

‘Give + O + to’構文のイディオム化

秋元実治（青山学院大学）

1. 序

2. 1500 以前の ‘give + O + to’構文の様態

(1) Off gudes I shall gar giffe ... To poure men. ( c1400 St. *Anne* (1) 176) [MED]

(2) He þat 3eueþ liif to þe tre ond to þe braunchis is þe rote. (?a1425 *Orch. Syon* 37/23)  
[MED]

3. Rivalry among the *give* constructions

Table 1: Percentages of three categories of ‘give’ constructions from ME to PDE

	ME				EModE			LModE			PDE	
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	I	II	III	IV	
give + Oi + Od	33	41	39	58	28	53	136	168	397	346	286	422
	(62%)	(46%)	(26%)	(33%)	(26%)	(35%)	(42%)	(49%)	(39%)	(31%)	(33%)	(33%)
give + O + to	0	13	24	18	11	11	29	43	138	135	128	138
	(0%)	(14%)	(16%)	(10%)	(10%)	(0.7%)	(0.9%)	(12%)	(13%)	(12%)	(14%)	(10%)
other	20	35	84	96	69	85	155	128	468	618	450	713
	(37%)	(39%)	(57%)	(56%)	(63%)	(56%)	(48%)	(37%)	(46%)	(56%)	(52%)	(56%)

Key: MEI = 1150-1250, MEII = 1250-1350, MEIII = 1350-1420, MEIV = 1420-1500, EModEI = 1500-1570, EModEII = 1570-1640, EModE III = 1640-1710, LModEI = 1600-1699, LModEII = 1700-1799, LModEIII = 1800-1899, LModEIV = 1900~

Table 2: Percentages of three categories of ‘give’ constructions without pronoun Objects

	ME				EModE			LModE				PDE	
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	I	II	III	IV		
give + O +O	7	4	13	4	5	7	20	35	68	86	77	167	
	(25%)	(0.7%)	(10%)	(0.3%)	(0.5%)	(0.6%)	(0.9%)	(16%)	(16%)	(10%)	(10%)	(11%)	(16%)
give + O + to	0	13	24	18	11	11	29	43	138	135	128	138	
	(0%)	(25%)	(19%)	(15%)	(12%)	(10%)	(14%)	(20%)	(20%)	(16%)	(19%)	(13%)	
other	20	35	96	69	69	85	155	128	468	618	450	713	
	(74%)	(67%)	(81%)	(81%)	(81%)	(82%)	(75%)	(62%)	(69%)	(73%)	(68%)	(70%)	

Table 3: Numbers of  $a(n)$  and zero articles in each construction

	EModE								LModE								PDE											
	I				II				I				II				III				IV							
	suf	∅	a	∅	suf	∅	a	∅	suf	∅	a	∅	suf	∅	a	∅	suf	∅	a	∅	suf	∅	a	∅	suf	∅	a	∅
give+O+O	0	3	2	11	0	1	4	17	5	5	24	24	17	28	57	48	10	11	80	29	12	12	51	19	28	16	110	23
give+O+to	0	1	2	4	0	1	2	3	4	5	3	17	7	20	13	28	4	15	15	43	3	7	2	30	6	23	11	50
Give + O	0	3	1	4	1	1	7	10	3	3	20	14	4	8	35	16	8	18	38	23	1	8	33	10	24	18	55	21

(3) And Iesus sayde vnto her: *geve me drynke.* (1534 The New Testament) [HC]

(4) ... what arte thou that we maye *geve an answer to* # them that sent vs ...

(1534 The New Testament) [HC]

(5) ... for God wil *give # knowledge to* whom he will give knowledge of the Scriptures. (1500-1570

Private Letters) [HC]

(6) The good shepeheedrd *geveth his # lyfe* for the shepe. (1534 The New Testament) [HC]

(7) And yf his master *gave him leave* to play, that was ... (1600 Forman, The Autobiography) [HC]

- (8) God, which lightned thus the eies of their vunderstanding *giving them knowledge* by vnvsuall and extraordinarie meanes ... (1614 Hooker, Two sermons upon part of S. Judes epistle) [HC]
- (9) ... wherefore you *gave ear to* my Lord ( ^ Cobham ^ ) for receiving Pensions ...  
(1603 The Trial of Sir Walter Raleigh) [HC]
- (10) Then they *gave a great alarme to* the towne both by land and water ... (1627 Hayward, Annals of The First Four Years ...) [HC]
- (11) ... and to be able to *give a reason* of every thing why it is so ... (1627 Brinsley, Ludus Literarius or The Grammar Schoole) [HC]
- (12) ... they should be # readie in armes by midnight, and, in the meane season, *gave order* that the battery should not cease ... (1627 Hayward, Annals of The First Four Years ...) [HC]
- (13) ... while he was at rem <??> in re, he *gave him such a remembrance* upon the small of the back ...  
(1661 flat. f1) [AC]
- (14) Master was ashore, *gave him a visit*, who told his condition ... (1665 int2. n1) [AC]
- (15) I presently after *gave chase to* two sails which I saw to leeward ... (1650 penn. j1) [AC]
- (16) ... as the Act of the house, which might *give Reputation to* their influence amongst us ...  
(1682 prol. n1) [AC]
- (17) And am glad my forbearing to write to the contrary, *gave such hope* as was anything serviceable ...  
(1664 more. x1) [AC]
- (18) ... let me die if I could help *giving her a kiss*, which hang me ... (1751 cove. f3) [AC]
- (19) It *gives me great satisfaction* to see so many of my countrymen warmly pressing ...  
(1788 alle. j3) [AC]
- (20) Hence, *giving way to* dissipation, and being unused to labour, they proceed for support to fraud...  
(1785 gen 2. n3) [AC]
- (21) ... I endeavour to regulate my conduct so as to avoid *giving offence to* any man ...  
(1778 reev. f3) [AC]
- (22) I transcribe a paper *giving an account* of what passed between ... (1753 rich. f3) [AC]
- (23) ... those who many *give occasion* for such a remark, are not Quakers ... (1759 rowe. x4) [AC]
- (24) I don't remember what – and he became so insulting and abusive that Robert *gave him a thrashing* on the spot ... (1899 chop. f7) [AC]
- (25) ... he had lost his bread-winner, then *gave his head a nod*. (1828 moir. f5) [AC]

- (26) Well, would you mind confiding to me the circumstances that *gave rise to* the reflection?  
(1895 mach. f6) [AC]
- (27) The court erred in charging, that there must be an actual ouster, to *give operation to* the statute of limitation between tenants in common. (1823 fred. l5)
- (28) He *gave a shout*. (1897 cran. f7) [AC]
- (29) He not only *gave sympathy*, but wanted it, too, from others. (1849 robe. h5) [AC]
- (30) When she finally realized where she was and with whom, she *gave Churchill a kiss*, crying ...  
(1971 mich. f0) [AC]
- (31) It *gave him pleasure* to imagine the baths attendant shouting abuse at Rammage ...  
(1973 trev. f9) [AC]
- (32) He says that my three very nice young reporters *gave great joy to* him ... (1920 clar. j8) [AC]
- (33) In addition, the presence of a family history *gave a clue to* the possibility that ...  
(1985 wier. m0) [AC]
- (34) ... Bernie Perk *gave an exaggerated groan* and the panel laughed ... (1970 elki. f0a) [AC]
- (35) ... the attacks would be directed at military targets before she *gave permission* for bases in Britain to be used. (1989 tim2. n9) [AC]
- (36) I wish I was with her that I might *give you a kiss*. (Flob)
- (37) He reluctantly declined to *give us permission* to reproduce the picture ... (Flob)

#### 4. Idiom structure and composite predicates

- (i) Those idioms that take no articles (37) :

*make use of* (2275), *take advantage of* (1927), *give rise to* (1856), *take account of* (1587), *pay attention to* (1027), *take care of* (928), *give way to* (817), *get hold of* (752), *have regard to* (488), *take notice of* (427), *give birth to* (414), *make love to* (380), *catch sight of* (374), *put pressure on* (328), *take charge of* (315), *lose sight of* (286), *make way for* (281), *set fire to* (281), *take note of* (267), *do justice to* (219), *keep pace with* (205), *take pride in* (198), *make room for* (162), *make mention of* (152), *take possession of* (144), *set foot in/on* (127), *make fun of* (99), *have recourse to* (98), *take leave of* (92), *take delight in* (83), *take exception to* (74), *set sore by/on* (66), *give credence to* (58), *find fault with* (56), *give voice to* (55), *have resort to* (50), *give vent to* (45)

- (ii) Those idioms that take the indefinite article (11):

*take an interest in* (642), *put an end to* (311), *catch a glimpse of* (282), *make a point of* (189), *make a*

*fool of (177), put a stop to (150), make a mess of (118), make a secret of (101), make a fuss of (53),  
make a mockery of (49), take a fancy to (39)*

(iii) Others:

*make friends with (104), give the lie to (47)*

## 5. Idiomaticization of the ‘give + O + to’ construction

i) general process of idiomaticization

- (a) weakening of nouniness  
↓
- (b) abstraction of noun  
↓ ← reanalysis
- (c) constructional change  
↓ ← semantic change
- (d) idiom structure

ii) idiomatic process of change of the ‘give + O + to’ construction

- (A) give + indirect object + direct object ..... OE period  
↓
  - (B) give + object + to + NP .....ME period  
[+ concrete]  
↓
  - (C) give + object + to + NP .....Late Mod E period  
[+ abstract]
- CONSTRUCTION

## 6. Some factors contributing to the formation of *give + O + to* idioms

### 6.1 Weakening of nouniness

(38) ... though I confesse his expressions have given you just occasion *to take that advantage of*  
him. (The Conway Letters: 120)

(39) We complain of *advantages* which the men *take of* our youth, inexperience, sensibility, and all that ... (1771 Smollett: 259)

(40) I *took advantage of* the good weather to paint the shed. (LDCE)

(41) They *loste ye syght of* ye castell, it was clene vanysshed a way.

(OED, *s.v. sight* a1533 *L<sub>D</sub> BernersHuon* xxiii 68)

(42) ... so that they that were behind *lost the sight of* him that went before.

(1678 – 1684 Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress*: 150)

(43) We must never *lose sight of* the fact that man must work in harmony with nature. (LDCE)

## 6.2 Construction and frequency

### 6.3 From synthesis to analysis and French influence

#### I. From synthesis to analysis

- (i) the obscuration and loss of inflectional endings;
- (ii) developments in the use of prepositions;
- (iii) changes in element order. (Smith 1996: 153 – 158)

#### II. Latinate verbs of non-alternating *to* (Levin 1993: 46)

*address* (1475), *announce* (1483), *convey* (1574), *contribute* (1653), *deliver* (1440), *demonstrate* (1650), *dictate* (1667), *distribute* (1746), *explain* (1726), *introduce* (1739), *recommend* (1400), *report* (1489), *submit* (1386), *transfer* (1516), *transport* (1483).

## 7. Conclusion

### Primary sources

Archer Corpus = A Representative Corpus of Historical English Registers.

BNC = British National Corpus (100 million words) distributed by Shogakkan Company.

FLOB included in ICAME.

HC = *Helsinki Corpus of English Texts. Diachronic Part*. Ed. by Matti Rissanen; Merja Kytö; and Collin M. Palander. (1993). (Included in ICAME)

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OED = *Oxford English Dictionary*. 1989. Oxford: Clarendon, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (also OED CD-ROM  
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