

The Synchronic and Diachronic View on the Motivation for the use of Suspended Dangling Participles in English and Japanese

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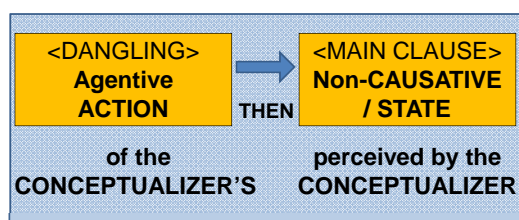
Dangling Participles:

Notorious but Well-Attested

- (1) ??Jogging around the park, a brilliant idea occurred to me. (Declerck 1991)
 (2a) Leaving the bathroom, the immediate lobby is fitted with a pair of walnut wall cabinets.(BNC)
 (2b) Moving further north, the United States has rather fewer volcanoes [...].(BNC)

Some motivations?—YES!

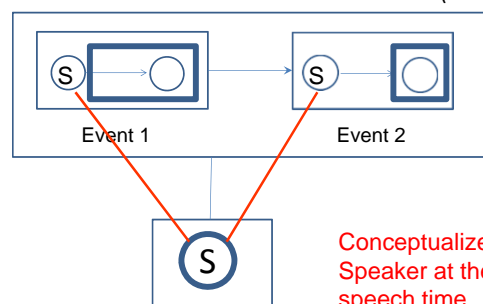
Constructional Meaning : Hayase (2011) COGNIZANCE SCENARIO



- (2) Leaving the bathroom, the immediate lobby is fitted with a pair of walnut wall cabinets.

Dangling Participial Construction

- (a) Moving further north (=event1), the United States **has** rather fewer volcanoes.(=event2)



Relation to Langacker's Subjectivity/Objectivity

- Subjective Viewing : Speaker involved
 - (a) Vanessa is sitting across the table.
 - (b) **Entering the hotel, the lobby is on the left.**
- Objective Viewing : Speaker=Observer
 - (c) Vanessa is sitting across the table from Veronica.
 - (d) **Entering the hotel, he ordered a cup of coffee.**

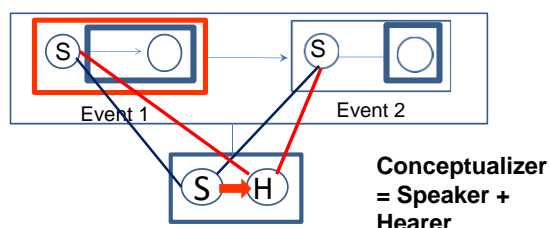
Dangling Participial Construction From Subjective to Intersubjective

- the constructional meaning is highly subjective (cf. Langacker (1990)) in that it is closely related to the Ground, i.e., a speaker at the time of speech.
- Some dangling participles, a part of the construction, come to imply intersubjectivity (cf. Verhagen (2005), Traugott (2003)).

Dangling Participles and Intersubjectivity

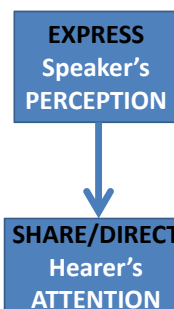
Moving on, the next issue is ...
Supposing you were alone?

- DIRECT Hearer to the Speaker's construal
- INVITE Hearer's response/action

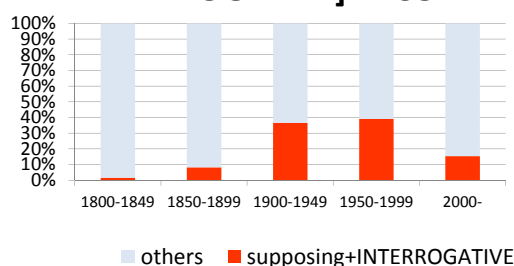


SUPPOSING (conj. 1843~(OED))

- (a) **Supposing** it is so, it should be troublesome.
- (b) **Supposing** it is so, how do you cope with it?
- (c) **Supposing** that's the general prevailing mood in the country?



RATIO of [SUPPOSING + INTERROGATIVE] in COHA



Supposing in Soap Opera Corpus (2000-)

- SOAP Corpus: Dialogue in Dramas
- Surrounded by Interrogatives (20/29)
 - Supposing S, Q? (13/20)
 - Supposing S? (4/20)
 - Q? Supposing S. (3/20)
- Expects/Invites hearer's response
- →AN INDICATOR OF INTERSUBJECTIVITY

Supposing S, + INTERROGATIVES

- (a) **CARLY**: Ok. Ok, ok, ok, ok. **Supposing** that I do eat the lamb chop and the broccoli – **SONNY**: All right. **CARLY**: **What are my chances of getting a little** -- (phone-rings) **SONNY**: A little? (2003)
- (b) **Supposing** people are wrong, **supposing** money can actually buy you happiness, **is it possible I'd snap it up after waiting so long?** (2009)
- COGNIZANCE SCENARIO
- Conceptualizer = speaker → hearer

[Supposing S.] + INTERROGATIVES

- (a) **Supposing** a kid was molested today. **What should he or she do? How should he or she handle it and be believed?**
- (b) **Supposing** Morgan grew up to be wonderful like Jax and -- and Michael made a mess of his life. **Would you abandon him? Or would you protect your child no matter what?** (2007)

Supposing S?

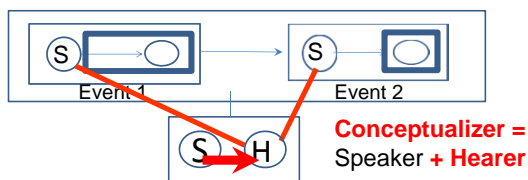
- **Supposing** that's the general prevailing mood in the country?
- 'But **supposing** I had been discovered, and the money proved false?'
- "And **Supposing** you're suspected?"

Supposing ... triggering the answer

- **KING:** Supposing President Obama say, General, be my secretary of Defense.
- **POWELL:** You know, when a president asks you to do something, you have to listen and consider it. But I'm not interested in another government position. And I think that the president has many options out there, both for chief of staff and for secretary of Defense.
- **KING:** But knowing you, **you would consider?**
- **POWELL:** I would have to listen to him. But I'm not interested in another government job.

Summary: Supposing

- partly used as an indicator of intersubjectivity
- To signal the hearer to think over and give some opinion
- Reminder of the original dangling participial construction <COGNIZANCE SCENARIO>



Japanese Counterpart

- TO-Linkage roughly corresponds to English dangling participles
- Often combined with TE-MIRU (+and see)
 - (e.g.) Kangae-te-miru-TO *Considering ...*
 - "Consider and see"
 - (e.g.) Shi-te-miru-TO *Supposing (the situation)...*
 - "Do and see"
- Their environmental pattern can be extracted.

S₁. Kangae-te-miru-to S₂ (1)

- S₂: **Speaker's epistemic conclusion**
 - (a) Although A4-size is coming to be the standard paper size, almost no personal planners are of that size. Kangaete-miru-to, it is weird.
- S₂ : **thus no mere facts allowed**
 - (b) #Kangaete-miru-to, he is now 12 years old.
 - (c) #Kangaete-miru-to, he is a doctor.
- S₂ : **thus no interrogatives**
 - (d) #Kangaete-miru-to, is he a doctor?/where did he go?

S₁. Kangae-te-miru-to S₂ (2)

- S₂ is OK as long as it depicts sp's epistemic conclusion
- OK only if S₂ is rhetorical question.
 - (a) Kangaete-miru-to, is there any festivals like x?
One will soon notice that there isn't any such thing.
- OK only if S₂ induces further conclusion
 - (b) Kangaete-miru-to, he is now 12 years old. He is mature enough to be sensible.

S₁. Kangae-te-miru-to S₂ (3)

- S₂ : **meta-level description**
 - <CHARACTERIZATION of facts>
 - (a) Miyuki walked with Mr. Matsuura. **Kangae-te-miru-to** it turned out to be the first time that she had ever shared an umbrella with the man.
 - <CONTRAST>
 - (b) Today that kind of programs would never be broadcast, because they must be blamed for aggravate bullying problems. **<Kangae-te-miru-to>**, TV programs of the past were quite daring.

Sum: Kangae-te-miru-to

- DISCOURSE FUNCTION:
 - To signal metalinguistically that the speaker is about to **state his/her own epistemic conclusion from a slightly different perspective**
- ...reflects semantics of Dangling Participial Construction <COGNIZANCE SCENARIO>
- However; Subjective but NOT Intersubjective
 - Conceptualizer of KANGAE-TE-MIRU-TO = mainly Speaker
 - Not invite any reaction from the hearer

Different levels of Encoding: construal/Report layers

Ikegami (2004,2005)

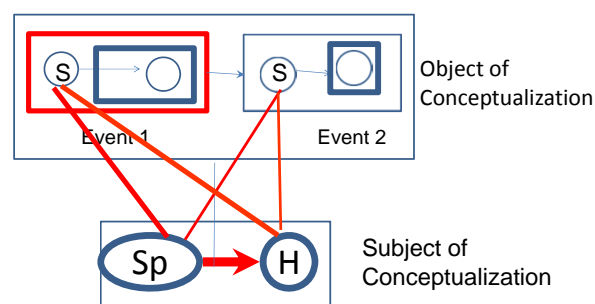
- English is dialogue (or report)-oriented language
 - Japanese is monologue (or construal)-oriented language
- Hirose (2012)
- English: Today is Sunday. (Sp's Construal / Report to H)
 - Japanese: <Today is Sunday.> (Sp's Construal)
 - <Today is Sunday>+ DA(NE/YO) (Report to H)

English can use the same form for both CONSTRUAL and REPORTING, while Japanese cannot, requiring some additional INTERSUBJECTIVE elements when REPORTING .

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English Dangling Particles

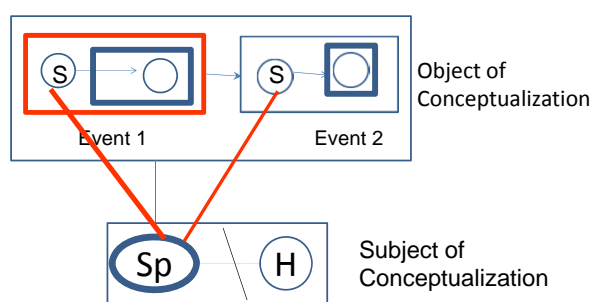
Supposing....?



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JAPANESE Dangling Particles

Kangae-te-miru-to



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Conclusion

- The meaning of dangling participial construction is subjective and affects further semantic change of its parts.
- (inter)subjectivity comes to be involved when conceptualizer is identical with the speaker (and the hearer) at the speech time.
- Contrast between English and Japanese suggests a possible idiosyncrasy of encoding in construal/interpersonal layers.

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