■ *Demo* and *Mo*: Focus of Unexpectedness

In addition to focusing on accumulation, *demo* and *mo*, as well as *sae* and *made*, focus on unexpectedness, which is an expression that X, which is the focus, is unexpectedly and extremely Y, compared to others in the same category.

(1)   *Kare wa mōjū {demo/mo/sae/made} jiyūni ayatsureru* 'He can handle <u>even</u> fierce animals with ease.'

Mo and *demo* differ from *sae* and *made* in that they require a context that indicates X is an extreme element.   Especially in an example such as (2), *mo* can be interpreted to focus on accumulation; it is hard to think that this use of *mo* is focus of unexpectedness without further information.

(2) *Tarō to {demo/mo/sae/made} nakayoku asonda* 'I played happily <u>even</u> with Taro.'

Demo of unexpectedness is continuous with *demo* which is used to form reverse conditional clauses. *Demo* in (1) suggests the meaning of condition or exemplification which can be paraphrased, *mōjū no baai demo* 'even in the case of fierce animals'. If expressions that lead into conditional clauses, such as *tatoe*, are inserted, *mo, sae*, and *made* cannot be used, but *demo* is still appropriate.

(3*) Kare wa tatoe mōjū {demo/*mo/*sae/*made} jiyūni ayatsureru.*

Further, it is not possible to decide whether *demo* is used to focus on unexpectedness or reverse condition in the following examples.

(4) *Kinō wa ame demo undōkai o kekkō shita* 'We went ahead and held the athletic meet <u>although</u> it rained.'

(5) *Tatoe imakara demo osokunai* 'It is not too late if we start now.'

Another characteristic of *demo* is that, unlike *mo* and others, it does not focus on the predicate, as shown in (6).

(6) *Hito no ashi o fundemo ayamari {*demo/mo} shinai* 'He doesn't <u>so much as</u> apologize when he steps on someone's foot.'

When *demo* and *mo* focus on an interrogative word, it encompasses all components in the same category, and *mo* expresses total negation, and *demo* expresses total affirmation.   This is always the case with *nani*.

(7) *Kanojo wa {nani <u>mo</u> shiranai/nan<u>demo</u> shitte iru}* 'She knows nothing/knows everything.'

Datte also expresses unexpectedness and is used in colloquial expressions.   *Datte* may be replaced by *demo* in many instances, but it is not readily used in expressing situations that are already established, or in expressing request and desire, as in "*semete sore dake demo* 'Can I at least do…?'

(8) *Kinō wa ame {?datte/demo} undōkai o yatta yo* 'We held the athletic meeting in spite of rain.'

(9) *Semete hinto dake {*datte/demo} oshiiete yo* 'Give me at least a clue.'

→Focus (2-I)

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(Numata Yoshiko)