

Takahiro Tozawa, Recipient of the 2016 ELSJ Junior Researcher Award

I feel deeply honored to be awarded the ELSJ Junior Researcher Award for the paper titled *On Labeling in Free Relative Clauses in English*. I also feel humbled and inspired for receiving such an honorable award. I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to the ELSJ Award Committee.

The paper deals with the derivation of the free relative clauses exemplified in (1) and (2).

(1) Stop [whatever you are doing].

(2) We will love you [whatever you do].

While the free relative clause in (1) is the complement of the verb *stop* and behaves as a DP, the free relative clause in (2) is an adverbial clause. I attempted to provide a unified analysis of the free relative clauses in (1) and (2).

I was able to receive this award because of Professor Masaru Nakamura, Professor Yoshiaki Kaneko, Professor Etsuro Shima, and Professor Nobuhiro Miyoshi. They carefully coached me how to read research papers, collect linguistic data, construct arguments, deduce the consequences of proposals, and so on. In particular, Professor Masaru Nakamura trained me in his office, in the coffee shop, and even in the university corridor. Although I am a lazy person, he did not forsake me and kept giving me a great deal of advice. My appreciation cannot be expressed in words. I am also extremely grateful to my colleagues at Tohoku University Department of English Linguistics for always discussing my ideas. Before my presentations at conferences, I asked them to give me a chance to practice. During the practice, they pointed out logical contradictions, counter-examples of my analysis, the need to explain my proposal more concretely, and so on. The discussions were sometimes heated and continued until late at night. The discussions with my colleagues were very tough for me, but thanks to them, I could refine the content of my presentations and present them at conferences with more confidence. Needless to say, the discussions created splendid opportunities to develop a more logical way of thinking. I deeply appreciate their assistance.

I feel impatient with myself because I remain academically immature despite the utmost guidance by teachers and the excellent support by my colleagues. It depends on my efforts whether I can become a full-fledged researcher. I will make even more efforts to contribute to the field of English Linguistics. Once again, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for receiving the ELSJ Junior Researcher Award.