

THE SPEAKER'S ATTITUDE AND THE CONDITIONALS *TO*, *TARA*, AND *BA*\*

Naomi Hanaoka McGloin

*The University of Wisconsin*

It has been observed by Kuno, Alfonso and others that the Japanese conditionals to, tara, nara and ba make rather different claims as to how the first clause ( $S_1$ ) is related to the second clause ( $S_2$ ). In this paper I would like to show that the observations of Kuno and Alfonso, which only look at the relationships between two clauses, are not sufficient and that the speaker's attitude of approving or disapproving the contents of the protasis plays a crucial role in determining the occurrence of to, tara and ba.

In brief summary of Kuno and Alfonso's observations, consider the following sentences.<sup>1</sup>

- (1) Nihon e (a) iku to kamera ga yasuku kaemasu yo.<sup>2</sup>  
(b) ittara  
(c) iku nara  
(d) ikeba

'If you go to Japan/When you go to Japan, you can buy a camera cheaply.'

1. To connects an antecedent and a consequent that may be natural, habitual or inevitable (Alfonso 1966: 652-654). So, in (1a), being able to buy a camera is considered a logical and natural consequence of going to Japan. In the following sentences, (2), (3) and (4),  $S_2$  is considered as a natural, habitual and inevitable consequences of  $S_1$ ,