

Adjectival predicates

typical example: "... da_(copula)"

ii desu ka plays several functional roles:

confirmation: *kore*_(this) *de*_(particle) **ii desu ka**. (Is this all right?)

asking for permission: *tabako*_(cigarette) *o*_(particle) *sutte*_(smoke)
*mo*_(particle) **ii desu ka**. (May I smoke?)

asking a way: *donoyouni*_(how) *kake*_(write) *ba*_(particle) **ii desu ka**.
(How do I write this?)

asking one's favorite/taste: *donna*_(what) *iro*_(color) *ga*_(particle) **ii desu ka**.
(What color do you like?)

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Passive forms

to-ru → *to-rareru*, *mi-ru* → *mi-rareru*,
suru → *sareru*

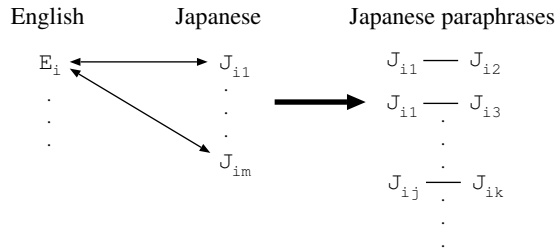
mirareru express three types of meaning:

- to express possibility
"yama wa **mirare** masita ka (Could you see the mountain?),"
- to express an honorific
"yama o **mirareta** no desu ka (Did you see the mountain?)," and
- the passive voice
"dareka ni **mirare** masita (I was seen by someone)."

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How to extract paraphrases?

Bi-lingual parallel corpus



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Japanese-English parallel corpus

Style: Spoken

Domain: Travel

Number of sentences: 162,230

English - 98,290

Japanese - 102,664

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Example of corpus

English sentence	Japanese sentences
I'd like a refund.	harai modosi sitai no desuga. henkin site kudasai. henkin o onegai sitai no desuga.
I lost my wallet.	saifu o otosite simattan desu. saifu o nakusite simai masita. saifu o funsitsu simasita.
I have a fever.	netu ga arun desu. netu ga takai no desu. netuppoi desu. hatunetu desu.

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Example of paraphrase

English	Japanese paraphrase	class	feature
Are you free tomorrow?	<i>asita wa hima desuka. / asita wa hima.</i>	(A)	(L)
I'd like a room with a bath.	<i>ofurotuki no heya ga ii no desuga. / basutuki no heya o onegaisimasu.</i>	(A)	(L)(S)
When was it built?	<i>itu taterareta no desuka. / taterata no wa itu desuka.</i>	(A)	(S)
I miss you.	<i>anata ni aenakute sabisii. / anata ni aitai.</i>	(A)	(E)
How can I get to this address?	<i>koko e wa dou ittara inodesyou. / kono jyuusyo ni ikitai no desuga.</i>	(B)	—
That's good.	<i>kore wa ii. / kasikomari masita.</i>	(C)	—

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Paraphrasing features

- Lexical paraphrasing;
By using the changed part and its fore-and-after morphemes, the obtained paraphrases have this feature.
pasupōto o nakusite simai masita. (I have lost my passport.)
→ *pasupōto o funsitusite simai masita.*
- Syntactical paraphrasing;
Changing a word order or its voice and changing a predicate by exchanging particles obtain this feature.
kōhi ga hosii no desuga. (I'll have some coffee.)
→ *kōhi o kudasai.* (May I have coffee, please?)
- Semantic paraphrasing;
Examples that cannot be obtained by combining feature-(L) and (S) paraphrasing have this feature.
sore ijyou wa yasuku nari masenka. (Is it able to go down in price more?)
→ *sore ga saisyuutekina nedan desuka.* (Is that your last price?)

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