

# Re: "if i happen to"

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- *From:* "B. Ito" <jg2cme@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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"Kevin Wayne Williams" <kww.nihongo@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:27SdnXVLC\\_ZptCPVnZ2dnUVZ8sLinZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:27SdnXVLC_ZptCPVnZ2dnUVZ8sLinZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

japanologia@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

"moon.neko" wrote:

how would one say "if i happen to" (i.e "if i happen to make dinner, i'll invite a friend over")?

Hi,  
That would be:  
β`c\_%o ËT'ÛOhW^F

I'm sure your Japanese is much better than mine, but I'm concerned that you missed a part of the English. I see your answer "As soon as I make dinner, I'll invite a friend over", with a pretty strong implication that I am going to make dinner. Moon.neko's English is more along the lines of "I may or may not make dinner, and it's pretty likely that I won't. If I do, I'll invite a friend over". I would have expected a p form in the translation.  
KWW

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This has happened to be a sensitive problem of translations between English and Japanese.

I think noon.neko's Japanese would be good enough to cover such nuance of conditional like:

,WÁL β`c\_%o ËT'ÛOhW^F

same as:

,WÁL β`^FjShLbc\_%o orBc\_j%p ËT'ÛOhW‡F

Re: "if i happen to"

The important point is ' hW†F ', which could include the nuance of what Kevin added as an extra English implication.

Besides such problem, my opinion is that the English noun of 'dinner' might be better not be simply translated into ' β' but some other words like 'T<sup>3</sup>p'.

I think we don't have to say nT<sup>3</sup>p, because in English you will make dinner at any time.

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B. Ito