

Re: Passive Form

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- *From:* dareka <dareka@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
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Bart Mathias wrote:

dareka wrote:

Ben Finney wrote:

[...]
I'll take this as an opportunity to once again praise Jay Rubin's little volume "Making Sense of Japanese", a collection of essays on troublesome topics for NSoE learners of Japanese. He illustrates the lack in English of a clear equivalent for this precise Japanese verb form, the "suffering passive":

[...]
"Pardon me, officer, but [...] I was stolen my suitcase!"

"What an odd way to put it!"

"Of course it's odd. I'm Japanese, and that's how we phrase these things when our English is a little shaky!"

As the officer says, your expression may be odd, but it's perfectly clear. From it, he knows that you are the victim, that someone did the stealing, and that the someone stole your suitcase. *Kaban wo nusumareta*, then, is a clear statement involving you, the robber, and the suitcase, though only the suitcase is mentioned.

I doubt this explanation. I think what is UCE_/‰œ_ is nothing but the ,, "syntactically".

Re: Passive Form

But it's not proper to say something like that and not go into the difference between „'x~œ_ and „LY~œ_ "syntactically."

As I have said before I think the function ' L and others have is rather *semantical* one than syntactical. And I think ' gives the word or phrase to which it is tacked an semantically objective, in senses of both î,, and/or ç³ ,, position in the sentence or discourse in relation to the verb in the sentence or an action or state that the speaker tries to explain or convey. o gives a subjective, in senses of both ; and/or ;³,, position. L gives, I think at least in this case, mixed subjective and objective position. „o×~œ_ and „L×~œ_ kind of sound like a title of a story or a subject of discussion following the theft in that you explain or discuss what you do after the loss of the ,, „'x~œ_ sounds like, in this case, an objective statement of fact.

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