



REAL ENGLISH

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Volume 36

Aomori Prefecture English Education Society

A Trip Down Memory Lane: Number Two

This is the second 'trip down memory lane' ... looking back on the *REAL ENGLISH* volumes of the past ... March will cover Volumes 18 to 34. As I noted in the February introduction, I hope that readers will go back and revisit the past *REAL ENGLISH* columns – both for study and ... as a trip down memory lane.

[Volume #18](#) The volume focused on an interesting area of language for me – *gairaigo*. There is so much to consider when examining all the variations that come with this 'borrowed-and-then-made-Japanese-language.' A big part of examining *gairaigo* is simply understanding the magic of languages – foreign languages and Japanese.

[Volume #19](#) Volume 19 goes back to a textbook topic: reported speech. Although there is a lot of variation that is possible with reported speech in the aspect of prescriptive grammar as well as the fact that the descriptive grammatical aspects are changing as native speakers report (*as a verb*) on speech in new and innovative ways, a basic understanding of both quoted speech and reported speech is important.

[Volume #20](#) Pragmatics is the subject of Volume 20. The REAL ENGLISH column offers two English examples ... but this is another area where understanding the idea of pragmatics makes you a better communicator in any language – Japanese included. And with that understanding, you will be able to 'see' pragmatics in the use of language around you.

[Volume #21](#) & [Volume #22](#) These two volumes take up the use of *articles*, looking at some basics about when to use 'a' ... when to use 'the' ... and when no article is necessary. As with other confusing aspects of English, there are many variations. But the basic understanding *is still very important ... is still a very important element ... is still one of the most important elements.*

[Volume #23](#) With this volume, we had a guest writer. This volume allowed a foreign researcher who spent a year at the Faculty of Education to write up a summary of their research. The research topic was phonics and the content outlined the phonics instructional materials that they created.

[Volume #24](#) & [Volume #25](#) I love language ... one of the parts of language that I love the most is the tremendous depth of vocabulary that comes in various languages. These two volumes take up some beautiful and poetic, deep and mysterious, uniquely cultural and highly local words both from languages around the world and from English. The list included a Japanese word ... do you remember it?

[Volume #26](#) The volume title – *one sentence, many meanings* – reflects the power of vocalics and intonation & stress in language. There are several sample sentences in this volume ... in order to understand what the title suggests, you have to read the sentences aloud and using the stress as indicated. Check it out and give it a try.

[Volume #27](#) Volume 27 took up an idea common to both Japanese and English ... expressed usually as a greeting, but one that I find very interesting. The 久しぶり・しばらく notion in Japanese is, for me, very illustrative of a powerful and distinct difference between English and Japanese. If you don't remember, go back and have a look.

[Volume #28](#) & [Volume #29](#) Here is another two-part volume – in this case focusing on adjectives. As is pointed out in the introduction of Volume 28, adjectives are an important, but often overlooked, part of language ... English in this case. Interestingly, we often use adjectives without thinking about that language as specifically an adjective. Do you remember all the different adjective types?

[Volume #30](#) Gendered Pronouns was the topic of this volume. And while the content offered makes an attempt to explain and detail the nature and options with gendered pronouns, this is an emerging and changing part of contemporary English. Please check out Volume 30, but then take some time to read up on the topic elsewhere as well.

[Volume #31](#) This volume was a brief overview of my research on Complexity, Accuracy, Fluency, operationalized as a Communication Paradigm. I encourage everyone to continue with your study of the English language in all four skills ... but I also encourage everyone to do a bit of study regarding communication skills and communication management. Hopefully Volume 31 and the ideas about Complexity, Accuracy and Fluency will be a place to begin.

[Volume #32](#) Volume #11 looked at English in lyrics ... and promoted the use of music and musical lyrics as a way of brightening up your English study. This volume invites you to consider movies and the language you can find in movies as well. The content introduces some famous movie quotes ... but if you use movies for your English learning – you will need to watch the whole movie and devote several viewings to get all the interesting and entertaining language it contains. Enjoy!

[Volume #33](#) This volume took up the idea and reality of *politeness*. Politeness is a very important part of language use and there is much research on it. This volume simplifies politeness and offers four samples for your study. It fits very well with the idea of a transition from simple and direct sentence forms to longer and more complex forms.

Volume #34 Volume 34 was written under the duress of winter ... the fatigue of shoveling snow to be precise. As this is the reality of life in Aomori, this volume offers the vocabulary to talk about it ... in English.

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