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Temporal and aspectual forms in Japanese NP-modifying clauses (*rentai syuusyoku setu*) often differ from those found in corresponding sentences. In this respect Japanese NP-modifying clauses are different from relative clauses in, for example, the Indo-European languages. It is argued here that there are two types of Japanese verbal NP-modifying clauses, tensed and non-tensed. Tensed NP-modifying clauses correspond straightforwardly to sentences and may include adverbials which refer to the time of utterance, while non-tensed NP-modifying clauses do not correspond straightforwardly to sentences and may not include adverbials which refer to the time of utterance and may not include adverbials which refer to the time of utterance and may not include adverbials which refer to the time of utterance. It is shown that (r)u and ta, which express present tense and past tense respectively in tensed clauses, express progressive aspect and perfective aspect respectively in non-tensed clauses.

要旨と本文の間に1行改行<必須>



1. Tense and aspect in main clauses in Japanese -

In Japanese, there are two tenses, Past (*ta*) and non-Past (*ru*), and two aspects, the Perfect aspect (*suru, sita*) and the Continuous aspect (*siteiru, siteita*) (Suzuki 1957, Okuda 1977). Some languages use different aspectual markers for Progressive and Perfective, but in Japanese, Progressive and Perfective are marked by the same form. Thus together they constitute the Continuous aspect, which show a morphological contrast with the Perfect aspect¹. In English, a language which has different markers for Progressive and Perfective, the Progressive is marked with *be* -ing, and the Perfective with *have* -en. But in Japanese, these two meanings are expressed using the same form, *siteiru*.

<例文の前後の改行はオプション>

1(a) She is running.

(b) She has already run this course twice.

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