

# Re: Basic Connections, Making Your Japanese Flow (Kakuko Shoji, 1997)

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.lang.japan/2006-09/msg00890.html>

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- *From:* Bart Mathias <[mathias@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:mathias@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sat, 23 Sep 2006 21:19:54 -1000
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linderd wrote:

I stumbled across this book (<http://www.amazon.com/dp/4770028601>) at a second hand shop for 600 yen, so I bought it. I've been reading through it as a bit of revision, and... well. There are a lot of example sentences, but sometimes I have no doubts about some of them.

Has anyone read this book? If so, what did you think of the examples?

The book is new to me, but I know Kakuko Shoji, my colleague (when I was still) at UH, well. She has been involved in a number of worthwhile publications. (There could, I suppose, be more than one Kakuko Shoji, though.)

Here are a few examples:

K 'QjDgJM~W\_  
Trans.  
I did not open the letter. P60)

Q:]“j>KjÉì¹·Fn  
A:·DoWjDQi a‡ch@f Q ^FKh cf  
Trans.  
Q: Are you really going to buy such a guady dress?  
A: I don't intend to buy it, but I thought I would at least try it on. P32)

¶K%o cfe~W\_ng iF^  
Trans.  
These were sent here by my family. Please have some (eg. fruit). (P78)

There is nothing wrong with these particularly, and perhaps my complaints are just due to a lack of understanding on my part, but:

1) Why <QjDg> <Q< is a verb, so how can it be joined to another sentence using g?

I prefer not to think of that as g at all, on the grounds that you can't have g after an i-adjective. Better to think of jDg as an adverbial negative formant. It's one that you would use to convey a sense of "without (doing)."

2) This is an example of using o in a negative form, but as in the previous examples on the same page, ²EfoDjDQi ØOojDQi if the o is removed it should still make sense. Does ·DWjDQi make sense? (I've never heard someone say it, but I suppose I've heard ·Di'W\_D quite often).

There's no point in saying \*.DWjD or \*.DY<, but if you want to get a o or a , in there, you have to split it like that.

3) Although saying this aloud sounds fine to me, technically I thought K%o but not ng could be used after a verb in ~Yb. For example, T÷Ñ'W~W\_K%i,Y ~["gW\_ I've heard that before, but I've never heard someone say T÷Ñ'W~W\_ngi,Y ~["gW\_

The choice of K%o or ng doesn't depend on register (although ng is often more polite than K%o, and I think that is the case here). Both occur quite naturally in the polite and the familiar registers.

Those are just three random pages I opened to after finishing the book, which doesn't leave me thrilled about how great it was.

All the other reviews online I've read seem to say it was really good though... are these examples correct, and I simply don't understand them, or are they actually wrong?

They look good to me, but I am famous for writing and speaking funny Japanese.

Bart

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