

戦後の日韓外来語の通時的対照研究

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A Diachronic Contrastive Study of Postwar
Japanese and Korean Loanwords

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1. Awareness of the Problem and Purpose of this Study

In recent years, the use of foreign languages has increased rapidly in Japan and Korea. This rise is attributed to technological progress, economic development, and increased international exchange. The influence of foreign languages is evident not only in everyday life but also in diverse areas such as technology, fashion, and food culture. Geographically and culturally close, Japan and Korea share many historical similarities in adopting Western languages and integrating them into their own. Despite these parallels, notable differences exist in the usage of foreign words between Japanese and Korean. For instance, in Japan, English-derived terms like 'department store,' 'convenience store,' and 'restroom' are commonly used in everyday language. In contrast, Korea frequently employs Chinese words and proper names for similar concepts. Additionally, in Japan, foreign words are often used as vocabulary for abstract concepts in general language use, a trend less prominent in Korean.

This phenomenon may not solely result from the differing attitudes of acceptance between the two countries but also due to differences in the internal evolution of the languages and the integration process of loanwords within their linguistic systems. While the attitudes of acceptance certainly play a role in the increase of loanwords, this is only a part of the explanation. The differences observed, such as the disparity in the usage of loanwords and their presence or absence, are influenced by many other factors. These include how certain loanwords have quantitatively changed over time, what kind of loanwords are predominantly used in both countries and their roles within the texts. However, the differences in loanwords between Japanese and Korean and the reasons for their emergence have not yet been fully elucidated.

The aim of this study is to shed light on the quantitative transition of foreign words and their differences between Japanese and Korean. This will be achieved by conducting a quantitative analysis based on a corpus of Japanese and Korean newspapers. Furthermore, the study will examine the linguistic characteristics of foreign words in both languages through a comparative analysis of their semantic usage in newspapers.

2. Organization of the Paper and Summary of Chapters

1. Summary of Previous Research and Establishment of Research Problem

In this chapter, the research background, previous studies, and the objectives of this study are described. While it is generally believed that Japanese utilizes more foreign words in diverse contexts compared to Korean, no studies have yet focused on examining the differences between Japanese and Korean foreign words from a diachronic perspective through a comparative analysis. Therefore, this study aims to investigate the differences in the use of foreign words in Japanese and Korean, considering both quantitative and qualitative aspects. It explores how these words are integrated into the language system, the nature of the observed differences, and the reasons behind these variations. In addition to the above, this chapter will summarize the current state of research on foreign words in both countries and clarify the objectives and issues of this study.

2. Procedures for creating a corpus of Japanese and Korean newspapers and investigating the vocabulary of foreign words

The pivotal element of this thesis is the Japan-Korea comparative study based on newspaper corpora, a public medium that has yet to be explored. Following the methodology of Kim(2011), who elucidated the basic word formation of Japanese loanwords using Mainichi Newspaper data from 1950 to 2000 in 10-year increments, this study constructs a corpus of the Korean newspaper "Dong-A Ilbo" from 1945 to 2015, also in 10-year increments. Additionally, to understand the aspects of Japanese loanwords post-2000 and to compare them with Korean data, data from 2000 to 2020 is compiled using the "Mainichi Newspaper CD Data Collection." This paper will elaborate on these two corpora's design, the materials' continuity, corpus construction methods, and data organization. Furthermore, it will describe the text preprocessing for quantitative transition analysis and the methods for extracting loanwords. The methodology for quantitative analysis and case study to understand the characteristics of loanwords in Japanese and Korean will also be explained.

3. Understanding the Characteristics of Contemporary Japanese and Korean Foreign Words

This chapter defines the most recent 20 years as the contemporary period, and the differences in the usage rate of foreign words in Japanese and Korean are quantified and elucidated. The frequency of foreign words in modern Japanese and Korean was analyzed through newspapers, and the differences in their frequency were made clear. Additionally, semantic fields were organized, and the top 200 words with the highest frequencies throughout the year were ranked and categorized based on the characteristics of their semantic fields.

The analysis revealed that Japanese is generally characterized by using abstract foreign words and the ability to use multiple parts of speech for a single foreign word. In contrast, in Korean, while abstract foreign words are also prevalent, words related to 'human activity' are more commonly used. Each foreign word in Korean typically corresponds to only one part of speech, and their usage is less frequent due to the presence of synonyms.

4. Quantitative Transition of Japanese and Korean Foreign Words

This chapter offers a detailed analysis of the quantitative transition of foreign words from the postwar period to the present, revealing a distinct chronological pattern in the transition of foreign words in Japan and Korea. It also summarizes previous studies on Korean and contextualizes the background of foreign word usage in Korean, considering the quantitative transition.

In Japan, the use of foreign words has been prevalent since the prewar period, and their usage rate consistently increased from the postwar period to modern times. In contrast, in Korea, the usage of foreign words surged rapidly after the war and grew alongside economic development. However, Korea's growth rate has been slower than the Japanese, and to this day, it has not exceeded that of the Japanese.

5. Understanding the Characteristics of Japanese and Korean Foreign Words from the Viewpoint of Increasing Trends

Chapter 5 calculates the occurrence rate and the increasing trend coefficient of Korean loanwords in the latter half of the 20th century and conducts a comparative analysis with previous studies to elucidate the differences in the growth patterns of loanwords in Japanese and Korean. The analysis revealed that in both countries' newspapers, loanwords are increasing in abstract semantic fields. An analysis using the "Classified Vocabulary List" showed that in Japanese, loanwords representing abstract concepts such as "1.1 Abstract Relationships" and "1.3 Human Activities" are prevalent. In contrast, loanwords denoting "Human Activities" are particularly numerous in Korean. Moreover, the comparison of the increasing trend coefficients indicated that in Korean, there is a delay in the reception of loanwords and a tendency to prefer native synonyms over loanwords. While an increase in loanwords in specific fields was observed in Korean, no significant characteristics were noted in the use of Japanese loanwords.

6. Understanding the characteristics of Japanese and Korean loan words from the viewpoints of synonyms and parts of speech

Chapter 6 analyzed the characteristics of loanwords in Japanese and Korean, as observed in Chapters 3 and 5, from two perspectives: their relationship with synonyms and their features as parts of speech. The transition of loanwords from the post-war period to the present and their usage in context were examined to elucidate the characteristics of loanwords. The analysis revealed that loanwords maintain their unique status in Japanese while sharing meanings with synonyms, showing a trend towards establishment within the language. In contrast, Korean loanwords are used temporarily but tend to revert to native synonyms eventually. Regarding parts of speech, it was found that Korean loanwords are used in a limited sense and rarely as verbs, whereas Japanese loanwords are used in a wide range of meanings and can function in multiple parts of speech, including as verbs.

7. Conclusion

This study quantitatively analyzed the use and evolution of loanwords in Japanese and Korean newspapers, revealing differences in frequency of use and linguistic characteristics between the two languages. Based on newspaper data from 1945 to 2020, it was found that while the use of loanwords in Korean has been increasing, it remains approximately 1.3 times less than that in Japanese. This disparity can be attributed to factors such as the

delayed reception of loanwords in Korea, the influence of language purification movements, and differing societal attitudes towards loanwords.

Regarding linguistic characteristics, Japanese newspapers use loanwords across a wide range of fields, and diverse applications are observed even in abstract semantic fields. Conversely, in Korean, loanwords are used in limited fields related to human activities, with a notable preference for native synonyms. Furthermore, while loanwords in Japanese take on roles of various parts of speech, including nouns and verbs, thereby expanding their influence, Koreans show a tendency to revert to native synonyms after a brief period of loanword usage. Additionally, in Korean, a single loanword tends to be used only as one part of speech, limiting its expansiveness compared to the flexibility observed in Japanese.

Future research should investigate the transition of loanword usage from the pre-war era to the present, conduct detailed analyses of the division of meaning between loanwords and synonyms, and explore the acceptance and establishment of loanwords in Japan and Korea, as well as contemporary methods of handling loanwords. This will enable a more comprehensive and profound understanding of linguistic changes through a comparative analysis of societal perceptions in both countries.