

Acknowledgments

The papers in this volume were submitted by George Mason University students and reviewed by members of the GMU linguistics faculty. The GMU Linguistics Club would like to thank the Student Funding Board for the funding of this project and Dr. Steven Weinberger for his help as faculty advisor. The Linguistics Club would also like to thank Jane Kirsh for her help in proofreading.

Editors

Miwako Hisagi
Jennifer Martin

Kubozono (1989) states that "it is standard syllabic structure cannot express Japanese word production, the only way to account for speech behavior is to assume the mora as a relevant unit in the speech production of Japanese. If one defines the mora as an intermediate level between syllable and segment, vowel-consonant interaction such as CV-interaction can be described not as segmental, but as moraic production. Kubozono also pointed out that 'in English, there is reportedly a set of general constraints that hold between the peak and the coda, whereas constraints between the onset and the peak are relatively weak' (cf. Fudge 1969, 1987). In Japanese, by contrast, co-occurrence restrictions operating between onset and peak are at least as strong as those holding between peak and coda" (p. 269). In other words, in English, there is a special association between the nucleus (peak) and the coda, which are said to form a constituent called the "rhyme". In Japanese, there is no special relationship between the nucleus and the coda. The association between the onset and nucleus is usually weak. The mora has therefore often been recognized as a relevant unit in phonological description. However, unlike a language such as English, the evidence of the Japanese mora suggests that there is no syllable unit 'rhyme' which is often implied to be a universal syllabic constituent (see Ho 1988). The present study found clear evidence of language transfer from the native language syllabic structure in the

In Japanese, moras are called *morae* or *moji* (Kubozono 1989, 1992, 1993).
A standard syllabic structure (Ho 1988). In Japanese syllabic structure (Kubozono 1989, 1992, 1993, right) and Shier (1991, left).

