Today's topics:

- **Tense**
- **Aspect and verb classes**

Background preparation:
(no preparation)

0. Today's objectives

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

- Define the linguistic concepts of **tense** and **aspect**
- Explain the key difference between how tense functions in Japanese versus English, and provide appropriate translations between languages
- Discuss the V-*te*+*i*- construction in Japanese in terms of aspect: What aspect categories can this construction represent, and how does this interact with the meanings of individual verbs?

0. Course information

- Project **methodology plan** is due **F Nov 13**
- Reminders (from Monday's discussion)
  - Follow structure given on assignment handout
  - Your methodology plan should be detailed enough for someone else to take on your project!
    - Specify exact data sources (texts, songs, episodes, etc.)
    - Specify the different conditions / categories / etc. in your design, and how you will define them
    - Specify what you will do with your data once you have collected it (what to compare? what to graph?)

1. Tense: Relationships between times

Work groups

- Data set - Tense and aspect in Japanese vs English
  - Try examples (1) – (3)
    - Everybody try them first without conferring (non-Japanese speakers guess!)
    - Then check answers: What are some differences we see between Japanese and English?

1. Tense: Relationships between times

- **Tense** marks relationships between times
  - Categories: past, future, present; +remote
    - WALS map: Past tense(s)
    - WALS map: Future tense(s)
  - Japanese has…?
    - What categories do we see in the data set?
    - What relationships between times are being expressed?

1. Tense: Relationships between times

Tense in Japanese (vs. English)

- Handout - Tense, aspect, and verb classes
  - Parts (I)–(II)

- Upshot:
  - Japanese has **relative tense**
  - English has **absolute tense**

- Bonus: One child's acquisition of tense

2. Aspect: Internal temporal structure

Work groups

- Data set - Tense and aspect in Japanese vs English
  - Try examples (4), (5)
    - Japanese speakers: Guide the discussion
    - What are some differences we see between Japanese and English?

2. Aspect: Internal temporal structure

- **Aspect** indicates how an event or situation is viewed: a point or a state, completed or not, …
  - Categories include:
    - perfective — looking "in" from "outside"
    - imperfective — the "inside" perspective

      WALS map: Perfective/imperfective
    - progressive — ongoing
    - resultative — completed, but still relevant
  - Japanese has…?
    - What categories do we see in the data set?

2. Aspect: Internal temporal structure

Aspect in Japanese:

- Handout - Tense, aspect, and verb classes
  - Part (III) (focus on *te*+*i*- and related concepts)
- Supplement to the *te*+*i*- discussion: Other dialects
  - Grammar Atlas of Japanese Dialects

sakana-no	*hana-ga*	*tit-te+i-ru*
cherry.tree-GEN	flower-NOM	fall-TE+I-NONPAST

- Progressive — 'are falling'
- Resultative — 'have fallen'

2. Aspect: Internal temporal structure

Aspect in Japanese — Further points of interest

- Handout - Tense, aspect, and verb classes
  - Part (III)
    - Which **verb classes** allow which **interpretation**(s) of the *te*+*i*- construction? ***Why?*** — what is the internal structure of the event?
    - What other characteristics are "stative" predicates predicted to have in Japanese?
    - Can we check these with a corpus search?

3. Summary

- **Tense** indicates the **relationship between times** referred to in an utterance
  - Utterance time, reference time, event time, ...
  - English has **absolute** tense (relation to utterance time); Japanese has **relative** tense (relation to a salient time)
- **Aspect** indicates how **internal temporal structure** is represented
  - Predicates belong to different **lexical aspect classes**
  - How concepts are assigned to lexical aspect classes can differ between languages