

論文の英文要旨

論文題目	Research on expression of potentiality in Modern Japanese — The Case of Ichidan Verbs and Kahen Verb “Kuru” —
氏名	Li ZHANG

In this dissertation, I try to involve the “*ra*”-removed forms of ichidan verbs and kahen verb “*kuru*” among all expression of potentiality in modern Japanese as research subjects, aiming at examining various viewpoints of previous researches, as well as clarifying the meanings, patterns and syntactic features of “*ra*”-removed forms.

Various researches have been done about the actual usages of “*ra*”-removed forms. However, it is hard to say that the meanings expressed by it, the types of verb, patterns and syntactic features have been stated clearly.

In this dissertation, I introduce two viewpoints that have not been covered in previous researches. The first point is the differences in meaning between "potentiality" and "fulfillment of intention", and the second point is the presence or absence of evaluative expressions.

Also, I conduct an empirical analysis on the actual usages of “*ra*”-removed forms with comparison to “*rareru*” forms using three types of data. And the three types of data are used as research materials in this dissertation, that is, word-of-mouth usages on the Internet, BCCWJ 2009 monitor version of "Yahoo! Chiebukuro", and examples in Comics.

The outlines of each chapter are described as follows.

In Chapter 1, I summarized the time and place of occurrence, the history of “*ra*”-removed forms, as well as previous researches concerning “*ra*”-removed forms, pointing out the problems of previous researches, thus giving suggestions on what kind of researches are needed for further studies.

The following viewpoints are lacking in previous researches.

The first point is the differences in meaning between potentiality and fulfillment of intention, and the second one is the presence or absence of a co-occurrence relation with evaluative

expressions.

Some example sentences were used as research materials as shown below.

- (1) Ame futte kara ukideru moyou wa mi-rare-nai no ga zannen desu.
(It is regrettable that we cannot see the view appearing after rain.)
- (2) Sapporo no yakei ga heya kara mi-re-te totemo romanchikku de yokatta desu.
(It was nice to see the romantic night view of Sapporo from the room.)
- (3) Gazou mo mi-re-ta no wa anshin dekite totemo yokatta desu. o (^ - ^) o
(It was a relief to have seen the image and it was very good.)

Although it has been examined in previous researches whether or not there are proper usages of “ra”-removed forms and “rareru” forms depending on the situation in terms of subdivision of potential forms, most researchers except Kato (1988), gave the same conclusion that it is not related to the differences of potential forms in meaning. Yet, it should be noted that there was a conflict between “potentiality of abilities” and “potentiality of situations”.

However, following the viewpoints of Ogami (1998, 2003), I divided the meaning of potential forms into potentiality and fulfillment of intention in this dissertation. If I interpret the example sentences above using the viewpoint of Onoe (1998, 2003), "mi-rare-nai (cannot see)" in Example (1) means an unfulfilled intended action, which can be regarded as potential usage in a “rareru” form. "mi-re (to see)" in Example (2) represents the meaning that the intended action has been realized, which is a fulfillment of intention usage. Similarly, "mi-re-ta (to have seen)" in Example (3) also means the intended action has been realized, which is a fulfillment of intention usage.

In addition, evaluative expressions such as "zannen desu (it is regrettable)", "totemo romanchikku de yokatta desu (it was very romantic and good)", and "totemo yokatta desu (it was very good)" were used in the texts of example (1) to (3).

It seems that when it comes to potential forms, there is a bias in subsequent grammatical forms (syntactic positions), voices (affirmative forms / negative forms), and the possibility of co-occurrence relation with evaluative expressions, regardless of whether it is a “ra”-removed form or a “rareru” form. In other words, it has been seen from the examples that if a quasi-nominal particle “no” follows “rareru” forms, negative forms of potential usage are likely to appear, and there is a tendency for evaluative expressions to follow more easily. Also, if a particle “te” or “no” follows “ra”-removed forms, fulfillment of intention usages are likely to appear, with evaluative expressions following easily.

This dissertation intended to verify the impression about the existence of such meanings (potentiality / fulfillment of intention), voices (affirmative forms / negative forms) and

subsequent evaluative expressions with the help of empirical analysis.

In Chapter 2, by specifying research conditions required today concerning “ra”-removed forms as stated at the end of Chapter 1, I summarized the items investigated and the three types of data used in this dissertation including word-of-mouth usages on the Internet, BCCWJ 2009 monitor version of "Yahoo! Chiebukuro", and examples in Comics. The necessities, research purposes, and merits and demerits were explained respectively. Furthermore, with respect to each type of data, investigated subjects, retrieval methods, and analyzed items were described.

In chapter 3, I examined various viewpoints of previous researches based on three kinds of data. As a result, the findings are as follows.

In terms of age, it was found that teenagers and people in their 20s or 30s have a similar tendency to use “ra”-removed forms and “rareru” forms, while people aged over 40 tend to decrease the use of “ra”-removed forms gradually. Also, “ra”-removed forms are used most frequently among people with the same ages, especially for younger generations.

In terms of gender, I also obtained the conclusion that gender does not affect the tendency to use “ra”-removed forms or “rareru” forms based on word-of-mouth data. With regard to speakers’ interpersonal relationship with listeners in dialogues, there is a tendency to use “ra”-removed forms more frequently in conversations with the same generations than those between different generations. Even among different generations, if you have a closer relationship with listeners, you may use “ra”-removed forms as well. However, it remains to be analyzed the fact that there were usages of “ra”-removed forms even in conversations between hostile relationships.

Among all types of verbs, verbs with short stems are likely to be used in “ra”-removed forms, and according to the analysis of usages of verbs with stems consisting of 3 or 4 syllables, I may safely draw a conclusion that there is a growing tendency to use “ra”-removed forms of verbs with longer stems, which is no longer limited to verbs with short stems. As for verb conjugation, it can be seen that “ra”-removed forms are more likely to be used for kami-ichidan verbs (conjugation of ichidan verbs ending in "iru") than shimo-ichidan verbs (conjugation of ichidan verbs ending in "eru"). Also, it is said that “ra”-removed forms of the three verbs "miru (see)", "neru (sleep)" and "kuru (come)" have already become fixed usages.

In addition, compared to Matsuda’s (1993) research conducted in the 1990s, it was found that the number of usage examples for compound verbs and auxiliary verbs has increased, which can be regarded as the extension of usage range as time went by.

As for the question that either affirmative forms or negative forms are more likely to appear, I obtained the result that for any of the three types of data, “ra”-removed forms are more likely

to appear in negative forms than affirmative forms.

Similarly, as for the possibility of main clauses or subordinate clauses, “*ra*”-removed forms rather than “*rareru*” forms are more likely to be used in subordinate clauses for any of the three types of data.

In chapter 4, I examined whether or not the differences in meaning between “potentiality” and “fulfillment of intention” affects the tendency to use “*rareru*” forms or “*ra*”-removed forms based on three types of data. As shown in Table 1, it was found that the percentage of “*ra*”-removed forms as fulfillment of intention usages is higher than that of “*rareru*” forms for each of the three types of data. Besides, from all three types of data, the total number of examples for fulfillment of intention usages is 840, which accounts for 22.58% of the “*ra*”-removed form examples with a total number of 3720. On the other hand, 14.46% of the total 5077 “*rareru*” form examples are fulfillment of intention usages, the number of which is 734 in total. Even though the number of the “*ra*”-removed form examples is smaller than that of the “*rareru*” form examples, the percentage and the absolute number of usage examples for “*ra*”-removed forms exceeds that of “*rareru*” forms. Therefore, I made it clear that the differences in meaning between “potentiality” and “fulfillment of intention” affects the tendency to use “*rareru*” forms or “*ra*”-removed forms.

< Table 1: Total Number of Examples for Fulfillment of Intention Usages >

Data \ Meaning and Usage	“ <i>Rareru</i> ” Forms		“ <i>Ra</i> ”-removed Forms	
	Total Number of Examples	Total Number and Percentage of Examples for Fulfillment of Intention Usages	Total Number of Examples	Total Number and Percentage of Examples for Fulfillment of Intention Usages
Word-of-mouth Usages Data A	377	126 (33.4%)	194	83 (42.8%)
Word-of-mouth Usages Data B	2102	535 (25.45%)	2191	656 (29.94%)
Yahoo! Chiebukuro	2217	65 (2.93%)	1108	58 (5.23%)
Examples in Comics	381	8 (2.10%)	227	43 (18.94%)
Total	5077	734 (14.46%)	3720	840 (22.58%)

In chapter 5, I examined syntactic positions of “*rareru*” forms and “*ra*”-removed forms, that is, where should I place “*rareru*” forms and “*ra*”-removed forms in the text of sentences in situations where “*rareru*” forms and “*ra*”-removed forms are likely to appear with evaluative expressions respectively. Also, I clarified the preference of grammatical patterns following the two forms, and the features of co-occurrence relations with evaluative expressions.

It was found that for each of the three types of data, “*rareru*” forms and “*ra*”-removed forms are usually placed in the text of example sentences with evaluative expressions. And furthermore, there is a tendency that “*ra*”-removed forms are more likely to appear with evaluative expressions than “*rareru*” forms.

In Chapter 6, I analyzed each usage in the text or at the end of sentences (uncommon usages with many examples) listed in Chapter 5. In this dissertation, I combined the four factors including the differences in meaning between potentiality and fulfillment of intention, voices (affirmative forms / negative forms), syntactic positions and the possibility of co-occurrence relations with evaluative expressions to examine these uncommon usages empirically. As a result, from all three types of data, I drew a conclusion that “*ra*”-removed forms are used most frequently in the conjugation of “*te*” representing fulfillment of intention, with evaluative expressions following in all cases.

In Chapter 7, I summarized what I had discussed above based on the analysis of each item, and confirmed the academic position of this dissertation in the research history. That is, I managed to investigate a plurality of research items by combining three kinds of different data based on actual examples. And I focused on the subdivision of meanings of potential forms (potentiality and fulfillment of intention), syntactic positions, and the presence or absence of evaluative expressions following “*ra*”-removed forms with comparison to “*rareru*” forms. Also, I summarized again the significance of conducting empirical analysis combining the four factors including the differences in meaning between potentiality and fulfillment of intention, voices (affirmative forms / negative forms), syntactic positions and the possibility of co-occurrence relations with evaluative expressions.