

Re: I need some help from native speakers of Japanese

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- From: "Ray" <[raymondaliasapollyon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:raymondaliasapollyon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
- Date: 4 May 2006 03:43:25 -0700

muchan wrote:

Cindy wrote:

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 ],], SnÝ¹ÈnjOLO å, oiFg,j<n`K%o Æ-¹  
 Èg  
 B<ñ‡af“hW\_ ÖküeDføDf,%o jDhDQjD^m

],], jOLnMnOLO SnìæU“hDF°ou K%oÉ7Y<  
 ×ojU]F`cfShgYmH Sn°nêOkñeŠY<hGELP]Fj  
 L å, YTD!X`h cfD<^F`jB êOo‡ ê×éæoĐü  
 ÈH LK“™ f~r~ KQfZ%oüich SCE „,°n«kjcf ~  
 W‡F a‡ch\_Dx“j|m`h D~[“K Bh ,WKW\_%o ì  
 æU“oå, nY^\_`h cfD<K,

SnìæU“o fn v g D D j nÈ‡’Ô Y<\_ k  
 å, nû3LÅ j“h D~Y nÝ¹È’-“g j“gå, ’  
 - jD°n\_ kâ, kû3Y<Å LB<“ - %oWD  
 h!-W\_Qi ,W f`c\_%o ,ch sLocMŠWfDf  
 þÿ,j<‡’Đ:Y<yMgB<h F h~!-Y<d,Š

— translation for Ray —

Probably this Ray is a linguist, who needs Japanese translation only to compare the syntax with other languages. Having read the first post, I thought why should we translate into Japanese for one, who doesn't understand (even won't study) Japanese, and so I ignored. If he was linguist, I think he should have present a more realistic example with clear meaning. (and so I'd keep ignoring the request...)

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Since I don't know the language, how could I present a realistic

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example with a clear meaning in the first place?

I just need you to construct some sentences as per the instructions given, to verify a theoretical proposal.

Let me make a re-start on my question.

In English, Wh-questions are formed by fronting Wh-phrases to sentence-initial position.

In Chinese and Japanese, such phrases stay in situ, i.e. they don't move anywhere if one wants to form Wh-questions.

Now, there is a constraint in English Wh-question formation, to the effect that an element, e.g. an NP or otherwise, in an adverbial clause, be it causal, concessive or otherwise, cannot be moved out of it. This captures the ungrammaticality of the following sentence: (the letter "t" indicates the position which "where" occupied before the movement; the square brackets delimit the adverbial clause.)

1. \*Where do you think that he was unhappy [because he saw his enemy t]?

On the other hand, an element can be moved out of a non-adverbial clause:

(the square brackets indicate the clause)

2. What do you think [that he has eaten t]?

In Chinese, although Wh-phrases don't move as in English, questions with the meaning of 1 are ungrammatical, whereas those of the 2nd type are correct.

I want to know whether the situation of Japanese is like Chinese, i.e. whether sentences like 1 are ungrammatical.

I'd appreciate your help.

Ray

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