

Linguistic Elements Association with the Presence of Particle *WA* and *GA* in Japanese Sentences and Their Indonesian Translation

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Abstract

This title of this paper is *Linguistic Elements Association with the Presence of particle WA and GA in Japanese Sentences*. The method used in this research is descriptive with distributional study technique of deletion, substitution, and *insertion*. I apply theories from Nitta (2009) of *shudai* (topic) and *kaisetsu* (comment). The aim of this paper is to analyze the linguistic elements associated with presence of *WA* and *GA* particles. This paper shows that linguistic elements associated with the presence of *WA* and *GA* particles discussed in this research are subject, object for certain predicates, and topic. By examining linguistic elements associated with the particles, Indonesian Japanese language learners will be able to understand the problematic *WA* and *GA* particles usage in Japanese sentences.

Keywords: *GA* particle, Subject, Topic, *WA* particle

1. Introduction

Particle—*joshi* in Japanese—is one of parts of speech that is unable to stand alone, is fixed, positioned after other part of speech or connecting word to word, phrase to phrase, and sentence to sentence. In general, *joshi* is only consisted of one hiragana character. *Joshi*'s presence and position in a sentence is considered important since its absence or position change could alter the meaning of a sentence. Numerous of particles in Japanese are placed in several categories. In this paper, I will focus on the particles of *WA* and *GA* as the most problematic particles since the difficulty of particles application in sentences is experienced not only by Japanese language learners but also regarded as a complex linguistic problem by native Japanese linguists.

According to Tsujimura (1996), *WA* particle is particle that signified topic and one of the five case particles apart from nominative *GA* particle, accusative *O* particle, dative *NI* particle, and genitive *NO* particle. (134). However, Włodarczyk (2005) states that both *WA* and *GA* particles could be used as subject signifier particles, resulting in increasing difficulty to differentiate their usage. Włodarczyk also elaborates that *WA* particle is to signify topic or subject in form of 'given information' while *GA* particle is to signify 'new information'. Mikami as quoted by Iori (2001) provides a slight contradictive insight compared to the previous two linguists. He states: "in Japanese language, the role of nominative particle is not present. Therefore the use of subject presence in Japanese grammatical is rather unclear. I consider it as wise to immediately nullify the function of subject in a sentence." (85).

Considering Mikami's statement, we can see that he is not in favor of including *GA* particle as subject signifier particle. Such statement has ignited debates among Japanese linguists up until recently. Mikami later provides the evidence of his statement by presenting sentences data. Based on his listed data, Mikami postulates that a sentence will not be formed without the presence of topic. He does not consider the presence of nominative *GA* particle in view of the fact that *GA* particle as subject signifier particle, as Tsujimura (1996, 134) states, will be able to be substituted by other particles (*NO* or *NI*). Based on the exposition above, this paper will discuss and analyze the association of linguistic Elements with the Presence of particle *WA* and *GA* in Japanese Sentences.

2. Linguistic Elements Associated with the Presence of particle *WA*

In this subchapter, I will focus my analysis on *WA* particle that signified word, phrase, or clause constituent in forms of linguistic elements such as subject syntactic function, topic grammatical meaning, and semantic role. Based on data, *WA* particle is not also signifying topic but also the subject, as the second most important syntactic function after verb. In general, topic and subject signified by *WA* particle are nouns, noun phrases, or clauses. Syntactic subject function signified by *WA* particle mainly shows activity or situation of the subject. Below are few data/examples along with their linguistic analysis.¹

¹ I apply several abbreviations to simplify the analytical breakdown of data sentences: sig.S/T (signifier of subject/topic); sig.o (signifier of object); sig.pos (signifier of possession); sig.gen (signifier genitive), sig.quo (signifier quotation); and sig.S (signifier of subject). I also provide partial back translation for each of sentence elements and full translation for the Japanese sentences.

(1) 彼は祖母の花屋でアルバイトしていた。 (Kitch,12)

Kare WA sobo no hanaya de arubaito shite ita.

dia pem.S/T. nenek pem.pos. toko bunGA di kerja paruh wkt (past)

He sig.S/T. grandma sig.pos. flower shop at part time job (past)

‘Dia pernah bekerja paruh waktu di toko bunGA milik nenek.’

‘He worked part time in grandma’s flower shop.’

(2) 田部家のソファを私は愛した。 (Kitch, 33)

Tabeke no sofa o watashi WA ai shita.

kelg. Tabe pem.pos. sofa pem.O saya pem.S/T. suka. (past)

Tabe family sig.pos. sofa sin.O I sig.S/T. like (past)

‘Saya menyukai sofa milik keluarGA Tabe.’

‘I liked Tabe family’s sofa.’

(3) 日本人は一人もいなかった。 (Niji, 9)

Nihonjin WA hitori mo inakatta

org Jp pem.S/T. seorang pun ada (past. neg.)

Japanese sig.S/T. one person too exist (past. neg.)

‘Orang Jepang tidak ada seorang pun.’

‘No Japanese person is around (here).’

In data (1), WA particle signified third person pronoun subject referring to a male *kare* ‘he’. The WA particle signifies word constituent in first person pronoun *watashi* ‘I’ in data (2). On the left side of the subject of this data appears object, a possessive noun phrase *Tabeke no sofa* ‘Tabe family’s sofa’ that is signified by O particle. While in data (3) WA particle signified noun phrase constituent, *nihonjin* ‘Japanese’.

After translated into English, within the data (1) and (2), constituents signified by WA particle still hold the same syntactic function as subjects. Both sentences are declarative sentence, spoken with flat intonation and without pause. One of the Subject function signifiers in Indonesian is that subject provides information to answer the ‘*who*’ and ‘*what*’ questions for a sentence. In data (1) we can pose the question: *who did work part time in grandma’s flower shop?* The answer is *he*. In data (2) we can pose the question: *who did like the Tabe family’s sofa?* The answer is *I*. Therefore *he* in data (1) and *I* in data (2) that are signified by WA particle are subject signifiers in the sentences.

Data (3) then will show topic signifier in Indonesian. In Japanese sentence, constituent signified by WA particle functions as Subject. The sentence is declarative with pause during

the utterance: *Orang Jepang//tidak ada seorang pun* (No Japanese person is around (here)). In Kaswanti Purwo's view (1990), pause in a sentence could differentiate subject and topic. Therefore, we can conclude that the constituent with *WA* particle in Japanese signifying subject function can remain in its subject function and as topic signifier when translated into Indonesian. This *WA* particle data analysis as subject signifier shows that subject constituent that could be signified by *WA* particle are: 1) first person pronoun male; 2) first person pronoun neutral, and; 3) noun phrase.

Sentence construction *subject-predicate* is related with grammatical function while *topic-comment* construction is related with pragmatic function of a sentence. In Japanese, one of the signifiers is the presence of *WA* particle following constituent that is topic. The analysis of *WA* particle as topic signifier will show that *WA* particle as topic signifier holds different characteristics and meanings. They are *WA* particles as: 1) Object Topicalization; 2) Noun modifying Noun (possessive); 3) Noun/Noun Phrase as modifier; 4) Relative Clause; 5) Signifier Old Information; 6) Comparison (Excluding); and 7) Substitution of *GA* particle by *NO* particle. Starting from the first characteristic, Object Topicalization, we can observe the data below.

(4) この料理は彼がつくった。 (IH, 25)

Kono ryouri WA kare GA tsukutta.

ini masakan pem.S/T. dia pem.S. membuat (past)

this food sig.S/T. he sig.S. make (past)

'Masakan ini, dia yang buat.'

'He made this food.'

In data (4) topic that is signified by *WA* particle *kono ryouri* 'this food' is a permutation of object signified by *O* particle for predicative verb *tsukuru* 'make'. The previous sentence is *Kare GA kono ryouri O tsukutta*. 'He cooked this food'. Compared with its Indonesian translation, constituent signified by *WA* particle in Japanese is topic as result of object topicalization while in Indonesian '*masakan ini*' (*this food*) is both topic and subject.

Topic characteristic as possessive can be shown by the data below. In data (5), word constituent, *okaasan* 'mother' is topic. What appears on its right, *onaka GA ookii* 'her belly is big' is comment.

(5) お母さんはおなかが大い。 (Niji : 10)

Okaasan WA onaka GA ookii.

Mother (pos) sig.T belly sig.S big

Ibu (nya) pem.T. perut pem.S. besar

'Ibu(nya), perutnya besar.'

'Mother belly is big.'

Constituent signified by *WA* particle in this data, along with its translation in Indonesian, is topic. The part following after, ‘belly is big’ is comment. In Japanese, even with its possessive meaning, *NO* particle (as possessive signifier) is not common to be inserted between the owner ‘*okaasan*’ and the object ‘*onaka*’. In Indonesian this sentence could be rearranged in Subject-Predicate construction: ‘*Mother’s belly is big*’. *Mother’s belly* is possessive noun phrase as subject, and *big* in this data is predicate. But in this sentence, translation still requires topic-comment construction in order to maintain the sentence characteristic.

Analysis of topic characteristic with noun and noun phrase could be seen from data (6) below. In this data the topic is word constituent *tabako* ‘cigarettes’ as signified by *kenkou ni yokunai* ‘not good for health’ which then signified by *WA* particle.

(6) 煙草は健康に荷よくない。 (IH : 70)

Tabako WA kenkou ni yokunai.

rokok pem.T. kesehatan bagi tidak baik (neg)

cigs sig.T health for not good (neg)

‘Rokok tidak baik bagi kesehatan.’

‘Cigarettes is not good for health.’

In the Indonesian translation, this data has a topic-comment construction. The topic in data (6) is *cigarettes* and what comes after *not good for health* is comment.

WA particle can also signified topic of relative clause. In data (7), *WA* particle signified topic of relative clause. *Uchuujin kara nengajou o morau no* ‘accept new year’s card from alien’.

(7) 宇宙人から 年賀状を もらうのは 難しい。 (UH,11)

Uchuujin kara nengajou o morau no WA muzukashii.

mahluk r.angkasa dari kartu thn baru part O. menerima nom. pem S/T sulit

alien from new year’s card part.O accept nom. sig,S/T difficult

‘Untuk menerima kartu tahun baru dari manusia ruang angkasa, sulit.’

‘To accept new year’s card from alien is difficult.’

In this relative clause, *NO* particle acts as noun derivative form for verb *morau* ‘accept’. The Indonesian translation is also relative clause using ‘*yang*’ construction, resulting in *WA* particle signifying the topic. On the next topic characteristic we can see that old information part of a sentence is also signified by *WA* particle.

(8) 春休みは 星を 見る季節です。 (UH, 38)

Haru yasumi WA hoshi o miru kisetsu desu.

musim semi liburan part.pem. S/T bintang part.pem. O melihat musim kopula

spring holiday part.sig.S/T bintang part.sig.O gaze season copula

'Liburan musim semi adalah musim melihat bintang.'

'Spring holiday is the season of gazing stars.'

WA particle signifies *haruyasumi* 'spring holiday in data (8) as topic of noun phrase in attributive construction.

Next is the presence of WA particle that signifies topic, as shown in the data below, as comparison (excluding) information not in the utterance.

(9) 今は私は大学を休んだ。 (Kitch:9)

Ima WA watashi WA daigaku o yasunda.

sekarang pem. S/T saya pem.S/T. univ pem.O. berhenti

now sig.S/T I sig.S/T univ sig.O suspend

'Sekarang, saya, berhenti kuliah.'

'Now, I am taking a break from university.'

(10) 昔は、あの人も男だった。 (Kitch:21)

Mukashi WA ano hito mo otoko datta.

dulu pem.S/T itu orang juGA laki-laki kopula (past)

in the past sig.S/T that person too man copula (past)

'Dulu, dia pun (seorang) laki-laki.'

'In the past, that person was a man.'

With temporal noun topic, *ima*, the presence of WA particles forms a comparison, with, for example, *mukashi* 'in the past. In the second topic *watashi*, the presence of WA particle presents a comparison between *watashi* and other party that is not *watashi*. WA particle that signifies temporal noun topic, *mukashi* 'in the past' in data (10) provides meaning of comparing the meaning of explicit *mukashi* with the implied *ima* outside the utterance.

The last topic characteristic is the substitution of GA particle by NO particle in sentence using WA as topic signifier. This characteristic can form a topic constituent; see below data.

(11) ^{わたし}私 ^がは ^よこの世で ^すいちばん ^{ほしよ}好きな ^{だいどころ}場所 ^はは ^{おも}台所だと思う。 (Kitch, 6)

Watashi GA kono yo de ichiban sukina basho WA daidokoro da to omou.

saya pem.S.. ini dunia di plg suka tempat pem.S dapur kop pem.kut. merasa

I sig.S.. this world di most favorite place sig.S kitchen kop sig.in. think

'(Saya) rasa tempat yang paling saya suka di dunia ini adalah dapur.'

‘(I) think the most favorite place in this world is the kitchen.’

GA particle signifying *watashi* ‘I’ in data (11) can be substituted by *NO* particle. This substitution form a new topic clause from the noun *watashi* ‘I’ and noun clause *kono yo de ichiban sukina basho* ‘the most favorite place in this world’. The *WA* article in this sentence acts as topic signifier since particle *GA* can be substituted by *NO* particle.

3. Linguistic Elements Associated with the Presence of particle *GA*

3.1 *GA* as Subject Signifier

The subject characteristics from four basic sentence patterns in Subject-predicate Japanese sentence are: *nani/dare GA dou suru*, ‘what/who does what’ (signifying activity done by Subject); *nani/dare GA dou nanda* ‘what/who how’ (signifying Subject situation); *nani/dare GA nanda* ‘what/who what’ (explaining Subject); *nani/dare GA iru/aru* ‘what/who exists’ (the existence of Subject). Analysis on the following data is performed to see how *GA* particle acts as subject signifier based on the four basic Japanese sentence patterns.

The following data are analyzed based on one of the subject characteristics of *GA* particle as signifier. The first sentence is showing the subject activity with the question of *nani/dare GA dou suru* ‘what/who does what’. The subject activity is signified by the presence of verb as can be seen in the this example.

(12) 一人暮らしの若い男性が、インスタントラーメンばかりを 食べ過ぎる。

(JS,85)

Hitori gurasi no wakai dansei GA, instant raamen bakari o tabe sugiru.

sndri hidup pem.gen. muda laki2 pem.S. instan mie hanya pem.O. makan terlalu

alone living sig.gen young man sig.S instant noodle only sig.O eat too much

‘Laki-laki muda yang hidup sendirian, terlalu banyak mengonsumsi mie instan.’

‘Young man who lives alone eats too much instant noodle.’

Subject signified by *GA* particle in data (12) answers the question *dare* ‘who’ with a noun phrase *horigurashi no wakai dansei* ‘young man who lives alone’ as subject characteristic. Subject in data (12) could be challenged by asking the question *who eats too much instant ramen?* The answer is *young man who lives alone*.

While *GA* particle only functions as subject signifier in Japanese, in Indonesian it also acts as topic characteristic. With intonation characteristics, the sentence above is declarative sentence with rising intonation in the beginning and falling intonation after the pause (signified by the comma). In data (12) the topic is not signified by the equivalent *-nya* (possessive pronoun) but by pause: ‘*Young man who lives alone // eats too much instant noodle.*’ Thus *GA* particle signifying only subject in activity in Japanese sentence becomes signifying both subject and topic in Indonesian.

The next subject characteristic signified by *GA* particle in Japanese basic sentence pattern is

nani/dare GA dou nanda ‘what/who how’. This subject presence is signified by the presence of predicate of word, adverb, adjective, and verb that inform the situation of the subject.

(13) 夜中に電話がなる。 (JS, 31)

Yonaka ni denwa GA naru.

tgh mlm pada tlp pem.S. berdering

mid night in phone sig.S ring

‘Tengah malam, telepon berdering.’

‘In the middle of the night, the phone rings.’

(14) 最近、若い人たちの間で「朝シャン」ということはがはやっている

(JS, 166)

Saikin, wakai hitotachi no aida de, “asa shan” to iu kotoba GA hayatte iru.

skr muda org2 pem.gen. antara di “asa shan” disebut istilah pem.S. populer (prog.)

recently young people sig.gen among ‘asa shan’ said words sig.S populer

‘Dewasa ini, di antara anak-anak muda, istilah “asa shan” sedang populer.’

‘Recently, among young people, the words “asa shan” is popular’

GA particle in data (13) signifies subject of word constituent, denWA ‘phone’. The subject denWA is answer to the question of subject characteristic *nani* ‘what’. Right before the subject, signified by NI particle, is time complement, *yonaka* ‘middle of the night’. In data (14) noun phrase as subject, *asashan to iu kotoba* ‘words (called) *asa shan*’ is marked by GA particle.

Similar with subject question in Japanese, we can also use the question word *apa* (what) and *siapa* (who) in data (13) and (14) to show that GA particle signified a subject when the sentence is translated to Indonesian. In the Indonesian translation, there are topic signifiers with pause intonation. In data (13), ‘*tengah malam // telepon berdering.*’ (in the middle of the night // the phone rings) and data (14) ‘*Dewasa ini, di antara anak-anak muda // istilah “asa shan” sedang populer.*’ (recently among young people // the words “asa shan” is popular). Thus GA particle signifying subject that provide information situation in Japanese can function as both subject and topic when translated to Indonesian.

The next subject characteristic is *nani/dare GA nan da* ‘what/who is what’ for predicate to refer to subject.

(15) その相手の女性が僕の本当の母親なんだ。 (Kitch: 21)

Sono aite no josei GA boku no hontou no hahaoya nan da.

itu pasangan pem.gen. prp pem.S. aku pem.pos. asli pem.gen. ibu kop.

that couple sig.gen woman sig.S I sig.pos real sig.gen mother copula.

'Perempuan pasangannya itu, adalah ibu kandungku.'

'The woman of that couple is my real mother.'

In data (15), *GA* particle signifies subject syntactic function of attributive noun phrase, *sono aite no josei* 'the woman of that couple'. The function of this subject could be tested by the question, *dare GA anata no hontou no hahaoya desu ka* (who is your real mother?). The Indonesian translation is *'Siapakah ibu kandungmu yang sebenarnya?'* (Who is your real mother). Thus the answer is *sono aite no josei* 'the woman of that couple'. In Japanese constituent signified by *GA* particle only functions as subject while in its Indonesian translation, it also becomes topic, identified by intonation and pause in the middle of the sentence and the presence of *-nya* (possessive pronoun) in the sentence.

The last subject characteristic is *nani/dare GA iru/aru* what/who exists' (the existence of Subject). In Japanese there is a difference in signifying existence between animate and inanimate objects. Animate objects uses the word *iru* while inanimate object uses *aru* as verb *exist*. These two data below shall give further explanation.

(16) お雑煮を食べない宇宙人がいる。 (UH, 11)

Ozouni o tabe nai uchuujin GA iru.

Ozouni pem.O makan tdk makhluk r.angkasa pem. S ada

Ozouni sig.O eat not alien sig.S exist

'Makhluk ruang angkasa yang tidak makan ozouni, ada.'

'Alien who doesn't eat ozouni exists.'

(17) ^{けっこんできれいき}「結婚適齢期」という言葉がある。 (JS, 14)

Kekkontekireiki to iu kotoba GA aru.

usia (pantas) menikah pem.kut. menyebut ungkapan pem.S. ada

marriageable age sig.quo say expression sig.S exist

'Ada ungkapan yang dikenal 'usia yang pantas untuk menikah.'

'Expression "marriageable age" exists.'

In data (16), *GA* particle signifies subject of relative clause *Ozouni o tabenai uchuujin* 'alien who doesn't eat ozouni and noun phrase *kekkontekireiki to iu kotoba* 'expression "marriageable age'. The word constituent taking position after *GA* particle is the predicate function syntactic verb exist, *iru* for animate object existence. In data (17), predicate function uses the verb *aru* for inanimate onbject existence.

In the same manner as the sentences from previous analysis, translation to Indonesian for data (16) and (17) also shows both syntactic function of subject and topic. The intonation pause can be marked as follows: *Makhluk ruang angkasa yang tidak makan ozouni // ada* (Alien who doesn't eat ozouni // exists) and *Ada // ungkapan yang dikenal 'usia yang pantas untuk menikah* ('Expression marriageable age' // exists).

This analysis shows *GA* particle acting as subject signifier, that subject constituent can be signified by *GA* particle in the four basic Japanese sentence patterns, which are: *nani/dare GA dou suru*, ‘what/who does what’ (signifying activity done by Subject); *nani/dare GA dou nanda* ‘what/who how’ (signifying Subject situation); *nani/dare GA nanda* ‘what/who what’ (explaining Subject); *nani/dare GA iru/aru* ‘what/who exists’ (the existence of Subject). If Japanese sentence is later translated to Indonesian then constituent signified by *GA* particle will both function as subject and topic, with intonation and pause in the middle of the sentence or the presence of *-nya* (possessive pronoun).

3.2 *GA* as Object Signifier

Object is sentence constituent that is generally governed by predicate of transitive verb in active sentence. In Japanese the signifier is the *O* particle. Yet if a sentence has adjective as its predicate (showing emotion and potential verb) *GA* particle will appear. Consider these two data as example of *GA* particle as object signifier.

- (18) 奥さんが嫌になりました。 (IH, 10)

Okusan *GA* iya ni narimashita.

istri pem.O. benci pem.proses menjadi (past)

wife sig.O hate sig.process become (past)

‘Menjadi membenci istrinya.’

‘Become to hate his wife.’

- (19) 火事がとても怖い。 (IH, 16)

Kaji *GA* totemo kowai.

kebakaran pem. O. sangat takut

fire sig.O very scared

‘Sangat takut kebakaran’

‘Very scared of fire.’

In data (18), *GA* particle signifies object of noun *okusan* ‘(his) wife’. *GA* particle in (19) signifies object of noun *kaji* ‘fire’. This reading of *GA* particle as object signifier shows that object constituent could be signified by *GA* particle, as appeared in sentences with adjective its predicate, showing emotion and potential verb.

4. Semantic Role of *WA* and *GA* Particle

There are four semantic roles of constituent signified by *WA* and *GA* particle in Japanese: agentive, benefactive, experiential, and locative. Agentive semantic role states that the subject is participant that conducts the action stated in the predicate. In the data below, constituent signified by *WA* and *GA* particles bears the semantic role of agentive.

(20) 恵理子さんは私をまじまじと見ていた。 (Kitch, 28)

Eriko san WA watashi o majimaji to mite ita.

Eriko pem.S/T. saya pem.O seksama melihat (prog. past)

Eriko sig.S/T I sig.O steadily stare (prog past)

'Eriko memandangiku dengan seksama.'

'Eriko stared at me steadily.'

In data (74), WA particle signified Eriko-san acting as agen in this sentence. The action stated is predicate in form of activity verb *mite ita* (stared), a past imperfective form of the verb *miru* 'stare'. This transitive verb comes with the object *watashi* 'I' with *O* signifier and adverb *majimaji to* 'steadily'.

Meanwhile, benefactive role is set for animate object that receives benefit from the action of the verb. In this sentence participant will benefit from the action stated by the predicate. These data below show WA and GA particle signifying constituent that holds the benefactive semantic role.

(21) 私は彼にお茶を入れてもらいました。 (Kitch, 14)

Watashi WA kare ni ocha o irete moraimashita.

saya pem S/T dia oleh teh pem.O menuangkan menerima (past)

I sig.S/T he by tea sig.O make accept (past)

'Saya dibuatkan teh oleh dia.'

'I was made tea by him.'

(22) いつも私のためにはドアを開けてくれる。 (Kitch, 117)

Itsumo watashi no tame ni WA doa o akete kureru.

selalu saya untuk pem.T pintu pem.O. membuka memberi

always I for sig.T door sig.O open give

'Dia selalu membukakan pintu untukku.'

'He always open the door for me.'

In data (21) WA particle signified *watashi* 'I' as participant that receives benefit from the action of *kare* 'he' in form of *ocha o ireru* 'making tea'. The presence of the verb *moraimashita*, past form of *morau* 'accept' shows that the action was done for *watashi*. *Watashi* in data (22) signified by WA particle is the participant that receives benefit from someone (deleted) in form of *doa o akete kureru* 'opening the door'. The benefit is also emphasized by the use of adverb 'no tame ni' and the giving verb 'kureru'.

Semantic role experiential shows that the participants that experience an event or situation as

referred by predicate, in form of adjective, adverb, or situational verb.

(23) 彼は一人で生きている。 (Kitch, 12)

Kare WA hitoride ikite iru.

dia pem.S/T sendirian hidup (prog.)

he sig.S/T alone live (prog.)

'Dia hidup sendirian.'

'He lives alone'

(24) 彼女はガンだったの。 (SA, 25/3'99:72)

Kanojo WA gan datta no.

dia (pr) pem.S/T. kanker kop (pas) pem.intr

she sig.S/T cancer copula (past)

'Dia kanker?'

'She (has) cancer?'

WA particle in (23) signifies 'he' as word constituent with experiential semantic role. The statement of what happen to him appears as predicate hitoride ikite iru 'lives alone'. The role of experiential in (24) is kanojo 'she'. The clause as predicate gan datta '(has) cancer' acts as explanation of the her experience.

GA and WA particle could also signify constituent that acts as locative semantic role. In this context, WA and GA signify the source (location) of the activity. See data below for analysis.

(25) みかげさん が来てくれた。 (Kitch,7)

Mikage san GA kite kureta.

Mikage pem.S. datang memberi

Mikage sig.S come give

'Mikage san mendatangi (saya).'

'Mikage-san comes (to me).'

Mikage-san signified by GA particle in data (25) acts as source of the activity kuru 'come' in form of ~te, kite. The activity clearly comes from the constituent signified by G because the presence of verb kureta for Mikage-san as the past form of base verb kureru 'give'. The use of verb kureru both independently or together with other verb as joint-verb signifies that there is acceptor in form of first person pronoun.

5. Conclusion

Elaboration and analysis of linguistic elements associated with the presence of WA and GA

article in Japanese sentence above shows that the presence of WA and GA is related to subject syntactic function, topic grammatical meaning and semantic role of sentences. This analysis shows that subject constituent is signified by WA articles are: 1) personal pronoun referring to male subject; 2) proper name; 3) first-person persona pronoun neutral; 4) first person pronoun referring to female subject, and; 5) noun phrase. Constituent with WA particle in Japanese signifying subject function in Japanese sentence can act both as subject function and topic marker when translated to Indonesia. Meanwhile WA as topic signifier shows that WA particle signifies topic with different characteristics and meaning, that are: 1) Object Topicalization; 2) Noun modifying Noun (possessive); 3) Noun/Noun Phrase as modifier; 4) Relative Clause; 5) Signifier Old Information; 6) Comparison (Excluding); and 7) Substitution of GA particle by NO particle.

The subchapter of GA particle as subject signifier shows GA particle acting as subject signifier, that subject constituent can be signified by GA particle in the four basic Japanese sentence patterns, which are: nani /dare GA dou suru, ‘what/who does what’ (signifying activity done by Subject); nani/dare GA dou nanda ‘what/who how’ (signifying Subject situation); nani/dare GA nanda ‘what/who what’ (explaining Subject); nani/dare GA iru/aru ‘what/who exists’ (the existence of Subject). If Japanese sentence is later translated to Indonesian then constituent signified by GA particle would both function as subject and topic, with intonation and pause in the middle of the sentence or the presence of –nya (possessive pronoun). While GA particle as object signifier shows that object constituent could be signified by GA particle, as appeared in sentences with adjective its predicate, showing emotion and potential verb. Lastly, analysis of semantic role for constituent signified by WA and GA articles in Japanese sentences shows that constituents signified WA and GA have the semantic role of agentive, benefactive, experiential, and locative.

In summary, this paper has provided examples of linguistic elements associated with the particles WA and GA, particularly among Indonesian and Japanese language learners. These particles remain to be problematic language topics both in Japanese language and its Indonesian translation. With this linguistic approach, not only Japanese language learners but also Indonesian Japanese language learners will be able to study Japanese sentences in a comprehensible and straightforward manner.

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Appendix

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