

## ■ Compound Aspectual Verbs

Productive compound verbs of aspect may be grouped into two major classes. One class expresses only the temporal aspect, such as *shikakeru*, *shihajimeru*, *shidasu*, *shitsuzukeru*, *shiowaru*, and the other class expresses the accomplishment of a certain action, such as *shitsukusu*, *shikiru*, *shitōsu*.

*Shikakeru* has the least limitation on the lexical meaning of the verb, and can collocate with movement verbs in general. It can be used to describe the pre-startup stage of the action, as in *nanika iikakete yameta* ‘started to say something, but stopped,’ and it can also describe the post-startup stage of the action, as in *sudeni yarikakete iru* ‘has already started to do.’

*Shihajimeru* and *shidasu* express the startup stage of an action. Therefore, except for repetition, *\*koshō shihajimeru* ‘\*it starts to go out of order’ is ungrammatical. The collocational verb with these expressions has to denote an ongoing process. In other words, if a verb can express the startup stage of an action, it has ongoing process.

*Shiowaru* expresses the final phase of ongoing process, and is often used to focus on the terminal phase and in a context when one action is done and before the next action begins. Semantically, it requires a terminal point for the movement within the ongoing process. (Fundamentally, psychological verbs do not require a terminal point.) *Aishikakeru* and *aishihajimeru* are appropriate but *\*aishiowaru* is not.

In contrast, *shitsuzukeru* may be used both when there is ongoing process and when the result from change is maintained (i.e., where the subject maintains the resulted situation for a certain period of time). Example: *mado o aketsuzukeru* ‘keep opening windows/keep the window open.’

In contrast to such compound verbs that express temporal phases, verbs such as *shitsukusu*, *shikiru*, *shitōsu*, *shiōsu* express the completion of the content of an action. Semantically, they are close to *shiowaru*, which expresses the termination, but they may express the ultimate limit of degree, as in *tsukarekiru* ‘get exhausted,’ and do not always express temporal phases. Naturally, there is considerable lexical limitation on their use, as in *\*tsukaretsukusu* and *\*tabeōsu*.

→アスペクト Aspect (2-G)

## ● References

Kageyama, Taro (1996) *Dōshi imiron* (Semantics of Verbs). Kurosio Publishers.

Moriyama, Takuro (1983) ‘Dōshi no asupekuchuaru na sujō ni tsuite’ (On the Aspectual Origin of Verbs) in *Machikaneyama Ronso* #17.

Terashima, Hideo (1984) *Nihongo no shintakusu to imi II* (Japanese Syntax and Meaning II). Kurosio Publishers.

(Moriyama Takuro)