

# Connection on Events of Subclause to Main Clause: Analyzing Sentence Construction in Kyoukasho (Japanese Textbooks)

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**Abstract.** Along with the rising influence of Japanese in many spheres of life, many language learners around the world have learned Japanese. Kyoukasho, which means "Japanese language textbooks," are the main books that people who don't speak Japanese use to learn Japanese. Many features of Japanese linguistics may be found in Kyoukasho, one of which is subclause construction. A compound sentence in Japanese must include linking elements. These elements connect the subclause to the main clause. As a result, the purpose of this research is to discover how Kyoukasho explains the use of connecting constituents of time in subclause to form compound sentences. This study is necessary because it can assist Japanese learners in better understanding sentence construction. This was a literary study that used a descriptive-qualitative approach. To obtain the result, data were obtained from six Kyoukasho regularly used by Indonesian higher education institutions to teach Japanese and evaluated using a matching analytical approaches. This study drew two conclusions about the use of linking constituents: their use in the sequence of events and their use in the temporal order. There were three events completed for the sequence of events, namely: after, before, and concurrent events, and four orders concluded for the time order, namely: starting-ending, starting, ending, and neutral. Aside from this, this study discovered that the duration of the actions in the concurrent event affects the structure as well. The event is divided into three categories here: open-closed, complete, and partial.

**Keywords:** *Time Subclause, Constituents, Japanese Grammars*

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## INTRODUCTION

Grammar (*bunpou*) is the rules that are used together when making sentences correctly in a language. In microlinguistics, grammar refers to morphology and syntax. According to Verhaar (1999), morphology concerns the grammatical structure of words, while syntax deals with grammar in sentence or speech. In other words, morphology talks about grammar within words and syntax regards grammar among words. Grammatically, the core of the sentences is located in its predicate which controls the action that explain the sentence (Nitta, 2009; Roni, 2021). Sentence can be constructed from verbs as predicate and directly explained by adjective, adverb, and/or nouns (Verhaar, 1999).

In *Kyoukasho*, there are discussions about basic sentences, simple sentence, complex sentences, speech sentences, as well as other elements of grammars. In complex sentences, the sentences are constructed from two clauses, namely main clause and subclause. The main clause is the basic sentence in which show the core action of the actor, while the subclause is the adverbial clause that used to explain or describe the action of the main clause (Roni & Nurhadi (2019), Akira (2019). There are several types of adverbial clauses, one of which explains the time of the action (Roni, 2022). In Japanese grammars (*Nihongo No Bumpou*), sentences can be seen as a system which its core is predicate known as key constituent (Verhaar, 1999; Roni et al., 2023). He explains that the key constituent brings out other two main constituents which are located in subject and object of the sentence. However, key constituent cannot bring out the peripheral constituent which actually serves as partner of it in the sentence. In syntax, peripheral constituent serves as complement and/or adverb. In sentence construction, adverbs of time can be divided into two, namely (1) adverbs of time which are non-predicative meaning that there is no predicate (Roni & Nurhadi, 2019) and (2) adverbs of time which are predicative meaning that there is predicate. Discussing adverbial clause of time as explained by Okawa (2012), Tang (2016), Obata (2014), Takubo (2019), Wu (2021), and Sang (2019) is closely related to the time between subclause and main clause. However, they did not discuss the relation of actions between subclause and main clause. Thus, this study discusses how the connecting constituents of the subclause connect to main clause.

In learning Japanese syntax, there are several things that need to be studied, including syntactic functions, syntactic categories, and the role of syntax (Verhaar, 1999; Saito & Duk-Ho, 2014; Roni, 2017; Roni & Didik, 2019). One of the concerns about the role of syntax relates to the role of time. In previous study, it is known that there are at least two-time role constructions, namely the role of time in the form of nouns or noun phrases (Roni & Didik, 2019). In sentences, the role of time can not only be in the form of nouns or noun phrases, but also in the form of clauses. However, studies related to it (subclause) has not yet been discussed. Yet, an understanding of the role of time in the form of this subclause is needed because these constructions are commonly found in the Japanese sentences. Referring to these conditions, this study wishes to discuss how the time informative subclauses of the Japanese sentences are constructed and found in *Kyoukasho* (Japanese text book) which is known as the main textbooks in Japanese learning for non-native

learners. This study implicates on Japanese language teaching generally and syntax learning specifically. In addition, this study can be used as a reference for developing complementary books of Japanese language teaching for foreign students.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This study is linguistic research using a qualitative descriptive approach to explain the data collected. The method used is distributional (*agih*) and matching analytical techniques (Sudaryanto, 2015). This method was selected because it helped researchers to categorize and distribute the data according to its respective needs. The objects selected in this study were sentences containing predicative time information. Data were sentences (examples) found in Kyoukasho (Japanese textbooks) which are used to teach Japanese language. There were six Kyoukasho used as data sources (see Table 1). In addition, the researchers employed Sudaryanto's distributional and matching technique. According to Sudaryanto (2015), distributional method is a method to analyze linguistic dimensions in language consisting of eliminating, replacing, inserting, reversing, and transforming techniques. This method is a form of structural approach which leads to Saussure structuralism theory (Inomata, 2017). Saussure said that in conducting linguistic research, a conceptual and methodological approach was needed to describe and analyze various objects of investigation. For example, (MNSI 23/192) meaning that the data refer to the *Minna no Nihongo Shokyuu I* chapter 23 page 192.

**Table 1.** Data Sources and The Coding Technique

Source	Code
<i>Minna No Nihongo Shokyuu I</i>	MNSI
<i>Minna No Nihongo Shokyuu II</i>	MNSII
<i>Minna No Nihongo Chuukyuu I</i>	MNCI
<i>Minna No Nihongo Chuukyuu II</i>	MNCII
<i>Nyuu Apuroochi Chuukyuu Nihongo</i>	NAC
<i>Nyuu Apuroochi Chuujou Nihongo</i>	NACJ

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Predicative sentence

Predicative sentence is a sentence constructed with verb as predicate (Nitta, 2009; Roni, 2017). The existence of a predicate indicates the existence of a clause construction (Verhaar, 1999; Nitta, 2009; Roni, 2017) which eventually compliments in constructing time adverbial clause (further will be named as time subclause). Time subclause attributes main clause in term of describing the order of time where the action is done (Verhaar, 1999). The construction of both clauses main clause (*shusetsu*) and subclause (*juuzokushetsu*) has verbs that serves as predicate of the clauses (see e.g., 1).

- (1) *Uchi e kaeru toki, keeki o kaimasu.* (MNSI 23/192)

Subclause                      Main clause

(I) buy cake when I'm going home.

(1) is a compound sentence with main clause is *keeki o kaimasu* (buy a cake) and subclause *uchi e kaeru toki* (when (I) go home). (1) shows that both clauses have verb-predicate (*kaimasu*-buy and *kaeru* – go home). Similarly, the data analyzed are constructed in these forms. From the analysis of the sentence above, it can be seen that the center of the sentence is the predicate. Therefore, all the constructions in the sentence (including the subclauses in it) are parts that are connected with the verb predicate in the main clause.

### Core Constituents

A predicate is the core constituent in the syntactic function. In syntax, predicate is categorized into verbal, adjective, and nominal predicate (Roni, 2010). In verbal sentence, predicate functions as the core constituent, likewise in adjective and nominal sentences, predicate can be filled by adjective or noun which serve as the main constituents on the sentence. Verbal sentence is a sentence followed by nouns where it is syntactically determined by the predicate (verb of main sentence). This type of nouns which is characterized and determined as the predicate of a sentence is known as main constituents (Verhaar, 1999).

From (2), the verb *ochiru* (fall) needs subject who suffers from the action. This subjects is subject experienced (exp.). Meanwhile, in (3), the verb *naita* (cried) also needs noun who suffers from the action. However, in example (4), the verb *ketta* (kicked) needs two nouns who serve as agents-Ag (the doer) and as patient-Pt (the sufferer). Here, an agent serves as the subject of the sentence and a patient serves as the object of the sentence. In (5), the verb *ageta* (give) needs three nouns, one as an agent –*Natsuki*, one as a patient –*hitotaba no hana*, and one as benefactive (Bn) –*Maki*. An agent is positioned as subject, while both patient and benefactive are positioned as objects. Referring to these, the term direct object (*chokusetsu mokutekigo*–CM) and indirect object (*kansetsuteki mokutekigo*–KM) are emerged. The direct object or *chokusetsu mokutekigo* normally occurs directly (or the closest) to the predicate.

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| (2) <i>Kabin ga ochiru.</i> | (4) <i>Tarou ga Tanaka o ketta.</i>                     |
| S exp.    P                 | S:Ag       O:Pt       P                                 |
| Flower vase was fallen.     | Taro kicked Tanaka.                                     |
| (3) <i>Musume ga naita.</i> | (5) <i>Natsuki ga Maki ni hitotaba no hana o ageta.</i> |
| S:Pt            P           | S: Ag    O:Bn:KM    O:Pn:CM       P                     |
| My daughter cried.          | Natsuki gives Maki a flower bouquet.                    |

The noun – main constituent is determined by the verb-predicate and its role is carried out by the adpositions. There are two adpositions in front of nouns called preposition and after noun called postposition. In (2) post-position *ga* refers to experience, while in (5) post-position *ga* refers to agent. While post-position *o* as patient in (4) and (5) and postposition *ni* as benefactive in (5). According to Roni

and Setiawan (2017), in some languages (such as Indonesian, Japanese, and English), the pronoun (e.g. serving as agent) has main constituents which are manifested as the case marker of its roles. Generally, in Japanese language theory, the verb predicate serves the core constituent that delivers and influences all constituents in the sentence (including the subject and object). In Japanese, the relationship between the core constituents and the main constituents is manifested in the form of a postposition. This idea is supported by previous studies that explain how the form and function of postpositions in Japanese sentence construction (Roni & Setiawan, 2017; Roni, 2017; Shi, 2017; Roni & Didik, 2019).

### Peripheral Constituents

Nouns on both subject and object are main constituents which carried out by verb-predicate. In contrary, in peripheral constituent, the adverbs can be formed into (either nominal or others – compliment or adverb) which can provide information to sentence (see (6)).

*Kinou uchi de musume ga naita.*

6) K:W K:T

‘Yesterday my daughter cried at home.’

Word *kinou* (yesterday) and *uchi* (home) are not carried out by the verb *naita* (cried). These nouns are needed by the speaker/writer to fill the information delivered. These types of nouns are known as peripheral constituent (Verhaar, 1999). In (6), *uchi* (home) is an adverb (K) serving as adverbial place (T) and linked by the post-position *de*. While *kinou* (yesterday) is an adverb serving as adverbial time (W). Thus, in Japanese, there is also a noun without given any postposition. As previously explained, subject and object are main constituents which are influenced and controlled by verb predicate as core constituents through postpositions. This condition is appeared in peripheral constituent as well. Thus, the construction of adverb and compliment as peripheral constituents is delivered, controlled, and influenced by verb predicate. This idea supports the previous studies conducted by Masuoka (2000), Roni (2017), Roni & Didik (2019), and Nakajima (2010) who discussed on how verb predicates as core constituent controls and delivers other constituents in the sentence.

### Syntactic Functions and Arguments

The syntactic function referred to in this study is the subject, predicate, and object, yet it excludes adverb and compliment. These functions are only imposed on nouns which role is put forth by the semantic nature of verbs in the predicate. According to Roni (2022), verbs can be distinguished from the number of nouns where the roles are raised by semantic verbs (single, double, and triple nouns). Shown in (2) and (5), in the verb-predicate sentence, a single noun is stated as a subject; double nouns are stated as subject and object; and triple nouns are stated as a subject and two objects. From this point, it is explained that syntactic function is a function derived from the role of nouns having the semantic nature of verbs. This study emphasizes on although adverb is not a syntactic function, it equally treats as syntactic function.



Parts called subject and object are mostly occupied by nouns which were generated by the semantic nature of verbs. These nouns are known as arguments (Verhaar, 1999). Considering this, only the main constituents are possibly called arguments. Meanwhile, he also argues that a noun functioned adverbs cannot be considered as an argument and has no syntactic function. In addition, a verb with one argument is called intransitive verb, yet a verb with two or more arguments is called transitive verbs (Roni, 2022). Furthermore, a verb with two arguments is called a mono-transitive verb and a verb with three arguments is called bi-transitive or dual transitive verb. Saito and Duk-Ho (2014) and Hisayoshi (2009) explained that in Japanese, arguments sometimes are tipped off. Thus, there are two types of nouns (noun phrases) occurring in a clause. One is called verb-generated nouns (the main constituent) and another is called non-verb-generated nouns (the peripheral constituent) (Verhaar, 1999). The main constituent is usually situated as subject and object, while the outer constituent is usually situated as adverb and complement. Verb as the core constituent generates and controls the main constituents. The peripheral constituent becomes an attribute for the predicate by providing additional information to the main constituents.

### **Types of Subclauses and Their Constituents to Main Clause**

A discussion on how to construct adverbial clause with the syntactic role as time information (addressed as adverbial time) and predicative is closely related to the discussion on the structure of subclause (*juuzokusetsu*). Such lingual construction is known as a relative clause which possibly develops independently. Masuoka (2000) defines the types of subclause in Japanese language into four: *meishisetsu*, *rentaisetsu*, *renyoosetsu*, dan *heiretsusetsu*. These divisions are based on how each is constructed or how the structure of the subclause relates to its main clause. From his study of the four types of subclauses, time information is classified into *renyoosetsu*. Takehiko et.al. (2016) consider adverbial time as a subclause (*renyoosetsu*). In this type, the constituents have the attributive duty to the predicate and/or overall construction of the main clause. The order between subclause and main clause in Japanese according to Imoto (2021) and Maeda (2022) are usually sequential to first subclause then followed by main clause, yet it possibly changes in spoken language.

Subjects, predicates, objects, adverb, and complement are explicitly parts of phrase construction. The phrase expands further into a clause. Referring to previous discussion, a main sentence (core constituent) is a predicate. The existence of the predicates determines whether the sentence construction is in the form of a single sentence or compound sentence. In a single sentence, there is only a predicate, while in compound sentence there are at least two predicates. The existence of two predicates in a sentence becomes the least condition for compound sentence where one of the sentences is called a clause. Therefore, a limit on compound sentences is where a sentence consists of two or more clauses. In addition, Meng & Nakamoto (2016) explained that in Japanese this connecting form is bound morpheme. Regarding to adverbial time, Okawa (2012), Miyabe (2013), and Obata (2014) explain as the construction is closely related to the time between subclause and main clause. To connect the subclause to the main clause in Japanese

language, it requires the existence of the connecting constituents. This study discusses two points of views to classify the connecting constituents in constructing sentences in Japanese, sequence of event and time order. According to the sequence of event, there are three divisions carried out, before, after, and concurrent order (Fig. 1). While according to the time period, it is divided into four as well, starting-ending, starting, ending, and neutral period (Fig. 2).

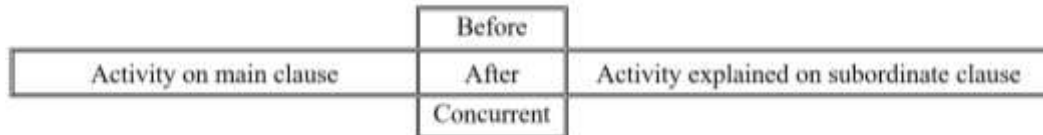


Figure 1. The classification of the sequence of event

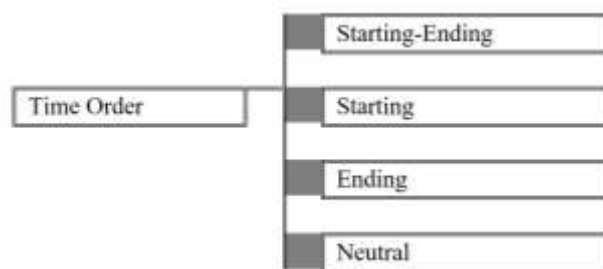


Figure 2. The classification of the time order

### Sequence of Event

In the sequence of event, the classification subclause as adverbial time is divided into three, namely: before, after, and concurrent. In “after” sequence of event, there are two points of views; one is based on activity and the latter is based on understanding. Moreover, in concurrent, the sequences are divided into open-close activity, complete activity, and partial activity (see Fig. 3).

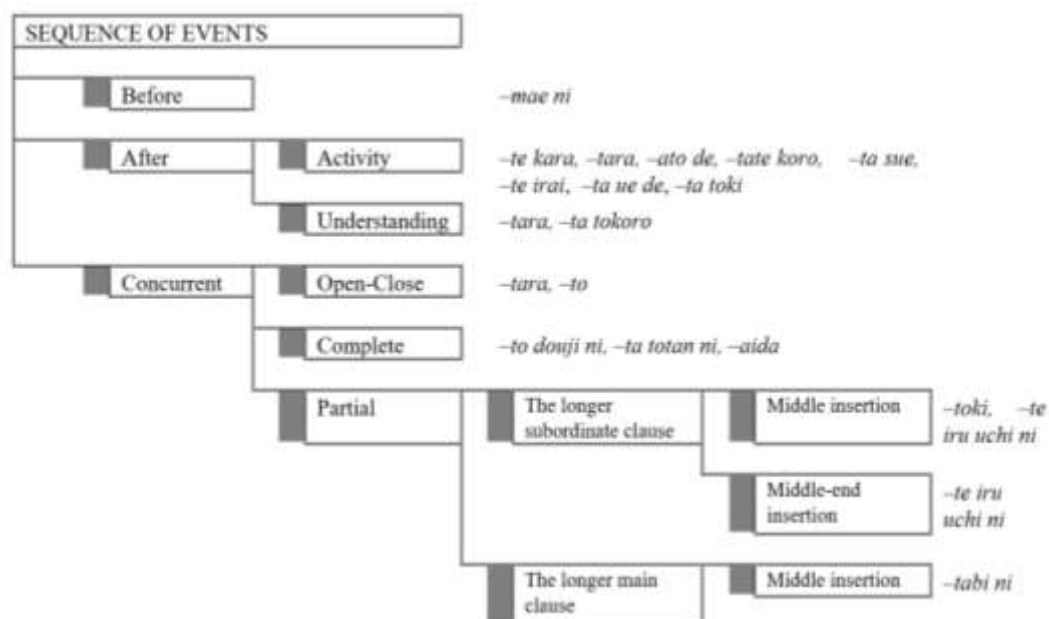


Figure 3. Classification of Sequence of events

### Sequence of events: before

In time order ‘before’, the activity stated in the main clause is done before it is stated by the subordinate clause. There is a connecting constituent of this order, *-mae ni*. In (7) and (8), the underlined main clause is performed before the double underlined subordinate clause.

- Neru mae ni, hon o yomimasu. (MNSI 18/148)  
 7) ‘(I) read book, before (I) went to bed.’  
 Hon o kariru mae ni, ukezu de kaado o tsukuranakereba narimasen. (MNSI 18/153)  
 8) ‘(we) have to make a card at the receptionist, before (we) borrow the book.’

### Sequence of events: after

In this group, the activity on the main clause is performed after the subordinate clause. This group is divided into two, first is when the main clause is performed after the subordinate clause is finished, so there is a time lag between the main clause and the subordinate clause (Fig. 4a). While the second one is when the main clause is already and in the situation where the event occurred, and the subordinate clause is performed along in it (Fig. 4b).

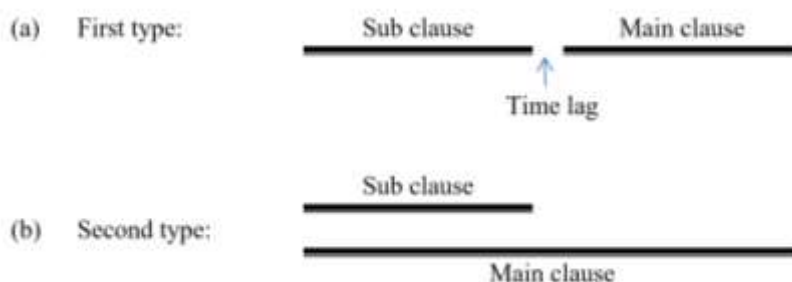


Figure 4. Time line of the ‘after’ in sequence of events

Fig. 3 illustrates how both events happen in the time line. Fig. 3a illustrates on how the time order is based on the order of the activity, while, Fig. 3b is based on the order of the understanding. In first type, the connecting constituents are *-te kara* (9), *-tara* (10), *-ato de* (11), *-tate koro* (12), *-ta sue* (13), *-te irai* (14), *-ta ue de* (15), and *-ta toki* (16). In the examples, the single-underlined represents the subordinate clause, the bold-underlined represents the connecting constituents, and the double-underlined represents the main clause.

- Nihon e kite kara, uma no shashin o torimashitaka. (MNSI 18/147)  
 9) ‘After (you) arrived in Japan, did (you) take a photo of horse?’  
 Uchi e kaettara, sugu shawaa o abimasu. (MNSI 25/208)  
 10) ‘After (I) arrive at home, (I) go to bath soon.’  
 Shigoto ga owatta ato de, nomi ni ikimasu. (MNSII34/70)  
 11) ‘After (I) finished my working hour, (I) went to have a drink.’  
 Kekkōn shitate koro, oto wa donna ryouri demo ‘oishii’ to itte tabeta. (MNCII



- 12) 13/9)  
 ‘(My) husband ate every dish that I cooked and (he) complimented by saying ‘delicious’ when we were newlywed.’  
*Sono senshu wa, suushukan nayanda sue, intai suru kesshin o shita. (MNCII 20/108)*
- 13) 20/108)  
 ‘That player, after he was confused for weeks, finally (he) decided to resign.’  
*Kekkon shite irai, zutto Yokohama ni sunde iru. (MNCII 20/108)*
- 14) ‘After (I) married, (I) have lived in Yokohama.’  
*Jibun de yoku yonde rikai shita ue de, keiyakusho ni sain shita. (NACJ 2/20)*
- 15) ‘After (i) read and understood (by myself), I signed the contract.’  
*Kaisha e kita toki, ukezu de shachou ni aimashita. (MNSI 23/192)*
- 16) ‘After (I) arrived at office, (I) met the director at the receptionist.’

The connecting constituents of the ‘after’ time order based on the order of understanding can be seen in (17) and (18) use *-tara* as well as (19) and (20) use *-ta tokoro*.

- Uchi e kaettara, haha kara nimotsu ga todoite ita. (MNCI 2/16)*
- 17) ‘When I arrived at home, my mother’s delivery was arrived.’  
*Purezento o aketara, takasou na nekkuresu ga haitte ita. (NAC 8/77)*
- 18) ‘When I opened the gift, (I) found an expensive tie.’  
*Saifu o otoshita node, keisatsu ni itta tokoro, choudo hirotta hito ga todoke ni kite ita. (MNCII 16/53)*
- 19) ‘Because I lost my wallet, when I went to police station, the man who found (my wallet) already gave it (to police).’  
*Chokusetsu kaisha ni denwa shite mita tokoro, sono shouhin wa mou*
- 20) *atsukatte inakatta. (NACJ 8/143)*  
 ‘After I called directly to that company, the goods were no longer.’

### Sequence of event: concurrent

In the time order concurrent, the activities or events of both main and subordinate clauses occur at the same time. This time order consists of three types, open-close, complete, and partial. In open-close concurrent time-order, the activity of the main clause starts as soon as the activities in the subordinate clause end, meaning that there is no time lag in between (Fig. 5a). In complete concurrent time-order, when the activity of the subordinate clause is started, the activity of the main clause is started as well (Fig. 5b) meaning that in this type, the activities of both clauses (subordinate and main) start and end in the same time.

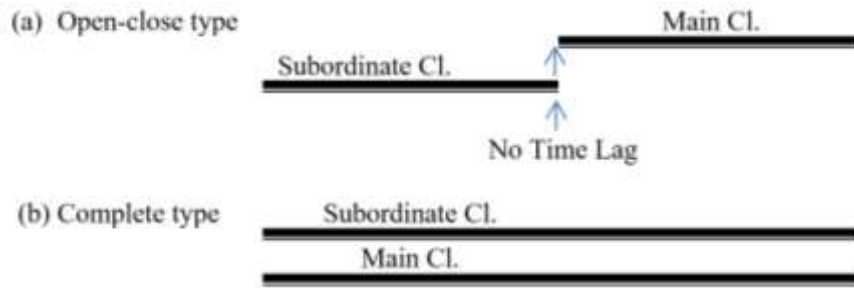


Figure 5. The time line of the ‘concurrent’ time order

In the first type, open-close, the connecting constituents found are *-tara* (21) and *-to* (22), while in the second type, complete order, the connecting constituents found are *-to douji ni* (23), *-ta totan (ni)* (24), and *-aida* (25). In the examples, the single-underlined represents the subordinate clause; the bold-underlined represents the constituent; and the double-underlined represents the main clause.

- Mado garasu o fuitara, heya ga akaruku natta.* (MNCI2/16)  
 21) ‘As the window is cleaned, the room becomes bright.’  
*Kore o hiku to, mizu ga demasu.* (MNSI 23/192)  
 22) ‘As (it) is pulled, the water will come out.’  
*Osoku kaette kita musume no kao o mite, hotto suru to douji ni hara ga tatta.*  
 23) (MNCII 20/107)  
 ‘(I) saw my daughter face who came late, (I) was angry and relief at the same time.’  
*Denwa de haha no koe o kiita totan ni, namida ga dete kita.* (MNCII 20/110)  
 24) ‘As (I) heard my mom’s voice, the tears were pouring.’  
*Watashi ga kaimono shite iru aida, koko de matte ite kudasai.* (NAC 6/59)  
 25) ‘While I shop, (you) wait here.’

In the partial time order, there are two activities on both main clause and subordinate clause occurred are neither close-open nor complete. It has an insertion whether in main clause or subordinate clause. If there is a sentence divided into three insertions, beginning, middle, and end, this type of time order has two divisions of insertions, middle and middle-end. The insertions, here, refer to which of each activity of main and subordinate clause occurs longer than another. According to it, the partial time order is divided into.

#### **Activity with the longer subclause**

In the activity with the longer subordinate clause, there are two insertions carried out, middle insertion and middle-end insertion. Middle insertion is when the activity of the main clause occurs in the middle of the activity of the subordinate clause (Fig. 6a) and (26) and (27) with the connecting constituents *-toki* and *-uchi ni* (respectively).

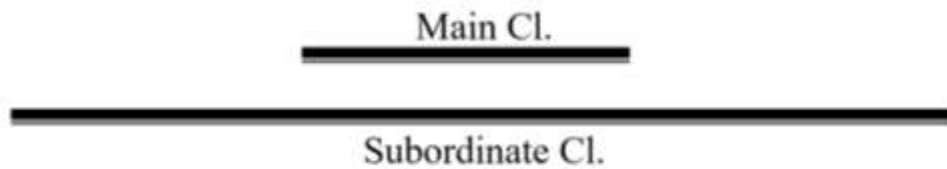


Figure 6a. The time line of the 'concurrent' sequence of events

*Uchi e kaeru toki, keeki o kaimasu. (MNSI 23/192)*

- 26) '(I) buy a cake, when (I) go home.'

*Sensei ga kokuban no hou o muite iru uchi ni, onigiri o hitotsu isoide tabeta. (NAC*

- 27) 16/164)

'When teacher faced the whiteboard, (I) ate an onigiri fast.'

Middle-end is when the activity of the main clause happens starting from the middle of the activity of the subordinate clause and it continue to happen until the end of the activity of the subordinate clause (Fig. 6b) and -uchini (28).

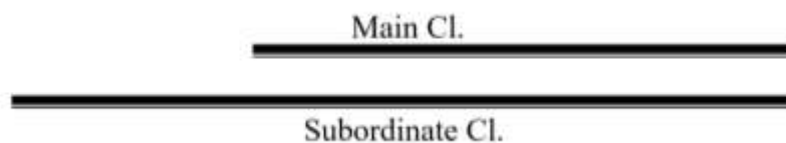


Figure 6b. The time line of the 'concurrent' sequence of events

*Hajime wa amari suki dewanakattaga, tsukiatte iru uchini, dandan suki ni*

- 28) *natte kita.*

*(NAC 16/164)*

'At first I didn't like (him), yet after (we) befriend for a longer time (I) like him more.'

### Activity with the longer main clause

In the activity with the longer main clause, there is only an insertion carried out, middle insertion. Middle insertion is when the activity of the main clause is longer than the subordinate clause meaning that the activity of the subordinate clause is added in the middle of the activity of main clause (Fig. 7) and -tabi ni (29).

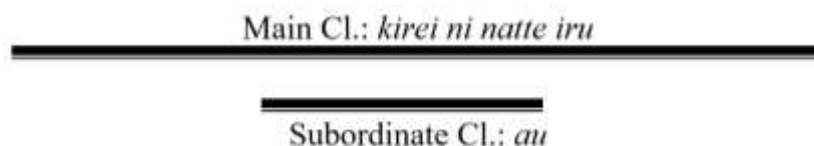


Figure 7. The time line of the 'concurrent' sequence of events

*Tonari no uchi no ojousan wa au tabi ni kirei ni natte iru. (MNCII 15/37)*

- 29) 'Whenever (I) meet the girl nextdoor (she) becomes (more) beautiful.'

### Time order of action on the subclause

The adverbial time discussed has various lingual construction. This study, especially, discusses the adverbial clause that constructs with verb-predicate. This

clause is regarded as the subordinate clause. In this subordinate clause, the time information is showed by the existence of time period. The referred time period is based on when the activity is performed and stated by the position of the predicate. As previously discussed, the time period indicates the gap between the start and end of the activity. The connecting constituents of the time period are divided into four which basically based on when the activity performed: starting-ending, starting, ending, and neither of them (neutral) (see Fig. 8).

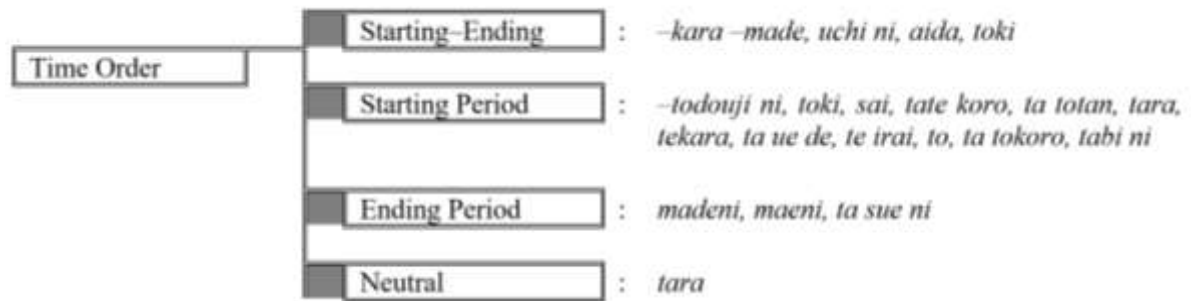


Figure 8. Time Order Classification

### Starting and ending period

The first time period is the starting-ending period. Here indicates that the event starts at the beginning of the activity and ending as stated by the subordinate clause. Event or activity stated by the main clause happens after the activity of the subordinate is begun and it considers on the continuity of the action and the endpoint (Fig. 9). The constituents stating these types of periods are *-kara -made* (30), *uchi ni* (31)(32), *aida* (33) dan *toki* (34). The main clause in (30) is *kono machi ni sunde imashita*, and this activity happens (born to die) as stated clearly in the subordinate clause. In (31), the main clause “eating a rice ball” (*onigiri o hitotsu isoide tabeta*) is performed when the teacher face the blackboard (*Sensei ga kokuban no hou o muite iru*). In (32), the main clause “a longer befriending time” (*tsukiatte iru*) is performed when finally, it changes to likeness (*dandan suki ni natte kita*). In (33), the main clause “watching TV” (*watashi wa terebi o mite ita*) is performed when the child is sleeping (*Kodomo ga nemutte iru*). While in (34), the main clause “buying a cake” (*keeki o kaimasu*) is performed during the activity of going home (*Uchi e kaeru*).



Figure 9. The time line of the ‘starting-ending’ time order

- Sofu wa umarete kara shinu made, kono machi ni sunde imashita. (MNCl8/101)
- 30) ‘From (he) was born to died, grandfather had lived in this town.’
- Sensei ga kokuban no hou o muite iru uchi ni, onigiri o hitotsu isoide tabeta.
- 31) (NAC 16/164)
- ‘(I) ate a rice ball when teacher faced the blackboard.’

- 32) *Hajime wa amari suki dewanakatta ga, tsukiatte iru uchi ni, dandan suki ni natte kita. (NAC 16/164)*  
 'At first I didn't like (him), yet after (we) befriend for a longer time (I) like him more.'
- 33) *Kodomo ga nemutte iru aida, watashi wa terebi o mite ita. (MNCI8/100)*  
 'I watched TV when the kids slept.'
- 34) *Uchi e kaeru toki, keeki o kaimasu. (MNSI 23/192)*  
 '(I) buy a cake, when (I) go home.'

The second time period is the starting period. Here indicates that the event starts at the beginning of the activity without any consideration when it ends (possibly happened up to now). Event or activity stated by the main clause happens after the activity of the subordinate is begun and it considers neither the continuity of the action nor the end-point (Fig. 10). The constituents stating these types of periods are *-todouji ni* (35), *toki* (36), *sai* (37), *tate koro* (38), and *ta totan* (39). In (35), the activity of the main clause "feeling angry" (*hara ga tatta*) happens in the same time with the feeling of relief (*hotto suru*). In (36), the activity of the main clause "meeting the director" (*uketsuke de shachou ni aimashita*) happens in the same time with the activity of arriving at the office (*Kaisha e kita*). In (37), the activity of the main clause "talking without considering comic book" (*manga no sonzai o mushi shite kataru koto wa dekinai*) happens in the same time with the activity of how interesting the TV anime (*terebi anime no miryoku o kangaeru*). In (38), the activity of the main clause "eating all dishes and saying delicious" (*otto wa donna ryouri demo "oishii" to itte tabeta*) happens in the same time with the activity of after being newly married (*Kekkon shita*). In (39), the activity of the main clause "home's power is off" (*ie no denki ga subete kiete shimatta*) happens in the same time with the activity of turning on the vacuum cleaner (*Soujiki no suicchi o ireta*).

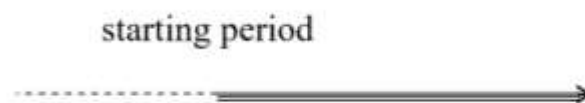


Figure 10. The time line of the 'starting-ending' time order

- 35) *Osoku kaette kita musume no kao o mite, hotto suru to douji ni hara ga tatta. (MNCII 20/107)*  
 '(I) saw my daughter face who came late, (I) was angry and relief at the same time.'
- 36) *Kaisha e kita toki, uketsuke de shachou ni aimashita. (MNSI 23/192)*  
 '(I) met the director when (I) arrived at office.'
- 37) *Terebi anime no miryoku o kangaeru sai, manga no sonzai o mushi shite kataru koto wa dekinai. (MNCII 14/23)*  
 'When (we) think how interesting TV anime is, (we) cannot discuss it while ignoring the existance of comic books.'
- 38) *Kekkon shitate koro, otto wa donna ryouri demo "oishii" to itte tabeta. (MNCII 13/9)*

‘(My) husband ate every dish that I cooked and complimented by saying ‘delicious’ when we were newlywed.’

- 39) *Soujiki no suicchi o ireta totan, ie no denki ga subete kiete shimatta. Bureekaa ga ochitanoda. (NACJ 8/141)*  
 ‘The power at home was off, after I turned on the vacuum cleaner. Its breaker was broken.’

In the starting time order, the connecting constituents used are *-tara* (40), *-ta ato de* (41), *-te kara* (42), *-ta ue de* (43), *-te irai* (44), *-to* (45), *-ta tokoro* (46), and *-tabi ni* (47). In the example (40), the main clause (*sensei ni atta*) happens after the activity of going to supermarket (*Kinou depaato ni*). In the example (41), the main clause (*nomi ni ikimasu*) ‘going for a drink’ happens after the activity of finishing the work (*Shigoto ga*). In (42) taking a horse photo (*uma no shashin o torimashita*) as main clause happens after the activity of arriving in Japan (*Nihon e kite*). In (43), the activity of deciding whether studying or working (*Daigaku ni shingaku suruka shuushoku suruka*) is taken after the activity of discussion with the parents (*ryoshin to yoku soudan shita*). In (44), living in Yokohama (*zutto Yokohama ni sunde iru*) is done after the activity of being married (*Kekkon shite*). While in (45), the activity of stop crying (*suguni nakuno o yameta*) happens after the activity of giving a toy (*omocha o ageru*). In (46), the understanding of the closed account happens after the activity on tracing the name is performed. In addition, in (47), the activity of remembering (*anohito no koto o omoidashimasu*) triggers when there is an activity of seeing the photo (*Kono shashin o miru*).

- Kinou depaato ni ittara, sensei ni atta. Okusan to goissho datta. (NAC 8/77)*  
 40) ‘(I) met the lecturer when I went to supermarket. (He) was with his wife.’  
*Shigoto ga owatta ato de, nomi ni ikimasu. (MNSII 34/70)*  
 41) ‘(I) went to have a drink, after (I) finished my working hour.’  
*Nihon e kite kara, uma no shashin o torimashita. (MNSI 18/147)*  
 42) ‘(I) took a photo of horse, after (I) arrived in Japan.’  
*Daigaku ni shingaku suruka shuushoku suruka, ryoshin to yoku soudan shita ue de kimete kudasai. (NACJ 2/20)*  
 43) ‘(You) decided whether to study or to work, after (you) discussed with (your) parents.’  
*Kekkon shite irai, zutto Yokohama ni sunde iru. (MNCII 20/108)*  
 44) ‘(I) have lived in Yokohama, after (I) married.’  
*Naite iru kodomo ni omocha o ageru to, suguni nakuno o yameta. (NAC 8/77)*  
 45) ‘That kid stopped crying when I gave her a toy.’  
*Fuman ni omotte, furikomi kouzamei o shirabeta tokoro, sude ni kouza wa tojirarete ita. (MNCII 16/53)*  
 46) ‘As it was seemingly strange, after I traced the name of the transfer account it turned out that the account had been closed.’  
*Kono shashin o miru tabi ni, anohito no koto o omoidashimasu. (NAC 4/34)*  
 47) ‘Everytime i see this photo, (I) remember that man.’



### Ending

The third time period is ending period. This time period explains how the event happens in the end of the action (see Fig. 11). In the ending period, the starting point of the activity is not stated. However, the ending is stated in the main clause and continuously performed until the activity of the subordinate clause is started. The constituents include *madeni* (48), *maeni* (49), and *ta sue ni* (50). In (48) the main clause *shukudai o sumaseta* (completed the homework) is carried out until the lecture begins (*Jugyou ga hajimaru*). In other words, completing the homework is done until before the lecture started. In (49), the activity of reading a book (*yomimasu*) is carried out until the subject going to bed (*Neru*). In (50) the decision to study abroad (*ryuugaku suru koto ni shita*) was performed after (he) shorted out all the confusion he had (*iro iro mayotta*).

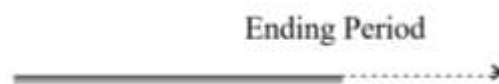


Figure 11. The time line of the 'starting-ending' time order

- Jugyou ga hajimaru madeni, isoide shukudai o sumaseta.* (NAC 6/59)  
 48) '(I) completed the homework in hurry, (before) the lecture was started.'  
*Neru maeni, hon o yomimasu.* (MNSI 18/148)  
 49) 'Before (I) go to bed, (I) read a book.'  
*Iro iro mayotta sue ni, ryuugaku suru koto ni shita.* (NACJ 8/143)  
 50) 'By the end of confusion (I) decided to continue my study abroad.'

### Neutral

Although time order can be categorized into when the event happened, there is also sentence in which the time information cannot be identified as any of them (starting-ending, starting, and ending). Referring to this type, the time order is categorized into neutral. In (51), *Ryoushin ga ikite itara, mago no tanjou o totemo yorokonda daroo* has the constituents *tara* which is as part of the starting period; nonetheless, this constituent hardly considers as the starting point of event. Similarly, in data (52), *Kyou no shiken, mou sukoshi jikan ga attara, saigo made kaketa noni*, the constituents *tara* cannot be classified into either any of them (starting-ending, starting, and ending).

- Ryoushin ga ikite itara, mago no tanjou o totemo yorokonda daroo.*  
 51) (MNCI9/118)  
 'If his parents had been alive, (they) would have been happy with the born of their grandchild.'  
*Kyou no shiken, mou sukoshi jikan ga attara, saigo made kaketa noni.*  
 52) (MNCI9/118)  
 'Today's test, if there were more time (I) would finish it.'

## CONCLUSION

As a form of syntactic role, the role of informative time clause becomes one main concern in Japanese language learners that need to be understood. This is because this time informative clauses are often found in Japanese sentences. The informative time clause construction acts as a subclause meaning that the sentence is constructed as compound sentences. Similar to simple sentence, in compound sentence, both subclause and main clause consist of predicate as core constituent, subject and object as main constituent, or adverb and compliment as peripheral constituent. Although, subclause serves as peripheral constituent, it has the construction of sentence where verb predicate can be found as its core. In this study, the analysis proves that the form of the verb predicate in subclause is closely related to the meaning of the verb in the main clause. Yet, this relationship needs connecting constituent in order to highlight the meaning of the main clause. The connecting constituent form in this type of sentence is located at the end of the verb construction (or known as suffix).

This study emphasizes in constructing time subclause found in compound sentences. Most Japanese grammar (*Nihongo No Bumpou*) using the *Renyoukei* model to connect subclause to main clause by adding attributes to predicate of main clause. Here, the predicate in the main clause controls the entire construction, so additional information has possibility to explain either subject or object. In addition, this study defines the time subclause into two points of views, sequence of events and time order. From the sequence of events, time subclause is divided into three, before (*-mae ni*), after, and concurrent. The 'after' sequence is divided into two types, namely 'after' the activity (*-te kara, -tara, -ato de, -tate koro, -ta sue, -te irai, -ta ue de, -ta toki*) and 'after' the understanding (*-tara, -ta tokoro*). While, in the concurrent, there are three types included, open-close (*-tara, -to*), complete (*-to douji ni, -ta totan ni, -aida*), and partial. Partial sequence is based on the event served from the sentence (either in the subclause or the main clause) (*-tabi ni*). The longer event of subclause has two insertions, middle insertion (*-toki, -te iru uchi ni*) and middle-end insertion (*-te iru uchi ni*), while in the longer event of main clause, there is only one insertion, namely middle insertion.

Meanwhile, regarding time order, the time is divided into four types: starting and ending, starting, ending, and neutral. On the starting-ending, connecting constituents used are *-kara -made, uchi ni, aida, and toki*; on the starting, connecting constituents used are *-todouji ni, toki, sai, tate koro, ta totan, tara, tekara, ta ue de, te irai, to, ta tokoro, and tabi ni*; on the ending, constituents used are *madeni, maeni, and ta sue ni*; while on the neutral, constituent used is *-tara*. The time subclause basically has similar function as the adverbial time. The only different is on how it is constructed. In time subclause, the predicate is constructed of verb-predicate, while in the adverbial, it is constructed without any verb as predicate. Therefore, both time subclause and adverbial time describes the time information of the action. This study can serve as the reference for further studies related to Japanese linguistics especially related to syntax. Moreover, it also can be used as the basis to study other roles in Japanese syntax. Furthermore, although this study is concerned on Japanese linguistics, this concept about the relationship

of verb predicate in subclause influencing the meaning of the main clause in compound sentence can be implemented in other languages syntax.

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