

# 現代英語における直喩表現の as though の 統計的調査—(2)

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## はじめに

現代アメリカ英語の直喩表現の as though について Reader's Digest を corpus として使用し、as though 使用頻度の割合、この接続詞に後続する文法上の形態（直説法、仮定法、to-不定詞、Nonfinite & Verbless Clauses）、また、<sup>※1</sup>Mencken の American Language によるとアメリカ英語の口語では as if は as though に代られる傾向があるとしている。<sup>※2</sup>Hemingway の作品を corpus として使用して as if と as though の用例を例を比較した Gerhard Grab によると、100 以上の用例の中で as if は 2 例のみとしている。

この小論は前回の現代英語における直喩表現 as if の統計的調査の時と同じ冊数の Reader's Digest を corpus として使用し、比較したものである。

- 1a. as though + Present Tense
- 1b. as though + Present Progressive Tense
- 1c. as though + Present Perfect Tense
- 2a. as though + Simple Past Tense
- 2b. as though + Were
- 2c. as though + Was
- 2d. as though + Past Aux Tense

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<sup>※1</sup> 前島他、アメリカ語法辞典、p.419, H. Lmenken, The English Language; 4, ed. p.203

<sup>※2</sup> 前島他、アメリカ語法辞典、p.419

3. as though + Past Perfect Tense

4a. as though + To-Infinitive Clauses

4b. as though + Nonfinite & Verbless Clauses

as though 以下の動詞の現在形 1 a、現在進行形 1 b、現在完了形 1 c の例は次のようなものが見られた。

1a. as though + Present Tense

OED には次の用例が記載されている。

1963 D. Storey Radcliffe xxxvi. 367 It's the sense of imitation that's so forbidding... As though it's all a deception, and the only person it doesn't deceive is me.

1 . Also, no matter how empty the restaurant is, the maitre d' always acts as though he's not sure if he can find a table for low-life such as yourself because any minute now he expects

Jacqueline Onassis to arrive accompanied by Prince Charles and the U. S. Supreme Court.

---P.128 May '91

2 . It is as though he is content that we, his family, should be guardians of his past.

---P.204 Aug. '91

3 . We have no idea what causes that to happen. It's as though one cell goes crazy. Then that mutant cell becomes leukemic, multiplies, and begins to crowd out normal cell.

---P.85 Jul. '92

4 .“Natash, to tell you the truth, I wanted to say that, but I didn't want to sound as though what's happening to me is worse that what's happening to your mom. There's just so much I want to do....”

---P.86 Jul. '92

5 . When facing a difficult task, act as though it is impossible to fail. If you're going after Moby Dick, take along the the tartar sauce.

---P.92 Sept. '92

6 . “Oh, no,” she replied, “They're too young. And besides, I don't feel as though I know enough.”

---P.59 Nov. '92

7 . As a modern mom who spends much of her time chauffeuring her children to various activities, I sometimes feel as though my wife is spent in a car.

---P.79 Nov. '92

前回の小論の as if の用例数は 21 例で as though は 7 例で as though の占める割合は 25%である。

#### 1b. as though + Present Progressive Tense

1 . Next, St. Peter shows him hell: toga parties, good food and wine, and people looking as though they're having a fine time.

---P.64 Oct. '91

2 . The idea is to create an optical illusion that makes you look thin, but actually it makes you look as though you are wearing a cafe awning.

---P.180 Feb. '93

3 . A detective with the sheriff's office waves as though he's hiring a six-shooter—with the thumb up and a quick jab of the index finger. (I'm still waiting for him to blow away the some.)

---P.131 Mar. '93

前回の小論の as if の用例数は 4 例で as though は 3 例で as though の占める割合は 42.9%である。

1c. as though+Present Perfect Tense

1 . He behaves as though the pitcher has committed a social faux pas, like spilling champagne on the floor.

---P.83 May '91

2 . Just marking off my humble half mile makes me feel as though I've won a gold star.

---P.172 Aug. '91

3 . The kids shrieked as though she has won the Novel Prize for Smart Moms.

---P.135 Oct. '91

4 . The computer can then print out a message that looks as though it has been written by that person.

---P.44 Apr. '92

5 . They wallow around, making the ground look as though it has been scraped bare of vegetation by a huge scalpel.

---P.163 Jul. '92

前回の小論の as if の用例数は 10 例で as though は 5 例で as though の占める割合は 33.3%である。

2a. as though+Simple Past Tense

1 . During spring thaw or summer thunderstorm, it seemed as though all the water in the world came coursing through it.

---P.178 Jun. '91

2 . We boys would huddle in one corner, punching one another for moral support and eyeing the girls suspiciously, as though we expected them, at any moment, to be overcome by passion and assault us.

---P.126 Jan. '93

3 . At last I decided it might be less suspicious if I just walked along the

road as though I belonged there.

---P.197 Jan. '93

前回の小論の as if の用例数は 20 例で as though は 3 例で as though の占める割合は 15%である。

2b. as though + Were

1 . Concluding, he told the young soldiers, “I want you to treat these jeeps as though they were your own.” He paused for a moment and added, “Forget I said that.”

---P.146 Jun. '91

2 . The waves were continually pulled up along the beach and pulled back as though someone were making a bed and couldn't get the sheet to lie properly.

---P.26 Aug. '91

3 . The burning sensation came from inside, as though her blood were boiling.

---P.135 Aug. '91

4 . Sometimes when Sang was sitting on my lap chattering incomprehensibly, Donald would revert to baby talk as though he were about three.

---P.182 Aug. '91

5 . There was foreboding: they didn't want to separate. It was almost as though they were consciously waiting, together, for the terrible news.

---P.76 Sept. '91

6 . The exposed part quivered as though Ron were trying to talk. Soon he was moving his fingers and toes.

---P.111 Sept. '91

7 . Now that Lesa was gone, we seemed to find it at all. Indeed, it was as though each of us were in a glass cube.

---P.37 Jan. '92

8 . The two detectives, clutching empty beer cans as though they were a couple of lads who had been at the pub, walked right past him.

---P.222 Apr. '92

9 . I was totally overwhelmed at the parade of clean planes with their noses tilted up as though they were always ready and willing for another flying adventure.

---P.126 May. '92

10. She and her daughter lavished attention on Kenneth and treated him as though he were a god, somehow above the rules that restrained other children.

---P.136 Nov. '92

前回の小論の as if の用例数は 52 例で as though は 10 例で as though の占める割合は 21.1%である。

2c. as though + Was

OED には次の用例が記載されている。

1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* lii, I have reason to love him as though he was my own son.

1864 G.W. Dasent *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 239 This looks as though Magnus was more afraid of Harold than of Sweyn.

1 . "It was as though I was holding a bolt of lightning in my hands," remembers Falvey, who was thrown across the room.

---P.14 Aug. 92

2 . Brittany seemed to grow more alert as the day wore on. Several times it looked as though she was trying to focus on Melinda's face.

---P.88 Nov. '92

3 . In groups, people talked through him as though he wasn't there.

---P.97 Mar. '93

前回の小論の as if の用例数は 21 例で as though は 3 例で as though の占める割合は 14.3%である。

2d. as though + Aux

この項目に該当する例は見られなかった。

3. as though + Past Perfect Tense

OED には次の用例が記載されている。

1509-10 Act 1 Hen. VIII, c. 18 (18—2) 2 The Quene [shall] have like Habilitie.. as though she had orygnally ben borne within this Realme.

1 . Claire, on the other hand, never stopped smiling. But her smile was bland and unvarying, as though it had been painted on.

---P.118 Mar. '91

2 . Some looked as though they had been crying.

---P.125 Mar. '91

3 . It was as though energy and exuberance had been lying in an underground stream, waiting to bubble up.

---P.126 Mar. '91

4 . He would read the instructions, and then show me — as though he had known me all his life — the easiest way to cope.

---P.198 Apr. '91

5 . She and Pat were deep in discussion when Casey screamed from the den, “\* # O!” Both women acted as though they'd heard nothing.

---P.117 May '91

6 . Mentally handicapped? It was as though she had slapped me across the face. “Sang’s has quite a rough life up to now,” I said defensively.

---P.190 Aug. '91

7 . Natalya Men tried to tell them of threatening letters he'd received in the past year, but they seemed uninterested. It was as though they had been sent to uncover not his murderer but his transgressions.

---P.77 Sept. '91

8 . The phone rang two hours later. LaMagna told the woman to answer in Mandarin and speak calmly as though nothing had happened.

---P.217 Nov.'91

9 . Among the bodies never identified was that of a little girl so unmarred by the fire that she looked as though she had drifted off to sleep.

---P.144 Feb. '92

10. The Lord had sent that prisoner to let me know I was not alone, and it was as though the Lord himself had touched me.

---PP.200-201 Jan. '93

11. It appeared as though Hillie Joe had just taken Deana by the arm above her elbow.

---P.137 Mar. '93

12. Bags of grain began to appear mysteriously on their doorstep in the dead of night. It seemed as though the zoo had become a symbol of resistance against the occupiers.

---P.140 Apr. '93

13. While in other matters Father spoke to me as a boy, about doctoring he spoke to me as an adult, with utter seriousness, as though he had divined there was to be little time.

---P.138 Jul. '93

前回の小論の as if の用例数は 60 例で as though は 13 例で as though の占める割合は 21.7%である。

4a. as though + To-Infinitive Clauses

OED には次の用例が記載されている。

a1912 MOD. He raised his hand as though to take off his hat.

この項目に該当する例は見られなかった。

4b. as though + Nonfinite & Verbless Clauses

OED には次の用例が記載されている。

a1912 Mod. He shaded his eyes as though dazzled by the light.

以下 1 例が as if + Past Participle Phrase

- 1 . He was appalled by what he saw: the captain's body glistening as though covered by frost.

---P.96 Feb. '91

以下 9 例が as if + Present Participle Phrase

- 2 . Along East Lake Avenue at 28th and 29th streets, young crack dealers worked the thoroughfare as though hawking programs at a football game.

---P.56 Jul. '91

- 3 . Halfway through the fourth Lucille Louise. Lucy slowly raised her head as though straining to hear some woman calling from the next county.

---P.80 Aug. '91

- 4 . But he trotted up behind us, undressed calmly and climbed into the bath as happily as though sharing with Lawrence.

---P.180 Aug. '91

- 5 . He looked at family albums and repeatedly asked who this person was, or that, as though trying to memorize each face and its place in chronology.

---P.189 Aug. '91

- 6 . Then she added thoughtfully, as though expecting me to agree, "We

have to be prepared for a slower rate of progress from a mentally handicapped child like Sang, don't we?"

---P.190 Aug. '91

7. His thoughts were interrupted by a well-dressed Chinese man who strolled past the bar as though searching for someone.

---P.236 Nov. '91

8. A child suffering from night terrors will scream and writhe about as though in the grip of a nightmare.

---P.154 Sept. '92

9. That night, Erik nursed, staring into my eyes, as though remembering the brief time we'd had before he got sick.

---P.139 Oct. '92

10. Throughout the funeral service, Epstein Pictured the determined little girl who had glared up at him from a bandage twice the size of her head, as though challenging him to help her fight.

---P.218 Feb. '93

以下1例が as though + Prepositional Phrase

11. A child suffering from night terrors will scream and writhe about as though in the grip of a nightmare.

---P.154 Sept.'92

以下1例が as though + Adjective

12. The crust pulses as though alive, and jets of which — hot flame shoot out from the circumference like a kitchen-stove burner.

---P.53 Feb. '92

前回の小論の as if の用例数は 35 例で as though は 12 例で as though の占める割合は 25.5%である。

## むすび

現代標準的アメリカ英語と考えられる Reader's Digest を corpus として使  
用したが Menchen、Graf 等が述べているのとは程遠い調査結果となった。それ  
ぞれの項目についても as if が占める割合が高く総数では as if 231 例、as  
though 56 例、合計で 287 例で as though の占める割合は 20% に達しなかった。

Corpus として Reader's Digest (米国版) 40 冊を使用した。

'89 Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr.,

'90 Feb., Mar., Apr., Jun., Jul., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.,

'91 Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, Jun., Jul., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.,

'92 Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, Jul., Aug., Sept., Nov.,

'93 Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., Jun.,

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