Meaning and Usage Analysis of Japanese Adverbs on Japanese Drama “Suizokukan Gaaru”

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Introduction

- Adverbs are words that describe verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs, cannot be changed and function to express the state or degree of an activity, atmosphere, or feeling of the speaker. Matsuoka (2000)
  1. *Narete kuru to sugu wakarimasu*
     As I used to it, I can recognize it right away (Suizokukan, 2016)
  2. *Yappari, hamakaze suizokukan wa tanoshii wa ne*
     As I expected, Hamakaze Aquarium is fun! (Suizokukan, 2016)
- Adverbs often appear in the JLPT questions, where there is not only focusing on synonyms, but also an understanding of the broad meaning, various uses and subtle nuances. Kim Yeon Jung (2017)
- One of factor that caused error when using adverbs is the lack of understanding of the meaning and use of adverbs. Nursanti (2019)

Research Question :
(Q1) How many occurrences of adverbs in Japanese drama ?
(Q2) What adverbs that often appear?
(Q3) How to categorize adverbs in drama based on mizutani theory (1991)
Literature Review

• Adverbs usages and meaning, Mizutani (1991)
• Selection of Adverbs for Intermediate Advanced Japanese Language Learners: Based on BCCWJ • Nagoya University Conversation Corpus, Shimazaki (2018)
• The Handbook of Japanese Adjectives and Adverbs, Kamiya (2002)
Method

• Research Method: Mixed Method

• Data Profile Suizokukan Gaaru (Aquarium Girl): 2016, 7 episodes (5 Episodes used = 242 minutes = 2247 utterances).

• Data Gathering Technique: Listening and note-taking method

• Research Steps:

1. Sorting adverbs from drama based on dictionary
2. Categorizing adverb based on Mizutani’s category
3. Counting the frequency of occurrences in conversations.
4. Determining the variety of adverbs that appear based on level frequency
5. Analyzing the usage of the adverbs on high and medium level based on its use in conversations
6. Summing up the results of the data analysis.
Findings and discussion

a. 21% (464) of all utterance (2247) contains adverbs.

b. Adverbs that appears on the drama are classified into 3 levels of appearance as shown in table 1.

Table 1. Adverbs based on frequency of appearance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Adverbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>23~34</td>
<td>Mou (already), chotto (a little), dou (how), nanika/nanka (Something, somehow).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>12~22</td>
<td>Mada (still), yahari/yapari/yappa (as expected), mata (again), hontou(ni) (truly), zettai(ni) (absolutely)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>1-11</td>
<td>Sou (in that way), tashikani (surely), motto (more), zenzen (not at all), chanto (diligently), sugu(ni) (immediately), isshoni (together), nande (why), tonikaku (anyway), zuibun (very), zutto (the whole time), hajimete (first), iroiro (various), kyuuni (suddenly), nakanaoka (considerably), sonnani (like that), imamade (until now), itsumo (always), shikari (properly), ichiban (first), ippai (full), kasuga(ni) (indeed), sukoshi (a little), taiken (greatly), doushite (why), jitsu(ha) (frankly), itsumademo (forever), madeni (not later than), shibaraku (for a moment), sekka (rare), totsunen (suddenly), minna (all), douse (anyhow), kekkyouku (after all), moshi (if).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c. Meaning and usage analysis of the adverbs on high and medium level

1. **Mou**: In positive expression mou indicates that an action or event has occurred that a state has been achieved. In negative expression it indicates that an action or event has stopped occurring or that someone or something no longer exists in the state he or it has been in. Kamiya (2002)

   (+) “Mou kekkon shitatte wakaiko tachi ga uwasa wo shiteta”
   “The young staffs talk that she already married” (Episode 5)

   (-) “Koitsu wa mou omaeno shitteru koitsu jyanaize.”
   “She’s not the one you know anymore” (Episode 3)

2. **Chotto**: indicates a small or little level or amount. Hida (2018)

   “Kaji, chotto kanojo ni kibishisugi jyanaika?”
   “Kaji seems a bit too strict to her huh?” (Episode 2)

3. **Mada**: In a positive expression, mada indicates continuation of an action or a state. In a negative expression, it indicates that or event has not yet occurred or that a state has not yet been achieved. Kamiya (2002)

   (+) “Mada saikaihatsu de koko wo nokoseruka mou bimyou desukarane”
   “We still don’t know if this place can survive the redevelopment” (Episode 4)

   (-) “Demo C1 ni mada esa tabetemoraeainen desu”
   “But I cannot feed C1 yet” (Episode 1)
### Table 2. Categorized adverbs based on Mizutani (1991) Category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Adverbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Degree Adverb: Represents the degree of action or state of the predicate. It may stick to not only verbs and adjectives, but also adverbs themselves and nouns. (15 Words)</td>
<td><em>Mou</em> (already), <em>chotto</em> (a little), <em>hontou</em> (truly), <em>motto</em> (more), <em>zenzen</em> (not at all), <em>zuibun</em> (very), <em>zuuto</em> (the whole time), <em>nakanaka</em> (considerably), <em>sonnani</em> (like that), <em>ichiban</em> (first), <em>ippai</em> (full), <em>sasuga</em> (indeed), <em>sukoshi</em> (a little), <em>taihen</em> (greatly), <em>minna</em> (all).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Statement Adverb: Adverb with the rule that must be used with other words. (10 words)</td>
<td><em>Nanika/nanka</em> (something, somehow), <em>yappari</em> (as expected), <em>zettaii</em> (absolutely), <em>tashikani</em> (surely), <em>nande</em> (why), <em>doushite</em> (why), <em>jitsu</em> (frankly), <em>douse</em> (anyhow), <em>kekkyoku</em> (after all), <em>moshi</em> (if).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Denotation Adverb: Adverb that indicates an action or state. (2 words)</td>
<td><em>Dou</em> (how), <em>sou</em> (in that way)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Most used adverbs are from *Situation Adverb* and *Degree Adverb*

**Example:**

**A. Mata**

Used to describe an action or event that is repeated

“*Mata* Morishita-kachou wa yokei na koto hiramechatte. Maittayo”

“I’m so done, Mr. Morishita came up with strange idea again” (Episode 4)

**B. Moto**

Used to shows the increase of current state’s degrees or quantity.

“*kagaku* hakubutsukan datte, bijutsukan datte, sakin wo *motto* raikansha wo tanoshimaseru kuufu wo shiteimasu”

“Even science museums or art galleries are recently innovating to entertain more visitors. (Episode 1)

**C. Yahari**

Used to show something that happened as expected.

“Yappari, hamakaze suizokukan wa tanoshii wa ne”

“As I expected, Hamakaze Aquarium is fun!” (Episode 5)

**D. Dou**

One of the usage of dou is to ask how how something is done.

“Shima-chan ga shikai shinai de gooruden wiiku *dou* yatte norikirunda?”

“How are we going to get through golden week without Shima being the MC?” (Episode 2)
Conclusion

• 21% of all utterance on drama contains adverbs

• Adverbs that appears on this drama can be classified into 3 levels of appereance. There are high level with 4 words, medium level 5 words, low level 35 words. For example mou : In positive expression mou indicates that an action or event has occurred that a state has been achieved. In negative expression it indicates that an action or event has stopped occurring or that someone or something no longer exists in the state he or it has been in. Kamiya (2002)
  (+) “Mou kekkon shitatte wakaiko tachi ga uwasa wo shiteta”
  “The young staffs talk that she already married” (Episode 5)
  (-) “Koitsu wa mou omaeno shitteru koitsu jyanaize.”
  “She’s not the one you know anymore” (Episode 3)

• Statement adverb (17 Words), Degree Adverb (15 Words), Statement Adverb (10 words), Denotation Adverb (2 words)
References


