

Japanese Sluicing with NPI as Remnant and Verb Restructuring

by

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Abstract

Kimura and Takahashi (2011) argue that a concealed cleft analysis of Japanese sluicing is not tenable, since a phrase suffixed by a negative polarity item (NPI) *-sika* 'anyone/anything but,' when becoming a remnant after deletion, cannot be the focus of the cleft clause. Instead, they propose an analysis of "non-constituent deletion" (Craenenbroeck and den Dikken 2006) applied to the "*no da* 'that be' construction" (Hiraiwa and Ishihara 2002).

The present thesis argues against this proposal. First, ambiguity in sluiced sentences with *-sika* NPI as remnant remains a mystery in terms of the clausemate condition (CMC). Second, it is pointless to discuss the CMC, since the *no da* construction is taken to form a single clause. Third, application of unregulated non-constituent deletion seems totally ad hoc. This thesis offers a more straightforward analysis based on restructuring.