

Notes on the Word Order in Chaucer's English*

Akiyuki Jimura

0. Introduction

To date, there have been various studies on the word order in Chaucer's English.¹ However, most of those studies are based upon a particular edition, such as Robinson's, with differences of word order among various manuscripts being noted only in some tales of *The Canterbury Tales*.² This study therefore investigates Chaucer's word order, comparing several editions of Chaucer's texts, especially *The Canterbury Tales* and *Troilus and Criseyde*. In *The Canterbury Tales*, we deal with Blake's, Benson's, and Robinson's editions (hereafter abbreviated as BL, BN, and RB), and in *Troilus and Criseyde*, Benson's, Robinson's, Root's, and Windeatt's editions (the last two henceforward denoted by RT and WN). If possible, we would like to check the several manuscripts of Chaucer's texts. This paper consists of the three parts: (1) textual differences of word order in *The Canterbury Tales*, (2) those of word order in *Troilus and Criseyde*, and (3) some notes on the word order in Chaucer's English. In the parts (1) and (2) we have listed the following inversions showing textual differences: (1) Adverb-Verb, (2) Adverb-Object, (3) Subject-Adverb, (4) Verb-Subject, (5) Verb-Object, (6) X1-X2, (7) Noun-Adjective, and (8) Others. Generally speaking, as Tajiri (1989: 42) indicates, inversions are often found in the middle of the line, so

the rhyme scheme is mostly kept intact: "bitwixe thee and me" (BL: PardT 830)--"bitwixen me and thee" (BN, RB: *ibid.* 832) where "me" and "thee" rhyme with "be", and "so swete a wight" (BN, RB, WN: Troilus III 1284)--"lady bright" (RT: *ibid.*) where "wight" and "bright" rhyme with "right". This change does not influence the rhyme scheme. In the part (3), we would consider the following problems: (a) the positions of adverb, (b) the word order of 'Subject + Verb,' and (c) that of 'Verb + Object.'

1. Word order in *The Canterbury Tales*

There are 82 manuscripts copies of *The Canterbury Tales*,³ of which the most important are the Hengwrt Manuscript and the Ellesmere Manuscript. BL is based upon the Hengwrt MS and BN and RB upon the Ellesmere MS. In this section, we will deal with the variations of word order among the three above-mentioned editions of *The Canterbury Tales*, sometimes referring to the other manuscripts.

1.1. Adverb-Verb

The adverb "anon" tends to be used before the verb. BN and RB seem to show the content more accurately, because it may modify the verbs "hakke and hewe":

BL: KnT 2861 And leet anon comaunde to hakke and hewe

BN: KnT 2865 comande anon

RB: KnT 2865 comande anon

In the Ellesmere MS, we find the word order "nat wol," but RB inverts the order and uses present-day word order "wol nat." Generally speaking, the negative adverb "nat" is placed immediately after the auxiliary "wol" in the three texts, but BL and BN may have put an emphasis upon the negative meaning. The men should be willingly

governed by the women in "The Wife of Bath's Tale." When we consider the theme of this tale, we understand that the one who does not agree with the Wife of Bath should be put in a special emphasis in this context. Chaucer may have placed "nat" before the auxiliary "wol":

BL: WBT 1236 That noght wol be governed by hir wyues.

BN: WBT 1262 noght wol governed wyves;

RB: WBT 1262 wol nat governed wyves;

The comparative form "moore" is usually attached to adjectives, adverbs, and nouns in BL, BN, and RB, but the metrical necessity may make BL's "moore maad" more appropriate:

BL: SqT 214 Of thynges that been moore maad subtilly

BN: SqT 222 maad moore

RB: SqT 222 maad moore

The Ellesmere MS has "first" after the pronoun "hym" as in "he goth hym first." RB places the adverb after the verb. BN, as well as BL, places the adverb before the verb, based upon the Hengwrt MS, and puts an emphasis upon the adverb. BN and BL's reading may be appropriate, because in "The Shipman's Tale" the merchant first goes to his friend to play with him:

BL: ShT 337 Vnto daun Iohn he first goth hym to pleye--

BN: ShT 337 Unto John first gooth ;

RB: ShT 337 Unto John gooth first, ;

Other instances are as follows: BL:KnT 3048; BN,RB: 3052, BL: MilP 3166; BN,RB: MilP 3172, BL,BN,RB: Mel 1040, BL,BN,RB: Pars 483.

Cf. BL,BN,RB: Mel 1251.

1.2. Adverb - Object

Though both the Hengwrt MS and the Ellesmere MS read "men vp

(or up) hym” and BL follows those MSS, BN and RB place “up” after “hym”. When we consider the collocation between the verb “took” and “up”, the position of “up” before “took” might be syntactically and semantically acceptable. Eight manuscripts read like the Hengwrt and the Ellesmere MSS.

BL: ManP 49 Wher as he lay til that men vp hym took.

BN: ManP 49 Where , hym up

RB: ManP 49 Where , hym up

The other instance is BL,BN,RB: Mel 1594.

1.3. Subject - Adverb

The following instances show the type “subject preceding adverb” in BL, while “adverb preceding subject” in BN and RB.

BL: SNT 31 To thee at my bigynnyng I first calle

BN: SNT 31 first I ;

RB: SNT 31 first I ;

BL: WBP 394 Whan that for syk they myghte vnnethe stonde.

BN: WBP 394 unnethes they

RB: WBP 394 unnethes they

BL: CIT 1148 This storie, which he with heigh stile enditeth.

BN: CIT 1148 with heigh stile he

RB: CIT 1148 with heigh stile he

Another instance is: the type “subject preceding adverb” in BN and RB (KnT 2427), while “adverb preceding subject” in BL (Ibid. 2429).

1.4. Verb - Subject

BL prefers the type “auxiliary preceding subject”:

BL: KnT 1352 But in prison moot he dwelle alway.

BN: KnT 1350 he moot ;
 RB: KnT 1350 he moot ;
 BL: WBP 98 Of myn estat ne wol I make no boost.
 BN: WBP 98 estaat I nyl nat ,
 RB: WBP 98 estaat I nyl nat ,

The other instances of "wol I - I wol" are WBP 149 and WBP 154.

BL: WBP 575 But now, sire, lat me se what shal I seyn.
 BN: WBP 585 I shal
 RB: WBP 585 , I shal ?

Cf. the word order "ye shul - shul ye" found in BL: MerT 430; BN, RB MerT 1674.

BL: Mel 1036 ...right so sholde men wreken hir wronges...
 BN: Mel 1036 men sholde
 RB: Mel 1036 men sholde
 BL: ShT 181 An hundred frankes or ellis am I lorn.
 BN: ShT 181 , I am
 RB: ShT 181 , I am

Cf. the word order "I am - am I found in CIT 360 and BL: NPT 3383 / BN, RB: 3411:

BL: NPT 3383 Now I am come vnto this wodes syde,
 BN: NPT 3411 I am ;
 RB: NPT 3411 am I ;

N.B. Both the Hengwrt MS and the Ellesmere MS read "I am," but RB uses the inversion "am I," the word order which is seen in the 30 MSS.

BL: ManP 47 And on the manciple bigan he nodde faste
 BN: ManP 47 he gan
 RB: ManP 47 Manciple he gan
 BL: RvT 3923 A ioly popper baar he # in his pouche.

BN: RvT 3931 joly poppere # ;

RB: RvT 3931 joly poppere is ;

N.B. Though both the Hengwrt MS and the Ellesmere MS read “baar he,” RB uses the perfective “baar he is.” This reading might be RB's mistake in transcription.

BL: WBP 149 In wifhode wol I vse myn instrument

BN: WBP 149 wyfhod I wol use

RB: WBP 149 wyfhod I wol use

BL: WBP 154 And housbonde wol I haue, I wol nat lette,

BN: WBP 154 An I wol have -- --

RB: WBP 154 An I wol have

Cf. the word order “I wol - wol I” found in MkT 2000.

The following show the type “verb following subject”:

BL: FranT 461 And on his wey forthward thanne he is fare

BN: FranT 1169 is he

RB: FranT 1169 is he

Another instance of “he is-is he” is BL: FranT 476; BN, RB: FranT 1184.

BL: Mel 1556 ... If a netherdes doghter, (he seith) be riche,...

BN: Mel 1556 ' net-herdes ' seith he, '

RB: Mel 1556 ' net-herdes ' seith he, '

N.B. According to Sasagawa (1968a: 45), the sentence structure “V + S” tends to be preferred when the proper noun is used, but the pronoun “he” is more flexibly used than the proper noun.

The other instances of “verb following subject”: GP 101, BL: MkT 2387; BN, RB: MkT 2483, and BL: WBT 951; BN, RB: WBT 977.

1.5. Verb - Object

Sometimes BL prefers the word order “verb + object”:

BL: WBP 212 And sith that they hadde yeuen me al hir lond,

BN: WBP 212 # me yeuen

RB: WBP 212 # me yeuen

BL shows "I pray yow" (CIT 164), while BN and RB "I yow preye." The following shows the type of "auxiliary preceding object" in BL:

BL: ShT 184 And if myn housbonde eek myghte it espye

BN: ShT 184 it myghte ,

RB: ShT 184 it myghte ,

However, the type of "auxiliary following object" is found:

BL: WBT 1184 Seyn that men an old wight sholde doon fauour

BN: WBT 1210 sholde an oold wight

RB: WBT 1210 sholde an oold wight ,

Cf. BL and BN show the same type "object preceding verb," but RB "object following verb":

BL: SqT 309 Which I shal yow telle bitwixe vs two.

BN: SqT 317 yow telle

RB: SqT 317 telle yow bitwix us

N.B. Both the Hengwrt MS and the Ellesmere MS read "yow telle" and this word order is seen in the 13 MSS including the Hengwrt and the Ellesmere MSS. RB, however, inverts the sentence structure and uses the present-day word order.

1.6. X1 - X2

The two adjacent words sometimes change places with each other in the medial position of the line. The first two instances are nouns, the third adjectives, the fourth adverbs:

BL: KnT 2945 And coppes fulle of milk and wyn and blood

BN: KnT 2949 wyn, milk, ,

1.7. Noun - Adjective

The position of adjectives in both attributive and predicative uses is changed:

BL: KnT 2784	With circumstaunces alle	trewely	
BN: KnT 2788	alle	circumstances	--
RB: KnT 2788	alle	circumstances	--
BL: WBP 37	As wolde god it leueful were	to me	
BN: WBP 37	God it leueful were	unto	
RB: WBP 37	God were leueful	unto	

N.B. BN is based upon the Hengwrt MS, which reads "it leueful were." RB shows the present-day word order "it were leueful unto," following the Ellesmere MS. This word order "S + V" is seen in the 6 MSS including the Ellesmere MS.

Another instance is WBP 197.

1.8. Others

The phrase "to thee" -- "quod he" (BL: KnT 1131, BN, RB: KnT 1129) and "by god" -- proper noun "Symond" (BL: RvT 4018, BN, RB: RvT 4026) change places with each other. The other instances are BL: KnT 1650, BN, RB: KnT 1648, ManT 143, and ParsT 423.

2. Word order in *Troilus and Criseyde*

There are 16 manuscripts of *Troilus and Criseyde*, in which three manuscripts (Cp(Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, 61), CI(Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, M 817), and J(St. John's College, Cambridge, L.1)) are important in this study, because we deal with the editions of *Troilus and Criseyde* which are based upon those three manuscripts. Benson's and Robinson's editions are based upon the Cp MS and

Windeatt's edition is a copytext of the Cp MS. Root's edition, however, follows not only the Cp MS but also the Cl MS and the J MS. Therefore we have a marked difference between BN, RB, WN, and RT, which will be listed in the section 2.1. Some differences among the four editions are sometimes found. They are listed in the section 2.2., and may show the editors' preference of the word order.

2.1. BN, RB, WN -- RT

(1) Adverb-Verb

BN,RB,WN: II 124 I am of Grekes so fered that I deye."

RT: fered so

BN,RB,WN: II 1156 And seyde hire, "Now cast it away anon,

RT: cast it now

The other instances are: II 838, II 1314, III 277, III 579-80, and III 1268.

(2) Adverb - Object

BN,RB,WN: I 259 To folowen hym that so wel kan yow lede.

RT: folwen love yow so wel kan

BN,RB,WN: I 314 On other thing his look som tyme he caste,

RT: som tyme his look

BN,RB,WN: II 1155 And in hire bosom the lettre down he thraste,

RT: down the lettre

Another instance is III 1466.

(3) Subject - Adverb

BN,RB,WN: III 474 She thonked God that evere she with hym mette.

RT: # she evere

The other instance is I 432.

(4) Verb - Subject

BN,RB,WN: I 492 But how it was, certeyn, kan I nat seye,

RT: I kan

BN,RB,WN: V 238 For wel woot I , as yvele as I ye fare.

RT: I woot #

The other instances are: I 495, I 565, I 834, II 960, III 442, III 859, III 865, and VI 581.

(5) Verb - Object

BN,RB,WN: I 831 And have my trouthe, but thow it fynde so

RT: fynde it

BN,RB,WN: III 180 if I be she that may yow do gladnesse,

RT: do yow

The other instances are: II 282, II 1374, III 568, III 1295, IV 545, and V 1413.

cf.

BN,RB,WN: I 1057 To hire that to the deth me may comande."

RT: may me to the deth comaunde

(6) X1 - X2

BN,RB,WN: I 338 But it a sely fewe pointes be;

RT: fewe sely

BN,RB,WN: I 361 And thought ay on hire so , withoute lette,

RT: so on hire #

The other instances are: III 130, III 492, III 1136, III 1451, and IV 734.

(7) Noun - Adjective,

BN,RB,WN: I 539 Though nevere more thing ye me byheete,"

RT: no thing more byhete
 BN,RB,WN: III 1284 That am unworthi(or vnworthi) to so swete
 a wight.
 RT: yow ,
 lady bright

(8) Object - Subject

BN,RB,WN: III 1323 That is so heigh that al ne kan I telle!
 RT: no man it
 BN,RB,WN: V 952 And thus to hym she seyde, as ye(or 3e) may here,
 RT: she to hym #

Another instance is III 1153.

(9) Others

BN,RB,WN: II 176 "Of Ector nedeth it namore for to(or forto) telle:
 RT: no thing ;

2.2. Others

Here we will show the instances where BN is different from RB, RT, and WN:

Now tyme # is (BN: II 220) -- Now (or now) is it tyme (RB,WN) -- now is # tyme (RT); Quod she, "Ye, (BN: II 1284) -- "Ye (or 3e) # quod she," (RB,RT,WN); I yow wol telle (BN: III 910) -- wol yow (or 3ow) (RB,RT,WN); This tale ay was (BN: III 1665) -- was ay (RB,RT,WN); myn herte right now (BN: IV 12) -- right now myn herte (RB,RT,WN); Thorough Troie # rennest # (BN: IV 1549) -- rennest ay (RB,RT) -- ay rennest (WN).

The other instances are I 350, II 247, II 1395, III 1723, IV 42, IV 907, and V 1252.

3. Some notes on word order

3.1. Positions of Adverbs

When they are placed before verbs, adverbs have been usually put an emphasis, like “anon”, “nought”, “moore”, “first”, and “gladly” (see Section 1).

3.2. S + V : V + S

According to Wesse's statistics (1950), the word order “Subject + Verb” in Chaucer's English is as follows:

	Prose	Poetry
Main Clause		
Regular Order (S - V, S - X - V)	79%	75%
Irregular Order	21%	25%
Subordinate Clause		
Regular Order (S - V,)	95%	88%
Irregular Order (S - V)	5%	12%

Word order in present-day English such as (S - V, S - X - V) is more often found in Chaucer's prose.

In *The Canterbury Tales*, BL uses the word order “Aux + S + V” more often than RB. Instead, RB often uses present-day word order “S + Aux + V”.

Let us consider the adverb “now”:

now it is oute (BL)-- now is it oute (BN, RB); Now I am come (BL, BN)-- Now am I come (RB)

BL uses the word order “now + S + V” more frequently than BN and RB. Sasagawa (1968) investigates the inverted sentences in Chaucer's prose such as “The Tale of Melibee” and “The Parson's Tale,” and he

shows the following frequency of the adverb used in the front-position of the inverted sentence: ther(49), now(19), yet(15), thus(4), (and) so(4), as wel(3), ne(3), up(3), unnethe(2), so much(2), to + N(7), after + N(7), of(-out of) + N(15), of(=concerning) + N(6), therof(4), heerof(3), and wherof(1). It is noticeable that the word order of "Adverb + S + V" in BL does not correspond to Sasagawa's data.

Let us turn into the two adverbs used in the front-position of the sentence. The instances are as follows:

And on his way forthward thanne he is fare (BL)-- is he (BN, RB); And with this magicien forth he is gon (BL) -- is he (BN, RB). BL uses the same word order as the adverb "now".

The word order "O + S + V" is often used, but inconsistently, because we have the word order "O + V + S" such as "A ioly (joly) popper (poppere) baar he in his pouche" (BL, BN) while in BL we have the following sentences: "A yeman he hadde" (BL) or "His moder he made in pitous array." (BL) When the adverb such as "now" is in the front-position, the subject-verb inversion may be common. If so, the word order "Adverb + S + V" in BL should be marked.

In *Troilus and Criseyde*, there are many instances where the word order in the three editions: (BN, RB, and WN) is different from that in RT. For example, we have the following instances:

(a) Aux + S + V

kan I nat seye (BN, RB, WN) -- I kan nat seye (RT); Nil I naught swere (BN, RB, WN) -- I nyl nat seyenn (RT); cf. Thus yn my drem Criseyde have I byholde (BN, RB, RT) -- I have byholde(WN)

(b) Adverb + S + V

wel I rede(BN, RB, WN) -- wel rede I(RT); wel he wist(BN, RB, WN) -- wel wist he(RT); thus ferforth I have thi werk bigonne(BN, RB, WN)--

thus ferforth have I thi werk bigonne(RT); so thow seyst(BN, RB, WN)--
 so seystow(RT); How this candel in the strawe is falle.(BN, RB, WN)--
 How is this candele in the straw ifalle?(RT); now ther is but we two(BN,
 RB, WN) -- now is ther but we two(RT)

N.B. There are some exceptions:

wel woot I(BN, RB, WN) -- wel I woot(RT); wel I woot(or wot)(BN, RT) -
 - wel woot I(RB, WN)

In Chaucer's English, the word order "wel I woot" is common. However, it should be noted here that the recurrent expressions such as "wel koude he" or "wel loved he" are often used in "The General Prologue" to *The Canterbury Tales*, as Masui (1962: 230-32) indicates.

In this way, as for the word order "S + V" Blake's edition of *The Canterbury Tales* bears a close resemblance to Benson's, Robinson's, and Windeatt's editions of *Troilus and Criseyde*. The word order "S + Aux + V" is often found in both Robinson's edition of *The Canterbury Tales* and Root's edition of *Troilus and Criseyde*.

3.3. V + O : O + V

Saito (1974), investigating the word order of the documents written between 1400 and 1425 in London, gives us the following data:

	SVO	SOV	OSV	VSO,VOS,OVS	Total
Indep.Cl.	224(95.7%)	6(2.6%)	4(1.7%)	0(0%)	234
Dep.Cl.	279(98.2%)	4(1.4%)	1(0.4%)	0(0%)	284
Total	503(97.1%)	10(1.9%)	5(1.0%)	0(0%)	518

However, Chaucer's fourteenth-century English is different from that of the following century. This difference creates a problem since we do not know whether or not Chaucer preferred the word order "S + V + O." It is also difficult to decide in which edition the word order "S + O +

V" in *The Canterbury Tales* is prevalent, BL or RB. The following instances in BL shows present-day word order "S + V + O":

they hadde yeuen me (BL) -- they hadde me yeuen (BN, RB); I pay yow (BL) -- I yow preye (BN, RB),

while BL sometimes has the word order "S + O + V":

men an old wight sholde doon favour (BL) -- men sholde an oold wight doon favour (BN, RB); I shal yow telle (BL, BN) -- I shal telle yow (RB); if myn housbonde eek myghte it espye (BL) -- If myn housbonde eek It myghte espye (BN, RB).

In *Troilus and Criseyde*, BN, RB, and WN use the word order "S + O + V" more often than RT. Some instances are:

thow it fynde (BN, RB, WN) -- thow fynde it (RT); if he it kan receyven (BN, RB, WN) -- if he kan it receyven (RT); that may yow do gladnesse (BN, RB, WN) -- that may do yow gladnesse (RT); she to hym gan to rowne (BN, WN) -- she agayne gan to hym for to rowne (RT) -- she gan to hym to rowne (RB); no thyng that yow(or 3ow) be displesaunce (BN, RB, WN) -- no thyng that do yow displesaunce (RT); thow me hast yeve an audience (BN, RB, WN) -- thow hast me yeve an audience (RT);

As she (or ye) that lif or deth may me comande (BN, RB, WN) -- As she that life or deth me may comande (RT); To hire that to the deth me may comande (BN, RB, WN) -- To hire that may me to the deth comaunde (RT)

In this way, RT tends to use present-day word order. The modern spellings are also preferred in RT (Jimura(1998)). This may result from the fact that RT is based upon the three MSS: Cp, Cl, and J, differently from the other editions.

4. Summary

This paper has discussed some notes on the word order in Chaucer's English. I cannot draw a conclusion in which edition of *The Canterbury Tales* the word order "S + V + O" is preferred, Blake's or Robinson's edition. It should be noted, however, that in *Troilus and Criseyde* Root's edition tends to show present-day word order "S + V + O." It seems that we can find some evidence of historical change in English, since several editions of *The Canterbury Tales* and *Troilus and Criseyde* show some striking differences of word order. The editions of Chaucer's texts are, of course, based upon the various manuscripts written by different scribes. It means that every manuscript is scribed in its own age and that fact shows some historical differences of the language. In this way, the textual differences may impart some crucial evidence of word order in Chaucer's English.

The further problem is what kind of word order Chaucer preferred indeed. As Masui states (1962), we should consider this problem from a stylistic point of view, i.e. the recurrent expressions in Chaucer's English. That will be my future study.

Notes

* This paper is a revised version of my article: "Reconsideration of Word Order in Chaucer's English" read in the symposium at the 47th general meeting of Chubu-branch, the English Literary Society of Japan: "On the Language Studies of Old English and Middle English" presided by Masahiko Kanno, Aichi University of Education, held at Chukyo University, Nagoya on 12 October 1997.

1 Word order in Middle English has been studied in the following papers:

Fries (1940), Walter (1950), Kanayama (1966), Awaka (1967), Miura (1967), Sukagawa (1967), Sasagawa (1968a), Sasagawa (1968b), Demoto (1973a), Demoto (1973b), Saito (1974), Shinoda (1976), Iwashita (1980), Nishimura (1985), and Tajiri (1989).

2 Tajiri (1989) deals with Manly and Rickert's text of *The Canterbury Tales* in his data of textual differences.

3 Benson (1987: 1118) states that "there are eighty-two (or, if the Morgan fragment of *The Pardoner's Tale* is considered separately, eighty-three) manuscripts of the Tales, either complete or fragmentary," though we find eighty-four MSS in Manly and Rickert's text.

References

- Awaka, K. (1967) "St. Juliana no Gojun" *The Bulletin of Faculty of Education*, Mie University 37, 100-18.
- Barney, S.A., (1993) *Studies in Troilus: Chaucer's Text, Meter, and Diction*. East Lansing: Colleagues Press.
- Benson, L.D., ed. (1987) *The Riverside Chaucer*. 3rd ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.
- Benson, L.D., ed. (1993) *A Glossarial Concordance to the Riverside Chaucer*. Garland.
- Blake, N.F., ed. (1980) *The Canterbury Tales: Edited from the Hengwrt Manuscript*. London: Edward Arnold.
- Blake, N.F., (1985) *The Textual Tradition of the Canterbury Tales*. London: Edward Arnold.
- Blake, N.F., D. Burnley, M. Matsuo, and Y. Nakao., eds. (1994) *A New Concordance to The Canterbury Tales: Based on Blake's Text Edited from the Hengwrt Manuscript*. Okayama: University Education Press.
- Burnley, D. (1990) *The Sheffield Chaucer Textbase*. University of Sheffield.

- Demoto, F. (1973) "Shoki Chueishi *The Owl and the Nightingale* no Gojun ni tsuite (I)" *Shinonome Eigo Kenkyu* 7, 10-13.
- Demoto, F. (1973) "Shoki Chueishi *The Owl and the Nightingale* no Gojun ni tsuite (II)" *The Bulletin of Hijiyama Women's Junior College* 9, 1-10.
- Denison, D. (1993) *English Historical Syntax*. London & New York: Longman.
- Fries, C.C. (1940) "On the Development of the Structural Use of Word-order in Modern English," *Language* 16, 199-208.
- Iwashita, S. (1980) "'The Tale of Melibee' no Gojun no Kousatsu" *Nebyurasu* 8, 113-28.
- Jimura, A., Y. Nakao, and M. Matsuo, eds. (1994) *A Comprehensive List of Textual Comparison between Blake's and Robinson's Editions of The Canterbury Tales*. Hiroshima: Hiroshima University.
- Jimura, A., Y. Nakao, and M. Matsuo, eds. (1995) *A Comprehensive List of Textual Comparison between Blake's and Robinson's Editions of The Canterbury Tales*. Okayama: University Education Press.
- Jimura, A., Y. Nakao, and M. Matsuo, eds. (1996) *A Comprehensive Textual Comparison of Troilus and Criseyde: Benson's, Robinson's, Root's, and Windeatt's Editions*. Hiroshima: Hiroshima University.
- Jimura, A. (1998) "Metathesis in Chaucer's English," *A Love of Words: English Philological Studies in Honour of Akira Wada*, edited by M.Kanno, G.K.Jember, and Y.Nakao, 103-114. Tokyo: Eihosha.
- Kanayama, A. (1966) "Chaucer no Sanbun ni okeru Gojun--Bun no Shuyoso ni Kanren shite" *Osaka Gaidai Eibei Kenkyu* 5, 1-32.
- Manly J.M. and E.Rickert, eds. (1940) *The Text of the Canterbury Tales*, 8 vols. Chicago: U of Michigan P.
- Masui, M. (1962) *Chaucer Kenkyu*. Tokyo: Kenkyusha.
- Masui, M. (1964) *The Structure of Chaucer's Rime Words: An Exploration*

into the Poetic Language of Chaucer. Tokyo: Kenkyusha.

Masui, M., ed. (1988) *A New Rime Index to The Canterbury Tales: Based on Manly and Rickert's Text of The Canterbury Tales.* Tokyo: Shinozaki Shorin.

Matsuo, M., Y.Nakao, S.Suzuki, and T.Kuya, comp.(1986) *A PC-KWIC Concordance to the Works of Geoffrey Chaucer Based on Robinson (1957).* Yamaguchi and Hiroshima: Yamaguchi University and Hiroshima University.

Miura, T. (1967) "Chaucer ni okeru Shugo to Jutsugodoushi no Gojun," *Kobe Miscellany* 5, 85-104.

Nakao, Y. (1994) "Chaucer no *Troilus and Criseyde* ni okeru Text Ido to Juyo no Mondai," *Eigo to Eibeibungaku* 29, 51-94.

Nishimura, H. (1985) "Chueigo ni okeru Gojun to Johokouzo," *Eigo to Eibenbungaku* 20, 11-33.

Oizumi, A., ed. (1991) *A Complete Concordance to the Works of Geoffrey Chaucer*, programmed by K.Miki, 10 vols. Hildesheim: Olms-Weidmann.

Tajiri, M.(1989) "Variation of Word Order in the Manuscripts of the *Canterbury Tales*," *Osaka Gaikokugo Daigaku Ronshu* 2, 39-52.

Robinson, F.N., ed. (1957) *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer.* 2nd ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Root, R.K., ed. (1926) *The Book of Troilus and Criseyde by Geoffrey Chaucer.* Princeton: Princeton UP.

Ruggiers, P. G., ed. (1977) *The Canterbury Tales: A Facsimile and Transcription of the Hengwrt Manuscript, with Variants from the Ellesmere Manuscript.* Norman, Okla. and Folkestone.

Saito, T. (1974) "Word-order In Late Middle English" *Murakami Shikou Kyoju Taikan Kinen Ronbunshu* 433-44.

- Sasagawa, H. (1968a) "Chaucer no Sanbun ni okeru Gojun," *Launch* 1, 44-56.
- Sasagawa, H. (1968b) "Chaucer no Sanbun ni okeru Gojun," *The Bulletin of Liberal Arts*, Niigata University 1, 23-34.
- Shinoda, Y. (1976) "A Research on Major and Minor Sentence Patterns in *Cursor Mundi*," *The Bulletin of Faculty of Letters*, Hiroshima University 35, 171-89.
- Smith, J.J., ed.(1988) *The English of Chaucer and His Contemporaries: Essays by M.L.Samuels and J.J.Smith*. Aberdeen: Aberdeen UP.
- Sukagawa, S. (1967) "Kobun ni miru ME no Togohou -- Chaucer to sono Jidai wo Chushin ni," *Metropolitan* 12, 56-62.
- Wesse E.Walter (1950) *Word-order as a Factor of Style in Chaucer's Poetry*. Michigan: Unpublished Ph D Dissertation.
- Windeatt, B.A., ed.(1984), *Troilus and Criseyde: A new edition of 'The Book of Troilus'*. London & New York: Longman.

Chaucer の英語における語順管見

地 村 彰 之

今日まで Chaucer の英語の語順については様々な研究がなされてきたが、ほとんどが特定の刊本に基づいたものであり、写本間にみられる語順の異同についても *The Canterbury Tales* の一部の作品を除いて、ほとんど検討されていない。そこで、本論では最新の研究資料を用いて、まず特定の刊本に限らず諸刊本を比較しながら Chaucer の英語の語順について再考した。本論では、作品は *The Canterbury Tales* と *Troilus and Criseyde* に限った。第1節では *The Canterbury Tales* の Blake 版、Benson 版、Robinson 版の間にみられる語順の異同を、第2節では *Troilus and Criseyde* の Benson 版、Robinson 版、Root 版、Windeatt 版の間にみられる語順の異同を詳細に調査した。それぞれ、(1) Adverb-Verb (2) Adverb-Object (3) Subject-Adverb (4) Verb-Subject (5) Verb-Object (6) X1-X2 (7) Noun-Adjective (8) Others の順に用例を整理した。第3節では (a) Adverb を中心とした語順の異同、(b) S + V と V + S の語順の異同、(c) V + O と O + V の語順の異同という3つの問題点にしばって、Chaucer の英語の語順について考察を進めた。概して、行中での異同がほとんどであり、rhyme scheme に影響はないことがわかった。結果として、*The Canterbury Tales* については、どの刊本に S + V + O が多いかという結論は出せなかったが、*Troilus and Criseyde* については、4つの刊本の中で特異な存在である Root 版に S + V + O という現代英語的語順が多いことがわかった。