

Abstract

Compound particles are part of a wide group of grammatical devices in Japanese having the potential to express the subjective voice of the speaker. The thesis analyses compound particles with the goal to test subjective preferences of speakers in the case of having (or not having) possibility to choose from two similar particles. Firstly, the thesis deals with the definition of compound particles according to Yuriko Sunakawa, the successor to the “predicating theory” in its later form by Motoki Tokieda. Compound particles are then related to the theoretical framework of subjectivity and subjectivization by Elizabeth C. Traugott. In the second part, there is a corporal analysis of two semantically similar compound particles *ni shite wa – wari ni*, *dake ni – dake atte*, and a single *to mo naru to*, with regard to their contextual surrounding, coocurrence with subjectivity indicators, and sources. The analysed group of particles was proven to be context specific. By comparing the usage of similar compound particles it was possible to pinpoint subjective preferences regardless of the register. The single *to mo naru to* showed tendencies to appear in a narrow range of topics similarly as the particles existing in a variety.