

Data handout #1: Unaccusatives

Japanese numeral quantifier float

- (1) a. Gakusei-ga hon-o Mary-ni **2-satu** ageta
student NOM book ACC Mary DAT 2 CL gave
'The student gave Mary two books'
- b. *Gakusei-ga hon-o Mary-ni **2-ri** ageta
student NOM book ACC Mary DAT 2 CL gave
'Two students gave Mary a book'

→ subject/object distinction

- (2) Hon-ga doroboo-ni **2-satu** nusumareta
book thief-by 2-bk were-stolen
'Two books were stolen by the thief'
- (3) a. Kyaku-ga ryokan-ni **2-ri** tuita
guest NOM inn DAT 2 CL arrived
'Two guests arrived at the inn'
- b. Doa-ga kono kagi-de **2-tu** aita
door NOM this key with 2 CL opened
'Two doors opened with this key'
- (4) a. *Gakusei-ga zibun-no kane -de **2-ri** denwa-sita
student NOM self GEN money with 2 CL telephoned
'Two students telephoned using their own money'
- b. *Kodomo ga geragera to **2-ri** waratta
child NOM loudly 2 CL laughed
'Two children laughed loudly'

Hebrew possessor datives

- (5) ha-yeladim zarku **li** 'et ha-kadur le-tox ha -gina 'al-yad ha-mitbax
the boys threw to-me ACC the ball into the garden next-to the kitchen
'The boys threw **my** ball into the garden next to the kitchen'
'The boys threw the ball into **my** garden next to the kitchen'
'The boys threw the ball into the garden next to **my** kitchen'
* '**My** boys threw the ball into the garden next to the kitchen'

-->possessor dative can be construed as possessing anything in the VP

- (6) ha-'uga ne'exla **li**
the cake was-eaten to-me
'**My** cake was eaten'
- (7) a. ha-mitriya nafla **li**
the umbrella fell to-me
'**My** umbrella fell'
b. ha- xalon nišbar **li**
the window broke to-me
'**My** window broke'
- (8) a. *ha-kelev šaxav **li** a.' ha-kelev šaxav **li** 'al ha-mita
the dog lay to-me on the bed
'**My** dog lay down' 'The dog lay on **my** bed'
b. * ha-po'alim 'avdu **li** b.' ha-po'alim 'avdu **li** ba- xacer
the workers worked to-me in-the yard
'**My** workers worked' 'The workers worked in **my** yard'

classically unaccusative verbs:

verbs of existence: *exist, happen, occur, appear...*

verbs of "emission": *shine, glitter, stink, jingle...*

aspectual verbs: *begin, start, stop...*

"externally caused" verbs: *break, open, shake...*

states: *be smart, be hungry*

classically unergative verbs:

"internally caused" verbs: *cough, shudder, smile, telephone, dance, work...*