

■ *Temo, Tatte* and *Tokoro*: Adversative Condition

Adversative conditional expressions negate the conditional relationship described as in (1). (2) and (3) are examples of adversative conditional sentences. Adversative condition expresses that the expected result will not be obtained because the condition does not work effectively, or the predicted result will be obtained even if necessary conditions are not met.

(1) *Shujutsu sureba, byōki wa naoru darō* ‘If one has an operation, he will probably get well.’

(2) *Shujutsu shite mo, byōki wa naoranai darō* ‘Even if he has an operation, he probably won’t get well.’

(3) *Shujutsushinakute mo, byōki wa naoru darō* ‘Even if he doesn’t have an operation, he will probably get well.’

Of the forms of adversative condition, *temo*, *tatte* and *tokorode*, *temo* has the broadest application.

(4) *Shujutsu shinakutemo, byōki wa naotta darō* ‘You would have gotten well had you not had an operation.’

(5) *Arattemo, arattemo, kono shimi wa torenai* ‘This stain wouldn’t come off no matter how hard I wash.’

(6) *Osake o nondemo nomanakutemo, kaihi wa onaji desu* ‘The fee is the same whether you drink or not.’

(7) *Ame ga futtemo kaze ga fuitemo, shinbunhaitatsu no shigoto wa yasumenai* ‘Rain or wind, I can’t take a break from delivering newspapers.’

(8) *Itsu denwashitemo, kare wa rusu da* ‘He’s never home every time I call him.’

(9) *Sensei ni kiitemo, wakaranakatta* ‘I asked my teacher, but she didn’t know the answer.’

(2) and (3) are examples of adversative condition, and (4) is an example of counter-factual condition. Adverbs such as *tatoe*, *yoshinba*, and *karini* may collocate in such constructions. (5) through (7) are examples of parallel condition where the condition is repeated more than once. Parallel condition expresses that the same result will be obtained either way. (8) is an example where an interrogative word comes before *temo*, and it expresses that no matter what happens, the result will inevitably be the same. (9) is an example of factual condition, and it expresses a fact that happened once in the past (i.e., one asked the teacher but the teacher did not know the answer).

*Tatte* is the colloquial equivalent of *temo*, and *temo* in (2) through (8) may be replaced with *tatte*. *Temo* in (9), which expresses factual condition, cannot be replaced by *tatte*.

*Tokorode* is affixed only to the *ta* form of verbs, and it is not affixed to adjectives or nominal predicates. It is not used for parallel condition or factual condition.

(10) *Isoida tokorode manawanai darō*. ‘We won’t make it even if we hurry.’

(11) *Shiken ga yasashi {\*katta tokorode/kutemo/ku(t)tatte} gōkaku dekinai darō* ‘Even if the exam is easy, I probably won’t pass.’

(12) *Tatoe ame* {*\*datta tokorode/demo/datte*} *shiai wa kekkō saremasu* ‘Even if it rains, the match will be carried out.’

*Tokorode* is used when the speaker expresses that the effort to obtain the expected outcome will be wasted because the condition will not work effectively, or to express that the speaker downplays the significance of the obtained outcome even if the condition worked favorably.

(13) *Shujutsu shita tokorode*, *byōki wa naoranai darō* ‘Even if he has an operation, he won’t get well.’

(14) *Shippaishita tokorode*, *nantoka naru sa* ‘Even if I fail, it’ll somehow work out.’

*Tokorode* cannot be used to express desirable results or to express objective evaluation without being judgmental.

(15) *Shujutsushina* {*\*katta tokorode/kutemo/kutatte*} *byōki wa naorimasu yo* ‘Even if you don’t have an operation you will get well.’

(16) *Shigatsu ni nat* {*\*tta tokorode/temo*} *hadazamui hi ga tsuzuku deshō* ‘Even when April comes, the cold spell will continue.’

Further, *tokorode* differs from *temo* and *tatte* in that it does not form idiomatic expressions, such as *shitemo ii/shitatte ii*, or it does not collocate with expressions of hope, volition and command at the end of the sentence (e.g., *Hantaisare* {*\*tatokorode/temo/tatte*} *ryūgakushitai* (desire)/*shiyō*(volition)/*shinasai* (command).)

→バ・ト・タラ・ナラ

条件 (2-J)

● References

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