

Loan Word Clippings in Japanese - 1

Japanese has borrowed an extremely large number of words from other languages, especially English. Shortened or "clipped" forms of many of these loan words have come into use. In this problem and the next one, we look at some of the linguistic constraints that these loan word clippings obey.

	<u>Clipped Loan Word</u>	<u>Full Loan Word</u>	<u>Gloss</u>
1.	ope	opereesyon	operation
2.	biru	birudingu	building
3.	suto	sutoraiki	strike (labor dispute)
4.	demo	demonsutoreesyon	demonstration
5.	pera	puopera	propellor
6.	puro	purofessyonaru	professional
7.	neru	huranneru	flannel
8.	mohi	moruhine	morphine
9.	rosu	rosu anzyeresu	Los Angeles
10.	asupara	asuparagasu	asparagus
11.	hurasuto	hurasutoreesyon	frustration
12.	baaten	baatendaa	bartender
13.	eakon	eakondisyonaa	air conditioner
14.	sutomai	sutoreputomaisin	streptomycin
15.	maisin	sutoreputomaisin	streptomycin
16.	intoro	intorodakusyon	introduction
17.	hankati	hankatiihu	handkerchief
18.	heri	herikoputaa	helicopter
19.	konsaba	konsaabatibu	conservative (in dress)
20.	tyoko	tyokoreeto	chocolate
21.	rabo	raboratorii	laboratory
22.	ana	anaakisuto	anarchist
23.	tero	terorisuto	terrorist
24.	risurin	gurisurin	glycerin

1. Melody Selection

Is it predictable how much of the melody, and which part(s) of the melody, of a loan word will be selected for the clipping? If so, state a rule to predict what is predictable. If not, give evidence that it is not predictable.

2. The Bisiyllabic Minimim

A loan word clipping in Japanese must consist of at least two syllables.

(1) Minimal loan word clipping: $\sigma \sigma$

The impossible clippings below illustrate a systematic gap in the class of well-formed clippings:

	<u>Clipped Loan Word</u>	<u>Full Loan Word</u>	<u>Gloss</u>
1.	*rin, *ri	gurisurin	glycerin
2.	*kon, *saa, *ti	konsaabatibu	conservative (in dress)
3.	*han, *tii, *ha	hankatiihu	handkerchief
4.	*ree, *o, *pe	opereesyon	operation
5.	*baa, *ten, *daa	baatendaa	bartender
6.	*mai, *sin, *su	sutoreputomaisin	streptomycin
7.	*in, *syon	intorodakusyon	introduction
8.	*a, *an, *naa	anaakisuto	anarchist

3. **Maximum Length**

The following loan word clippings are impossible because they exceed the maximum length for loan word clippings:

	<u>Clipped Loan Word</u>	<u>Full Loan Word</u>	<u>Gloss</u>
1.	*toreesyon	hurasutoreesyon	frustration
2.	*intorodaku	intorodakusyon	introduction
3.	*mineesyon	denomineesyon	denomination
4.	*saikederi	saikederikku	psychedelic
5.	*aruminyuu	aruminyuumu	aluminum
6.	*rifaiaa	ampurifaiaa	amplifier

What is the maximum length of a loan word clipping in Japanese? Why did you select the units you did to state the maximum length?

State a template that can account for the maximum length of loan clippings, while still allowing shorter ones.