

Week 10

- CP and V2
- A'-movement and six islands
- PS6 (last!) due next week

Next:

- How things move long-distance (across clauses)

Wh-questions in Japanese

Japanese is a *wh*-in-situ language: *wh*-phrases do not need to move in *wh*-questions, unlike in English or German.

- (1) Kare-wa *nani*-o katta no?
he-TOP what-ACC bought Q
'What did he buy ___?'
- (2) Taroo-wa [Hanako-ga *nani*-o katta to] omotta no?
Taro-TOP Hanako-NOM what-ACC bought that thought Q
'What did Taro think that Hanako bought ___?'

Part 1: What is interesting about the grammaticality of (3–4)? What does this teach us?

- (3) Kimi-wa [Hanako-ga *dare-ni* ageta hon]-o yonda no?
you-TOP Hanako-NOM who-DAT gave book-ACC read Q
'Who did you read [the book that Hanako gave to ___]?'
- (4) John-wa [uchi-de *dono hon-o* yonde kara] dekaketa no?
John-TOP home-at which book-ACC read after went.out Q
'Which book did John go out [after he read ___ at home]?'

Part 2: Now consider *wh-the-hell* questions, which reflect the speaker's impatience or annoyedness. The part of *the hell* is played by *ittai* in Japanese.

- (5) Kare-wa *ittai nani-o* katta no?
he-TOP ITTAI what-ACC bought Q
'What the hell did he buy ___?'
- (6) Taro-wa [Hanako-ga kimi-ni *ittai nani-o* okutta to] omotta no?
Taro-TOP Hanako-NOM you-DAT ITTAI what-ACC sent that thought Q
'What the hell did Taro think that Hanako sent ___ to you?'

Compare (7–8) with (3–4) above. What do we learn?

- (7) *Kimi-wa [Hanako-ga *ittai dare-ni* ageta hon]-o yonda no?
you-TOP Hanako-NOM ITTAI who-DAT gave book-ACC read Q
Intended: 'Who the hell did you read [the book that Hanako gave to ___]?'
- (8) *John-wa [uchi-de *ittai nani-o* yonde kara] dekaketa no?
John-TOP home-at ITTAI what-ACC read after went.out Q
'What the hell did John go out [after he read ___ at home]?'