1. Record Nr. UNINA9910821537203321 Autore Sadler Misumi Titolo Grammar in use across time and space: deconstructing the Japanese 'dative subject' construction / / Misumi Sadler Amsterdam; ; Philadelphia, : John Benjamins Pub., c2007 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-15240-8 9786612152405 90-272-9174-8 Edizione [1st ed.] 1 online resource (227 p.) Descrizione fisica Studies in discourse and grammar, , 0928-8928;; v. 20 Collana Disciplina 495.6/5 Japanese language - Grammar Soggetti Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. [189]-203) and indexes. Nota di contenuto Grammar in Use across Time and Space -- Editorial page -- Title page -- LCC data -- Table of contents -- List of tables -- List of figures --Acknowledgements -- Introduction -- 1.1. Overview -- 1.2. Previous approaches -- 1.2.1. The multiple functions of the particle ni -- 1.2.2. The Japanese dative subject construction -- 1.2.3. General problems of previous approaches -- 1.3. Theoretical approach -- 1.3.1. Emergent Grammar -- 1.3.2. Panchrony -- 1.3.3. Subjectification -- 1.3.4. Fluidity of categories -- 1.4. Goals -- 1.5. Organization -- Data and methodology -- 2.1. Introduction -- 2.2. Spoken versus written --2.2.1. Characteristics of spoken vs. written languages -- 2.2.2. The notion of `sentence' in spoken language -- 2.3. Modern Japanese discourse data -- 2.4. Criteria for selecting the dative subject construction in discourse -- 2.4.1. Coding scheme for predicate types -- 2.4.2. "The dative subject construction" in the present study --2.4.3. Coding schemes for NPs -- 2.4.4. Additional notes -- 2.5. Examples of coding clauses -- 2.5.1. Verbal predicates with two core argument NPs -- 2.5.2. Verbal predicates with only one core argument NP (=NP1) -- 2.5.3. Adjectival/nominal predicates -- 2.6. Summary --

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Sommario/riassunto

This monograph contains the first systematic investigation of the Japanese 'dative subject' construction across time and space. It demonstrates that, in order to capture what speakers/writers know about how to put an utterance or a clause together, it is necessary to pay attention to what they do in actual language use and in different discourse types. The work also shows the importance of diachronic perspectives to help us better understand the ways in which a particular grammatical structure is represented synchronically. By utilizing modern Japanese conversation, contemporary Japanese novels, and a pre-modern and modern Japanese literature corpus, the study highlights the role of 'dative subjects' at the semantic and discourse-pragmatic levels. Specifically, it demonstrates that what has been considered to be a most 'grammatical' aspect of Japanese actually turns out to be rather pragmatically oriented.