the right context, could be contrastive

2. Sentences with *wa*-phrases

- Can these *wa*-phrases be **noncontrastive**?
  Can they be **contrastive**?

(b) Zoo-wa hana-ga nagai.

elephant-WA *nose-GA* *long-NPAST*

- There is no base position inside IP — must be "above" the IP, but is not moved = could be noncontrastive
- With the right context, could be contrastive

2. Sentences with *wa*-phrases

- Can these *wa*-phrases be **noncontrastive**?
  Can they be **contrastive**?

  (c) Kono hon-wa Aya-ga yon-da.

  This book-WA *Aya-NOM* *read-PAST*

  - If moved from base direct-object position, **must** be contrastive
  - Could be noncontrastive if base-generated in topic position! (Implications for structure of VP?)

2. Sentences with *wa*-phrases

- Draw trees!

3. Critiquing the Tofugu article

What course concepts help us critique these claims from the article? (from prep questions)

- 'ga' goes after a word or phrase to pick it out as the subject of a sentence
- 'ga' indicates the NP that is the "perpetrator," the protagonist who is doing the verb
- 'wa' and 'ga', just like locational 'ni' or directional 'e', are postpositions