Volume Proposal

The Handbook of Japanese Dialects
Volume editors: Nobuko Kibe, Tetsuo Nitta, and Kan Sasaki

I. Editors’ profiles

Nobuko Kibe (Dr. Lit., Kyushu University, 1998)

Tetsuo Nitta
Professor of linguistics at the School of Humanities and the Dean of the Faculty of Letters at Kanazawa University. His main research interests are in phonetics, accent systems of Japanese dialects and sociolinguistics. His numerous publications on these topics include Nihongo Akusento Nyūmon [An Introduction to Japanese Accent] (with Akiko Matsumori, Nobuko Kibe and Yukihiro Nakai, Sanseidō, 2012).

Kan Sasaki (Dr. Linguistics, University of Tsukuba, 1999)
Professor at the Faculty of Business Administration, Sapporo Gakuin University. Sasaki is interested in case-marking and voice in Japanese dialects. He is the author of Mitsukaidō hōgen ni okeru kaku to bumpōkankei [Case and grammatical relations in the Mitsukaido dialect] (Kurosio Publishers, 2004), a co-author of Hōgen no bumpō [Grammar of Japanese dialects] (with Katsumi Shibuya, Mayumi Kudo, Masaru Inoue and Mizuho Hidaka, Iwanami Shoten, 2006) and a co-editor of Modern approaches to transitivity (with Ritsuko Kikusawa, Kurosio Publishers, 2000) and Tadōsei no Tsūgengoteki Kenkyū [Crosslinguistic Studies on Transitivity] (with Mie Tsunoda and Tōru Shionoya, Kurosio Publishers, 2007).
II. Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2015</td>
<td>Submission of first manuscripts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2015</td>
<td>Editing of first manuscripts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2016</td>
<td>Completion of reviewing and revision of manuscripts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2016</td>
<td>Submission of final manuscripts</td>
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III. Significance and goals of this volume

This volume is the first full-fledged handbook of Japanese dialects in English. The study of Japanese dialects has a long tradition, and significant contributions have been made in many subfields of linguistics such as geolinguistics, sociolinguistics, philology, phonology, accentology, grammar, and lexicology. While Japanese dialectology is heavily influenced by the Western developments in the field, some original domestic achievements have also been made based on the meticulous fieldwork, the compilation of dialect dictionaries, and the painstaking mapping of dialect features in a large number of dialect atlases. However, most publications of Japanese dialect studies have been in Japanese, allowing only a handful of foreign specialists to take full advantage of the achievements in Japanese dialectology. This volume fills this gap making the Japanese dialect data and their analyses accessible to a wider audience and also informing dialectology specialists as well as sociolinguists in general of the methods of Japanese dialectology and its achievements to date. This volume, entitled “Japanese dialects”, deals with the mainland dialects (including the Hachijō dialect). Because of the recent trend of considering Ryūkyūan languages as sister languages, rather than dialects, of Japanese, a separate handbook is dedicated to them in this series.

IV. Organization of the book

The book is organized in three parts. Part I deals with variation and change in Japanese dialects, Part II focuses on major topics in Japanese dialectology dealing with phonetic, syntactic, grammatical and lexical phenomena in cross-dialectal perspectives, and Part III presents sketch grammars of both major and some special Japanese dialects with a focus on unique features they present.

These parts and chapters are organized as follows:

INTRODUCTION

PART I. OVERVIEW OF JAPANESE DIALECTOLOGY

1. History of dialectology in Japan
2. The classification and division of Japanese dialects
3. Dialect formation of Japanese; Evaluating Yanagita’s theory of peripheral distribution of dialectal forms
4. Geolinguistics of Japanese

PART II. TOPICS IN JAPANESE DIALECTOLOGY
5. Sound variations in the mainland Japanese dialects
6. VOT in Japanese dialects
7. Accent in Japanese dialects
8. Intonation in Japanese dialects
9. Vocabulary in Japanese dialects
10. Mimetics in Japanese dialects
12. Case and related phenomena in Japanese dialects
14. Potential expressions in Japanese dialects
15. Verbs of giving in Japanese dialects
16. Honorifics and related expressions in Kansai dialects
17. Adjectival predications in Japanese dialects
18. Nominalization particles in Japanese dialects

PART III. SKETCH GRAMMARS OF JAPANESE DIALECTS
19. Hokkaidō dialect
20. Akita dialect
21. Iwate dialect
22. Ibaraki dialect
23. Tōkyō dialect (Metropolitan area)
24. Toyama dialect
25. Gifu dialect
26. Shiramine dialect (Ishikawa)
27. Kyōto dialect
28. Kagawa dialect
29. Kōchi dialect
30. Izumo dialect (Shimane)
31. Fukuoka dialect
32. Nagasaki dialect
33. Kagoshima dialect
34. Hachijō dialect
V. Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION … Nobuko Kibe (NINJAL), Tetsuo Nitta (Kanazawa University) and Kan Sasaki (Sapporo Gakuin University).

The introduction will be written by the three editors and will outline the structure and goals of the volume.

PART I. OVERVIEW OF JAPANESE DIALECTOLOGY
1. History of dialectology in Japan ………… Nobuko Kibe (NINJAL), Tetsuo Nitta (Kanazawa University), and Kan Sasaki (Sapporo Gakuin University)
This chapter presents an overview of Japanese dialectology from three points of view, i.e., its history, the western influences, and its originality. Japanese dialects have been investigated mainly under four approaches. The first approach is lexicography. Since the 18th century, dialect dictionaries have been compiled in various regions. Still now, a considerable number of dialect dictionaries are being published. An overview of dialect dictionaries in Japan will be provided with an evaluation of them as introductions to different dialects and of their academic values. The second is a geolinguistic approach, which was first practiced by the National Language Research Council in the early 20th century. This continues to be a major approach in Japanese dialectology to date. A large number of linguistic atlases have been published under this approach as are those prepared by the National Language Research Institute/National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics. Japanese geolinguistics has been influenced by western linguistic geography but it has also developed some original theories such as Yanagita’s theory of peripheral distribution of dialectal forms (see Chapter 3). Under the influence of comparative linguistics in Europe, comparative investigations of dialects started in the early 20th, and a great deal of achievements have been garnered in the domain of accentual reconstruction. The fourth concern of Japanese dialectology is the documentation and description of individual dialects. Since the middle of the 20th century, descriptive studies have been conducted for dialects around the country under the influence of structural linguistics. While various dialects are at the verge of extinction, descriptions of them remain incomplete, especially in the areas of syntax and discourse studies. This chapter also describes the new efforts being mounted as a way of alleviating this situation.

2. The classification and division of Japanese dialects……… …………… Seiya Abe (Gakushūin University)
This chapter presents an overview of several analyses of the geographical division of Japanese dialects and a sketch of the major regional differences among Japanese dialects. The National Language Research Council’s report published in 1908 made clear that the Japanese dialects were divided into Eastern Japanese, Western Japanese and Ryūkyūan,
and that the boundary between Eastern Japanese and Western Japanese was located on the central part of the mainland (Honshū). The regional variations spoken in Ryūkyū islands have nowadays come to be treated as dialects of Ryūkyūan, a sister language of mainland Japanese, descended from proto-Japanese. Recently, a dialect division in terms of cold area dialects and warm area dialects has attracted attention. This boundary has been formed by the weather conditions, such as temperature and rainfall, and is assumed to be related to the same type of language boundary found in the Asia-Pacific area.

3. **Dialect formation of Japanese; Evaluating Yanagita’s theory of peripheral distribution of dialectal form **
   
   **Takashi Kobayashi (Tohoku University)**

   This chapter introduces Kunio Yanagita’s *Kagyūkō* [The snail study] published in 1930, and the theory of peripheral distribution of dialectal forms advocated therein. Yanagita’s theory played an important role in the investigation of the formation of Japanese dialects. This theory resembles the Wave Theory of linguistic change in that it regards the way in which new lexical forms spread as similar to the way in which a wave spreads from the center to the periphery. This chapter evaluates Yanagita’s theory clarifying its merits and demerits.

4. **Geolinguistics of Japanese **
   
   **Takuichiro Onishi (NINJAL)**

   This chapter provides an overview of the history of Japanese geolinguistics, which started at the beginning of 20th century with the publication of a linguistic atlas mapping the phonological and grammatical variations across Japanese dialects. The main contribution of this atlas is the clarification of the major dialectal boundary dividing Eastern Japanese and Western Japanese in the central part of the mainland. In 1930, Kunio Yanagita published *Kagyūkō* advocating a theory of peripheral distribution of dialectal forms, and thus laying a theoretical foundation of Japanese geolinguistics (see above). *The Linguistic Atlas of Japan* compiled by the National Language Research Institute was published in 1970, consisting of 300 maps for lexical items collected from 2,400 places. The first installment of *The Grammar Atlas of Japanese Dialects* was published in 1989, consisting of 350 maps for grammatical items gathered from 800 places. These two epoch-making atlases enable us to analyze the dialectal variations of phonology, grammar and vocabulary.

**PART II. TOPICS IN JAPANESE DIALECTOLOGY**

5. **Sound variations in the mainland Japanese dialects...Masao Aizawa (NINJAL)**

   This chapter provides an overview of sound variations in the mainland Japanese dialects. Based on the accumulation of the past literature in this field, especially on the first comprehensive work by Haruhiko Kindaichi in 1954 and next on the further and exhaustive work by Zendo Uwano et al. in 1989, this chapter presents a wealth of sound
diversity of the twentieth-century mainland Japanese dialects. For convenience, the dialectal variations of the pronunciation are illustrated by comparing them with the Standard Japanese phoneme inventory. Some important varieties are demonstrated with maps. For example, the variations of pronunciation of the initial and non-initial /g/ are illustrated in a map as below.

6. VOT in Japanese dialects ………….. Mieko Takada (Aichi Gakuin University)
This chapter reports the variations of Voice Onset Time (VOT) observed in Japanese dialects. Japanese is known to phonemically distinguish between voiced stops (/b, d, g/) and voiceless stops (/p, t, k/). In many languages, it has been found that voiced stops take negative values of VOT and voiceless stops positive values (Lisker & Abramson 1964). However, this relation between phonological and phonetic voicing does not apply to some Japanese dialects. The acoustic analysis of phonologically voiced stops shows that ‘a wide range’ of VOT values constitutes two clear-cut phonetic categories; namely, fully voiced stops with negative VOT and half-voiced stops with positive VOT. These categories are proven to relate to sociolinguistic rather than phonetic factors, mainly regional and generational factors.

7. Accent in Japanese dialects ………….. Zendo Uwano (NINJAL)
The accent systems in mainland Japanese dialects are described from a new typological point of view; namely, in terms of multi-pattern accent systems vs. N-pattern accent systems, patterns with tonal registers vs. without tonal register in multi-pattern systems, and the nature of the accent kernels (lowering kernel, ascending kernel, and raising kernel). The geographical distribution of accent systems is also shown.
8. **Intonation in Japanese dialects ……….. Yosuke Igarashi (Hiroshima University)**

This chapter reviews recent studies on the intonational systems in Japanese dialects, focusing on cross-dialectal similarities and differences in the structure of prosodic phrasing, phrase-final pitch movements, and prosody-syntax interface. The cross-dialectal differences include exploitation of non-rising intonation patterns in interrogative sentences, for which Standard Japanese uses rising ones. An important difference can also be observed in prosodic phrasing above the word level. Specifically, Japanese dialects are argued to be divided into two groups with respect to prosodic phrasing; one predominantly uses pitch contours to mark a single word, while the other uses them to mark a group of words. This dichotomy also extends to cross-dialectal differences in prosody-syntax interface. Despite the largely preliminary nature of the current body of research on the intonation of the Japanese dialects, the present chapter also discusses implications that the findings from Japanese dialects may have for theoretical studies of intonation in general.

9. **Vocabulary in Japanese dialects … Norio Yoshida (Chūgoku Gakuen University)**

This chapter introduces patois in Japanese dialects and related phenomena. Patois glossaries and dialect dictionaries have been published in several areas since the beginning of the 20th century. This chapter reports on properties of patois from several areas, focusing on vocabulary describing personality and lexical means of emphasis. Patois glossaries share a property: they tend to contain more words indicating bad images than words indicating good images. For example, the Okayama dialect has many words for personality, such as *aratukana* ‘rude,’ *angoo* ‘fool,’ *ikinarina* ‘sloppy’ and *oodoona* ‘careless.’ This is due to speakers’ tendency to pay more attention to negative aspects than to positive ones.

10. **Mimetics in Japanese dialects …………………………… Koko Takeda (NIJAL)**

This chapter discusses dialectal variation in mimetics. Mimetics vary from dialect to dialect not only in morphological shape but also in grammatical properties. In some northern dialects, mimetic words behave like verbs in that they can serve as a host for progressive formation by themselves, e.g., *gadagada-te-ru* (rattle-CON.be-NPST) 'be rattling', while, in most Japanese dialects, progressive formation is possible only with the assistance of a light verb, e.g., *gatagata si-te i-ru* (rattle do.INF-CON be-NPST) 'be rattling'. Recently it has been pointed out that mimetics form an important part of medical consultations between doctor and patient. The lexicographical contribution of dialectology to medical practice is illustrated by a dictionary of mimetic words expressing sensation.

11. **Sino-Japanese words in Japanese dialects …………….. Miyuki Sawamura**

(Wakayama University)
This chapter provides an overview of the dialectal variations of Sino-Japanese words. The Japanese vocabulary is traditionally classified into four lexical strata: native (Yamato), mimetics Sino-Japanese, and recent foreign loans. It is generally assumed that Sino-Japanese words do not show dialectal variations because they are elements strongly bound to written texts. However, recent investigation reveals that Sino-Japanese words also exhibit dialectal variations, undergoing morphological and semantic changes. Due to these changes, some of them are no longer recognizable as Sino-Japanese words.

(Sapporo Gakuin University)  
This chapter presents an overview of the variation of case-marking in Japanese dialects. Japanese dialects exhibit variations not only in the case marking of core arguments but also in that of oblique elements. The case marking of core arguments in most Japanese dialects is of the nominative-accusative type, but the morphemes employed for nominative and accusative vary from dialect to dialect: central dialects =ga and =o for nominative and accusative, respectively; some dialects spoken in the Kyūshū island employ =no or =i for nominative; the northern dialects exhibit differential object marking with zero-marking for nominative and unmarked accusative and =koto or =toko for marked accusative. In addition to the case variation mentioned above, this chapter illustrates the variation of a case-related phenomenon, e.g., voice. Some Japanese dialects have voice morphology not found in Standard Japanese, such as productive anticausativization in the northern dialects.

(Ōsaka University)  
This chapter deals with variations in the tense and aspect systems in Japanese dialects and explains how this diversity of aspectual forms came into being. There are two types of aspect systems in Japanese dialects. One is a binary opposition (perfective and durative) found in Eastern Japan, and the other is a ternary opposition (perfective, imperfective and perfect) found in Western Japan. These systems have developed from the grammaticalization of the existence verbs iru and oru taking animate subjects. We also show that some aspectual forms evolved into new modal and honorific meanings. In the case of the Japanese tense system, it is a simple binary one, i.e. past vs. non-past, which resulted from the aspect system.

(Ōsaka University)  
This chapter presents an overall sketch of Japanese potential expressions in two parts. The first part describes the grammatical (morphosyntactic, semantic and pragmatic) features of potential expressions in present-day Japanese dialects from a typological point of view.
Topics in this part include: the formal differentiation of the meanings *ability* and *circumstantial possibility* in some dialects, two types of case marking (accusative object vs. nominative object), and deontic/epistemic use of potential expressions. The second part discusses the grammaticalization process of each potential form and argues that 1) completive and spontaneous (de-transitive) expressions are often the origin of Japanese potential expressions and 2) the former tend to evolve into sentences meaning *ability* with an accusative object while the latter into *circumstantial possibility* with a nominative object.

15. **Verbs of giving in Japanese dialects** ....Mizuho Hidaka (Kansai University) and Yukiko Ueda (Akita University)

This chapter shows the geographical distribution of verbs of giving like *yaru* and *kureru*, and discusses how these verbs have changed in meaning and usage in Japanese dialects by elaborating on the stages of the change process. In Standard Japanese (SJ), the giving verb *yaru* is used to express giving objects in a centrifugal direction from a speaker, while *kureru* is used to express giving objects in the obverse (i.e. centripetal) direction to a speaker. But in some dialects *kureru* is used in both centrifugal and centripetal directions like English 'give'. Indeed, SJ did not have this directional distinction in the past, and this is verified by the geographical distribution of the usage pattern of *kureru* as well as by the history of the Japanese language. Moreover, some of the dialects lacking this directional distinction of the main verb *kureru* have been developing a directional distinction between *yaru* and *kureru* in auxiliary usages. Focusing on the syntactic and narrative phenomena of the main and auxiliary verb *kureru* in the dialects which are acquiring a directional distinction, we can clarify the mechanism of the change in the verbs of giving.

16. **Honorifics and related expressions in Kansai dialects** .......... Chie Takagi (Osaka University)

This chapter describes the features of honorifics and related expressions in the Kansai dialects. Compared with standard Japanese, the Kansai dialects have unique honorific verbal suffixes, and they have distinctive functions to mark the social and/or psychological relation between the speaker and the referent of the subject. Honorific forms generally indicate that the referent of the subject is in a higher position than the speaker in their community, and they also show that the speaker is mentally less close to the referent of the subject. Kansai dialects also have the anti-honorific verbal suffix *yor*, which indicates that the referent of the subject has a lower status and that the speaker's feelings towards the agent are negative.

17. **Adjectival predications in Japanese dialects** ................. Hiromi Yakame (Kōnan University)

This chapter gives the general overview of adjectival predications in Japanese dialects.
There are two groups of adjectives in Standard Japanese, inflected adjectives, *akai* 'red', *marui* 'round', *kanasii* 'sad' and uninflected adjectives, *yutakana* 'rich', *tokubetuna* 'special', *huressyuna* 'fresh.' In Japanese dialects, the distinctions between these two types are not so clear as in Standard Japanese. Furthermore, adjectives have more morphological forms in dialects than in Standard Japanese; some dialects have forms indicating properties being just temporal, not constant, and forms indicating evidential meanings. These phenomena provide useful data to typological theories, such as time-stability, grammaticalization and evidentiality.

18. **Nominalization particles in Japanese dialects** ............Masayoshi Shibatani (Rice University) and Tetsuo Nitta (Kanazawa University)

Japanese dialects display varied patterns of nominalization marking that provide important clues to an understanding of the form and function of nominalizations in Standard Japanese, whose nature has been obscured by successive historical changes. Dialect forms corresponding to the particle *no* in modern central dialects, including Standard Japanese, vary from zero-marking (Hachijō, Izumo) to single particles as in *to/tu* (Kumamoto), *so/ho* (Yamaguchi), *ga* (Kōchi, Ishikawa, Toyama, Niigata) and to doubling of particles as in *no-n* (Ōsaka) and *ga-n/(y)a-n* (Niigata). These in combination with so-called genitive particles yield even more complex forms such as *no* *ga* (*n* *ga*), *no* *no* (*n* *no*), *ga* *no*, *ga* *ga-n*, *no* *ga-n* (*n* *ga-n*), *n* *a-n*, etc., which again correspond to the single particle *no* in Standard Japanese. By examining the relationships between these dialectal nominalization markers and so-called genitive particles (*ga* and *no*), this study attempts to garner support for the theoretical claim recently advanced by the first-named author that genitive particles themselves are nominalization markers and that there is nominal-based nominalization in addition to the well-known verbal-based process.

**PART III. SKETCH GRAMMARS OF JAPANESE DIALECTS**

Part III is a collection of sketch grammars of a number of major Japanese dialects as well as some unique dialects. Each chapter includes a grammatical outline and a discussion of phenomena particular to that dialect. The sixteen areas treated in Part III are shown in the map below.
19. **Hokkaidō dialect** ……………………………… *Yoshiyuki Asahi (NINJAL)*

This chapter gives synchronic as well as diachronic descriptions of the Hokkaidō dialect. Hokkaidō dialect is broadly divided into an inland dialect and a coastal dialect. This chapter firstly provides descriptions of the features of both inland and coastal Hokkaidō dialects. Variables discussed in this paper will be the velar stop /ɡ/ (as opposed to velar nasal /ŋ/), *sibareru* ‘freezing to freeze’ and others as examples of the inland dialect. Intervocalic voicing (/t/ and /k/ becoming [d] and [ɡ] or [ŋ] respectively), a case marker *-sa* and others will be raised as examples of the coastal Hokkaidō dialect. Based on these descriptions, this chapter secondly discusses how these differences emerged with a special reference to the migration patterns from the mainland Japan. This paper will show that immigrants in inland Hokkaidō are from various parts of Japan, whilst those in coastal Hokkaidō are mainly from Tōhoku. This pattern has given a strong impact on the nature of dialect leveling in inland Hokkaidō and on the retention and change of home dialects (in most cases, Tōhoku dialect) in coastal Hokkaidō.
20. Akita dialect…………………… Mizuho Hidaka (Kansai University) and Yukiko Ueda (Akita University)
This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Akita dialect and introduces expressions of tense and aspect characteristic of this dialect. The Akita dialect shows a three-way tense distinction for stative verbs: future, present and past, e.g., the existential verb e-ru is used for future, e-da for present and e-deatta for past. (Standard Japanese has a two-way distinction of tense for the existential verb, i.e., i-ru for non-past and i-ta for past.) Activity verbs have a four-way tense-aspect distinction: perfective non-past, perfective past, durative non-past and durative past. For the verb su-ru ‘do,’ su-ru is used for perfective non-past, si-ta and si-teatta for perfective past, si-teda for durative non-perfect and si-teatta and si-te e-deatta for durative past. Perfective past and durative past differ in evidential meaning, i.e., the former expresses a generic past not confirmed by the speaker, while the latter expresses a past event confirmed by the speaker.

21. Iwate dialect …… Nobuhiro Tanaka (Iwate Prefectural University at Miyako)
This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Iwate dialect, describes the characteristics of its accentuation, and provides an overview of the regional variations of accentuation in the Iwate prefecture. The local dialects spoken in Iwate prefecture are characterized by diverse accent systems, including an accent system with a raising kernel, although most Japanese dialects have a lowering kernel. This chapter provides an overview of three regional types of accentual systems: (a) the accentual system with a raising kernel in the north and central inland area; (b) the accentual system with a double peak in a single phrase in the Pacific coast area; (c) the accentual system without initial syllable high tone in the south area. The three regional variations are illustrated by acoustic pitch data.

22. Ibaraki dialect ………………… Kan Sasaki (Sapporo Gakuin University)
The dialects spoken in the Ibaraki prefecture are divided into three groups: northern, southern, and western. One of the western dialects, the Mitsukaidō dialect, exhibits unique grammatical characteristics. This chapter will focus mainly on this dialect. The most unique features appear in the case system. Differential object marking controlled by the host nominal's animacy is found not only for the direct object but also the indirect object. This dialect has three adnominal case particles and elaborated oblique cases including a typologically rare element, an oblique case specific for the experiencer subject. Opaque interaction of phonological processes related to voicing may also attract theoretical interest.

23. Tōkyō dialect (Metropolitan area) ………………. Harumi Mitsui (NINJAL)
This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Tōkyō dialect, and provides a sociolinguistic survey of this dialect. The language in Metropolitan Tōkyō has a privileged
status in the Japanese language and it has following properties: (i) it is the basis of the Standard Japanese, and (ii) linguistic phenomena which occur in it tend to spread to other areas in Japan. On the other hand, it has some internal fluidity which other Japanese dialects do not have: (iii) the weak social foundation prevents the formation of traditional linguistic features, (iv) it is in a permanent state of linguistic diversity, (v) it contains various linguistic subgroups whose linguistic norms are different from each other. This chapter focuses on (iii) and (iv).

24. Toyama dialect ...................... Izumi Konishi (Hiroshima University) and Masaru Inoue (Reitaku University)

This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Toyama dialect, and discusses the Janus-faced nature of this dialect where both western and eastern dialectal features are found. This property results from the contact among western and eastern Japanese dialects. The area where this dialect is spoken is located on the geographical border between West Japan and East Japan. The Toyama dialect has two imperative forms for vowel-stem verbs, e.g., the imperative forms of mi-ru ‘see’ are mii and mi-re. The vowel augmented imperative form mii is common to western Japanese dialects. The imperative form mi-re is developed from mi-ro, the form found in eastern Japanese dialects. We also analyze the meanings of major sentence final particles (SFPs) used with declarative and imperative sentences in the Inami dialect, spoken in the south-west area of Toyama prefecture, a dialect which has a rich SFP system. Using SFPs, this dialect makes a distinction among established information, speaker's personal view, and counter-expectation in declarative sentences, and a phatic function, counter-expectation and permissive direction in imperative sentences.

25. Gifu dialect ....................... Toshihiro Yamada (Gifu University)

Located in the center of Japan, the Gifu dialect is characterized as being a transitional dialect, a mixture of the different dialectal features used in the eastern and western regions of Japan. This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Gifu dialect, and discusses the linguistic properties shared with Eastern Japanese and those shared with Western Japanese. The Gifu dialect shares the following grammatical elements with the dialects spoken in the Kansai region: negative suffixes -n and -hen attached to irrealis verbal stems (ika-n, ika-hen ‘go.IRR-NEG’), and the copula =ya (ame=ya ‘rain=COP.NPST’). The accent system of the Gifu dialect is similar to that found in the dialects of the Kanto region. Under the influence of the Nagoya dialect, the Gifu dialect developed expressions such as a suffix expressing request -ya (kak-yaa ‘please write’; tabe-yaa ‘please eat’).

26. Shiramine dialect (Ishikawa) ............... Tetsuo Nitta (Kanazawa University)

This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Shiramine Dialect. Main focuses are on the phonology, the accent system, the genitive markers no/nga, the conjugation of verbs
and adjectives, the nominalization particles no nga, and the suffix –me, which attaches to nouns denoting familiar creatures. The Shiramine dialect retains plenty of linguistic characteristics that used to exist in standard Japanese (the dialect of Kyōto) but now have been lost. This district is called “dialect island” judging by its significant characteristics which differ from the area surrounding the district, and is therefore important to the study of the history of the Japanese language.

27. Kyōto dialect …… Yukihiko Nakai (Kōbe City University of Foreign Studies)
The aim of this chapter is three-fold: to present a grammatical sketch, to outline the diachronic development of the accent system in the Kyōto dialect, and to discuss the innovative characteristics of this dialect resulting from the recent developments. The dialect spoken in Kyōto, which was the political capital until the beginning of the 17th century, had a privileged status serving as the central and common language of the country until the end of the 17th century. It is the only variety of Japanese which can be traced in the written record over a period of more than a thousand years. The Kyōto dialect therefore exhibits many features typical of western Japanese dialects. However, several of its accentual and grammatical features were formed around the time of the Meiji Restoration (1868). As a result of these and other changes, the Kyōto dialect is innovative among the dialects of western Japan in spite of the general impression that Kyōto is an old and conservative city.

28. Kagawa dialect ….. Yukihiko Nakai (Kōbe City University of Foreign Studies)
This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Kagawa dialect, and provides the variation in accent systems in this dialect. The dialects of Kagawa prefecture are characterized by the diversity of their accent systems. Most of the Kagawa dialects have accent systems with two registers and a lowering kernel. Although these systems are similar to that of the Kyōto and Ōsaka accent system, there are differences in register tones, correlations between vowel height and pitch, the merger of “accentual word classes” etc. depending on the dialect. A system with three registers and a lowering kernel (Ibuki-jima, the sole dialect with this accent system in Japan) and systems only with a lowering kernel are also found in Kagawa prefecture.

29. Kōchi dialect ……….. Makoto Kuno (Kōchi University, Professor Emeritus)
This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Kōchi dialect and discusses yotsugana ‘the four letter distinction,’ a phonotactic trait found only in this dialect. In the Kōchi dialect, the voiced fricative [z] and the voiced affricate [ʣ] are distinguished in front of high vowels (/i/ and /u/). This dialect has the following minimal pairs: [ɸuʑi] ‘Mount Fuji’ and [ɸudʑi] ‘wisteria’; [kuzu] ‘a Japanese arrowroot’ and [kudʑu/kudʑu] ‘trash.’ [Z] and [ʣ] are distinguished not only by the manner of articulation but also by the place of articulation: [z] has alveolar pronunciation, while [ʣ] has dental pronunciation.
Furthermore, [ʣ] is sometimes pronounced as a nasal [ʣ]: \[\phi \, \chi\] ‘wisteria’, [k\u014du/k\u014du] ‘trash.’

30. **Izumo dialect (Shimane)********** Mitsuhiko Arimoto (Yamaguchi University)
This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Izumo dialect, and discusses the following features of this dialect. The Izumo dialect is characterized by three features: (1) similarities with eastern Japanese dialects, (2) preservation of archaic linguistic properties, and (3) linguistic properties particular to this dialect. Although it is located in western Japan, this dialect employs the copula =da (other western dialects employs =zya or =ya). The existence of the high central vowel [ɨ] is common to the Tōhoku dialects. The syllables [kʷa], [ɕe], and the open-close distinction of /o/ are preserved, although they have disappeared in most Japanese dialects. The sentence initial interjection /ke/, a marker for utterance opening, is unique to this dialect.

31. **Fukuoka dialect ********** Tomoyuki Kubo (Kyūshū University)
This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Fukuoka dialect, and discusses the accent system of this dialect. The Fukuoka dialect is characterized by its unique accentual neutralization which reflects the interfaces between syntax/semantics and phonology. Although the dialect has no accentual distinction in verbs and adjectives, nouns show similar accentual patterns to those of Standard Japanese. In the [WH … C] domain, however, where C is a complementizer ka, mo or phonologically null morpheme binding a WH-word, the accentual distinction disappears and the flat high pitch prevails from WH to C. In this domain, accentual distinctions are totally neutralized, and focus intonation also cannot appear.

32. **Nagasaki dialect ********** Itaru Sakaguchi (Kumamoto University)
This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Nagasaki dialect, and discusses the accent system and the conjugation of this dialect. The Nagasaki dialect has a two-pattern accent system, where the accentual opposition tends to be neutralized in loan words and compounds longer than 5 moras although shorter words maintain the accentual opposition. This dialect has the lower bigrade conjugation descended from Early Middle Japanese. The verbs corresponding to the monograde verbs in Early Middle Japanese, such as kiru ‘wear’ and miru ‘see’ conjugate partially like consonant stem verbs, e.g., kiran ‘not wear’, kiroo ‘will wear.’ This type of conjugation emerged from a relatively recent development.

33. **Kagoshima dialect ********** Nobuko Kibe (NINJAL)
This chapter presents a grammatical sketch of the Kagoshima dialect, and discusses the some unique features of this dialect. This dialect is characterized by its syllable structure and accent system. As for the former, the Kagoshima dialect has a CVC syllable structure (e.g. [kaʔ] ‘key’, [kuʔ] ‘neck’, [kan] ‘paper’, and [kus] ‘to pump up’), while many
Japanese dialects have CV structure. Regarding the accent system, the Kagoshima dialect has two-pattern accent system. Two-pattern accent is not specific to Kagoshima prefecture and is also seen in Southwest Kyūshū such as Nagasaki prefecture and Kumamoto Amakusa area. But the Kagoshima two-pattern accent system is different from those and has typical characteristics. For example in the accent of compound words of seven or eight syllables, or proper names (personal names and place names), the two-pattern accent is maintained, as opposed to the Nagasaki dialect.

34. Hachijō dialect ................................. Akihiro Kaneda (Chiba University)
This chapter deals with the Hachijō dialect, which represents an archaic layer of Japanese. The dialect has maintained the -o attributive verb, the -e attributive adjective, and the conjectural form -nama, which were used in the Eastern dialect of the 8th century. Other peculiar grammatical features which are not found in other dialects are a past form of strong verbs derived from verb stem -aron (originally -ari “be, or exist”), and a form with -si (originally -ki) which expresses the past tense also. Consequently, strong verbs have kept the old tense and aspect systems. The so-called kakari-musubi constructions of focus and questions found in this dialect are attributed to Old Japanese as well.