

Dutch grammar in Japanese words: reception and representation of European theory of grammar in the manuscripts of Shizuki Tadao (1760 - 1806)

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Citation

Nespoli, L. (2023, September 12). Dutch grammar in Japanese words: reception and representation of European theory of grammar in the manuscripts of Shizuki Tadao (1760 – 1806). LOT dissertation series. LOT, Amsterdam. Retrieved from https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3640636

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Stellingen (propositions)

- 1. The grammatical theory of Dutch as described by Shizuki Tadao (1760-1806) was not incorrect or inconsistent, even when it differed substantially from the traditional European approach (see sections 1.3.3 and 7.2.4).
- 2. Shizuki Tadao combined Chinese studies, *kokugaku* and the contents of Dutch books in order to interpret and represent the grammatical theory of Dutch.
- 3. Dutch dictionaries and grammatical handbooks were insufficient materials for learning the language in Edo Japan.
- 4. It is a myth that the Japanese scholars of Dutch did not have a good command of the language.
- 5. Rangaku is part of the history of Dutch studies as well as of the history of Japanese studies.
- 6. The study of poetry was fundamental in studying and learning languages in Edo Japan, including Dutch.
- 7. The history of grammatical studies deserves more academic attention, particularly when it comes to Japan.
- 8. In order to understand past events, one first needs to understand how the people of the time used to think and use language.
- 9. The number of possible representations of the grammatical rules of a given language is different from one.