

Re: I need some help from native speakers of Japanese

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- *From:* Bart Mathias <mathias@xxxxxxxxxx>
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Ray wrote:

Cindy wrote:

Ray wrote:

2. *Where do you think that he was unhappy because he saw his enemy?

karega tekini deatte fushiawase ni nattanowa dokodato omoimasuka?

Thank you for your reply, Cindy.

Could you please provide gloss, i.e. word-for-word translation, for the Japanese example you've given?

I need to know its structure, so I need to know word-for-word meanings first.

I doubt if the meaning of Cindy's Japanese is what you had in mind. Hers would "literally" be "Where do you think it is that he met an/his enemy and became unhappy?" That has the "where" moved out of the main clause of the quote ("Where did he [meet his enemy and become unhappy]?"), not the adverbial clause.

I'm not one of the native speakers who's help you seek, but I think that might be—not too clumsily—expressed leaving the "where" in the main clause:

kare-ga doko-de teki-ni deat-te fushiawase-ni nat-ta-to
he-nom where-at enemy-dat come upon-and unhappy-dat become-past-quote

omoimasu-ka
(you) think-?

I suspect you really mean "Where do you think he met his enemy, resulting in his being unhappy?"

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A problem is that Japanese doesn't move the question word. A likely translation of what I think you mean by 2. might be almost as I have rephrased Cindy's version above, namely:

kare-ga doko-de teki-ni deatta-kara fushiawase-ni
he-nom where-at enemy-dat came upon-because unhappy-dat

nat-ta-to omoimasu-ka
became-quote (you) think-?

Perhaps the "where" = "doko" could be moved out as per Cindy's model, but I suspect it would need to be replaced by a solid dummy. I'm not sure this is Japanese, but it's the closest I can get to that sort of thing:

kare-ga soko-de teki-ni deatta-kara fushiawase-ni
he-nom there-at enemy-dat came upon-because unhappy-dat

natta-no-wa doko-da-to omoimasu-ka
becme-[place/...]that-top where-is-quote (you) think-?

Bart

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