

Japanese Nicknames 3: Melody and Prosodic Template

Below are some nicknames formed from longer names which make it necessary to revise your grammar of Japanese nicknames.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Actual Nicknames</u>	<u>Impossible Nicknames</u>
1.	gisaburoo	giityan, gisaburotyan	*gityan, *gisabutyman
2.	kenzaburoo	kentyan, kenzabutyman	*kenzatyman, *kenzaburotyan
3.	sinzaburoo	sintyan, sinzabutyman	*sinzatyman, *sinzaburotyan
4.	wasaburoo	waatyman, wasatyman, sabutyman, wasaburotyan	*watyan, *wasabutyman
5.	saburoo	sabutyman	*saburotyan
6.	ai-itiroo	aityan, ai-ittyman, ai-ityman	*ai-ityman, *ai-itirotyan, *atyan
7.	kei-itiroo	keityman, kei-ityman, kei-ittyman	*kei-ityman, *kei-itirotyan, *ketyan

Prosodic template

Some of the nicknames above violate the prosodic template you have posited for Japanese nicknames. Does this mean that nicknames are not subject to a prosodic template? Or does it mean that you have to revise your prosodic template? If so, what prosodic template do you need?

Answer these questions, making explicit how you account for the impossibility of the impossible nicknames above.

Types of correspondence between source name and nickname

The set of correspondences between the source name and the nickname includes what appear to be a number of distinct phenomena:

- (1) Melody truncation: *giityan, kentyan, kenzabutyman, sintyan, sinzabutyman, waatyman, wasatyman, sabutyman, aityman, keityman*
- (2) Vowel Lengthening: *giityan, waatyman*
- (3) Vowel Shortening: *gisaburotyan, wasaburotyan*
- (4) Gemination: *ai-ittyman, kei-ittyman*

You are to consider two ideas for grammars to account for this set of data.

Idea A:

- a) Two things are independent: melody selection and association of the selected melody with a prosodic template.
- b) Given a selected melody, it is associated (left to right) with a prosodic structure allowed by the prosodic template.

Idea B:

Explicit rules are needed to account for melody truncation, vowel lengthening, vowel shortening, and gemination in the derivation of nicknames from the source name. Thus, there will be truncation rules, lengthening rules shortening rules and gemination rules

Your first task: Grammar construction

1. Construct an explicit grammar (Grammar A) incorporating Idea A. In doing so, assume that melody selection is not predictable.
2. Attempt to construct an explicit grammar (Grammar B) incorporating Idea B. Again, assume that melody selection is not predictable.
3. Make explicit your reasons for rejecting Grammar B in favor of Grammar A.

Preliminary work

1. Prior to constructing your grammars you will need to draw diagrams of the prosodic structure of some of the nicknames so that you can see:
 - a) How much melody from the source name is selected for the nickname stem.
 - b) How each segment of the melody is associated with elements of prosodic structure.
2. Where more than one nickname can be formed from a given name, determine where the multiple nicknames are due to different melody selection, and where they are due to different association of segments with elements of prosodic structure.

Your second task: A prediction

Idea A makes a prediction that Idea B does not make about shortening, lengthening, and gemination. Idea A cannot predict whether lengthening or gemination, for example, will occur, but it predicts which syllable of a nickname will exhibit shortening, lengthening, or gemination, where one of these occurs.

What does Idea A predict? Make its prediction explicit.

What does Idea B predict about these phenomena?