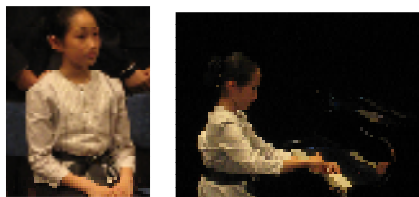


Ne-attachment (Ne-tuke) on the Truncated Sentences*

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“For Adriana on her 60th birthday: A girl playing ‘For Elise’ with a Pearl Broach”

Children at around the age of two produce the main declarative in a non-finite form or Root Infinitives (RI) and Root Infinitive Analogues (RIAs). They are elegantly explained by Truncation Hypothesis (Rizzi 1993/1994), but there is apparently counter-evidence to the hypothesis. That is, very young children learning Japanese produce the sentence-ending discourse particles at the stage of RIAs.

In this paper, we focus on Japanese and argue that (i) discourse particles are not T/C-elements in both child and adult Japanese, and (ii) the descriptive findings of Japanese acquisition rather supports the Truncation Hypothesis.

Selected reference

Rizzi, Luigi. (1993/1994) Some notes on linguistic theory and language development: The case of root infinitives. *Language Acquisition* 3, 371–393.

* The related article will be part of C. Contemori and L. Dal Pozzo (eds.) (to appear) *Inquiries into Linguistic Theory and Language Acquisition. Papers offered to Adriana Belletti*, Siena, CISCL Press.