# Taking the language symbol "up" as an example to analyze the Chinese-Japanese language method

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**Abstract:** Language symbols are an important component of language methods. In order to understand Chinese and Japanese language expressions more thoroughly, this study takes the language symbol "shang" as an example to analyze the differences between Chinese and Japanese language methods in terms of basic meaning, space, time and direction. And summarize the language differences between China and Japan to provide a reference for similar research.

## 1. Correspondence and Non-correspondence of "up" in Chinese and Japanese

Depending on the existence of the linguistic symbol "above", there is a correspondence between the original sentence and the translated sentence. And there are cases that do not correspond. In the example of correspondence, the language symbol of the original sentence and the translated sentence is "up". For non-corresponding examples, the language symbol of the original sentence is "upper", but the translated sentence does not. Overall, it can be said that the "above" in Chinese and Japanese are more incompatible[1].

# 2 Semantic Analysis of "up" in Chinese and Japanese

## 2.1 Basic Meaning of "up"

Words with multiple meanings are considered polysemy. Any synonym seems to have a basic meaning. As we all know, "upper" is also Japanese and it is also a polysemy in the native language. Mentioned the meaning of "space", "time", "direction" and so on. Then, the key is the basic meaning. First, let's study the basic meaning of "Kami" in Japanese in "The Origin of Chinese Characters".

"Hou Xin said that this character was used as an example of letters in one of the six books. He explained that "shiji" is a letter that can be understood only by seeing, and its meaning can only be understood by thinking. In response to this, it is generally believed that "上" indicates that it is on "-" by adding a stroke to "-". "Symposium New Edition" means "above" in Chinese. It is described as "尚,高屋" in This ancient text[2].

The above explanation is regarded as the basic meaning of "above" in Chinese and Japanese. It can be said from the narrative that the basic meaning of "above" is the same as the word indicating the direction, such as "front", "back", "left" and "right", and represents the concept of space. It was also found to be "higher, higher" than the standard. With the passage of time, the meaning of "up" in Chinese and Japanese has increased, but even now, the meaning of the concept of space is still the most basic meaning and is used.

#### 2.2 "up"Represents Space

Since "upper" is a character with a stroke added on top of "-", the expression "upper" always has a quote "-". Now that we have such a comparison standard, it is more natural to analyze whether it is above or below this standard. When analyzing the usage of "shang", some researchers called "-" as "basic point", and a stroke above "-" as "carrying thing". The meaning of the name "base point" can be understood, but the name "carrying object" can be regarded as a "supporter". Tang Sengang (2006.2) explained "X on" as "an object is placed in a certain spatial range" in the paper on the directional structure of "X on". It is a comparison standard. The object above X is the object of learning, so I think it is appropriate to call the object above X the "object". I want to borrow the

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name "object" here, and call "-" "reference object", and name it a stroke above the "-" object[3].

## 2.3 "Up" Represents Time

There are time expressions such as "4 days later" and "5 days ago" in Japanese. "Before and after" was originally used to represent a space, but abstractly represents the time when a person has no entity. It borrows the specific "space" and invisible "time" that humans can perceive. Will represent. In this way, the new meaning of "time" has increased in space. In Japanese and Chinese, the term "time" is associated with "\(\pm\)". It represents a time range and will be more defined when expressing time. This means "earlier order" and "earlier time".

# 2.4 "Up" Indicates the Direction

Examples such as "legally", "formally" and "grammatically" are always found in the text. In this case, the word associated with "above" is not a specific real thing or time word, but a word with scope, and "above" itself indicates the direction in which things exist. In Japanese, I think there are many expressions that express direction. Sentence patterns such as "about", "according to...", "according to..." are expressions of this meaning. "Shang" also has this meaning[4].

Example:

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肉体上の不具者は美貌の女と同じ不敵な美しさを持っている。(『金閣寺』 589 行番)
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Physically flawed people, like beautiful women, have an unmatched beauty.

From the above research, it can be seen that the language symbol "above" has no meaning or word creation. It is performed by scholars because it is actively used in certain aspects and has special functions. Although the research that has been carried out covers many areas, there are still some areas that have not been covered yet. An example is a comparative study of "up" which represents a specific direction, but only when it is read as "up". I did not touch a specific direction called "jo". Moreover, it is related to "above" that does not represent a specific direction.

To clarify the difference between the meaning and usage of "up" in Chinese and Japanese, it seems that conducting a controlled study is an effective way to do this. In this way, the Sino-Japanese comparative study can clarify the correspondence between "up" in Chinese and Japanese, and clarify the case of translating it into "up" and not translating. This study uses a Sino-Japanese parallel corpus (Beijing Japan Research Center, 2001). Through the investigation of the Chinese and Japanese of the above example, the correspondence and non-correspondence of "above" are clarified.

The basic meaning of "above" is "higher position, higher position". Broadly speaking, it means "space", including "upper", "surface" and "inner" (Chinese only). According to the prototype theory of cognitive linguistics, "upper", "surface" and "inner" are considered to be extensions of the prototype. Then, the meaning of "above" continues to expand, borrowing a specific "space", which can be regarded as representing the invisible concept of time, namely "...time" and "...after". In addition, as the abstraction of the nouns in the previous section "\(\pexisurface\)" increases, "for..." means "\(\phi\)"[5]. By abstracting concrete concepts based on human cognition, this meaning is also considered to be an extension of concrete concepts. Therefore, it seems to be an extension of the prototype.

# 3. The Difference Between Chinese and Japanese Language Methods

### 3.1 Grammar of Differences Between Chinese and Japanese

Japanese and Chinese grammar are very different. The basic word order structure of Japanese is "SOV type", the order is subject  $\rightarrow$  object  $\rightarrow$  predicate, but Chinese and English are "SVO type", and the order is subject  $\rightarrow$  predicate  $\rightarrow$  object.

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Example:
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私はご飯を食べている。
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I'm eating.

私は図書館へ行く。

I go to the library.

In addition, not in Chinese  $\lceil \mathcal{C} \mathcal{E} \mathcal{U} \rceil$ , It is based on the word order to change the role of words and the meaning of sentences. If you pay  $\lceil \mathcal{C} \mathcal{E} \mathcal{U} \rceil$  attention to it in Japanese, you can freely adjust the word order, but Chinese attaches great importance to the word order. It is often said that the Chinese and Japanese languages are very similar, but there are big differences in grammar.

#### 3.2 The Temporal Expression of the Difference Between Chinese and Japanese

The tense of Chinese is very special, and local linguistics researchers continue to study until today. If you add "to" after the verb, it means "~した", if you add "to", it becomes "したことがある", which means that you have some experience, but "o" will also be used In the future. In addition, according to the context, "to" also means "the article ends here". If you do not follow the above-mentioned judgment order, you will often misunderstand.

Example:

わたしは Yesterday カレーライスを食べた.

I had curry rice yesterday.

わたしは明日帰国します.

I'm going back home tomorrow.

この点に关しては日本語より中国语は很に难解になっています。

On this point, Chinese is more difficult to understand than Japanese.

# 3.3 The Quantifiers and Numerals Between the Chinese and Japanese Languages

Just as "one feather, two feathers" is used in Japanese to denote the number of rabbits, Chinese also uses different numerals and quantifiers. The most commonly used is "person". Basically, as long as you use "person", you will know what it means even if you use it incorrectly. Some special quantifiers include "bars" for the number of dogs, "pairs" for shoes and socks, "bars" for things like handles like umbrellas, and "braces" for sticks[6]. Chinese is more subdivided than Japanese. There are so many types, so it's no problem to use only "one" if you can't remember.

#### 3.4 Vocabulary of Sino-Japanese Language Difference

Although there are some differences in grammar, the differences in vocabulary are even greater. In many cases, the same Chinese characters have different meanings, so be careful when traveling to China.

The following are representative Chinese and Japanese vocabulary with different meanings.

Example:

lover→wife or husband

In Japanese, "lover" usually means a mistress or a lover, but in Chinese it literally means "love する人" (the person who loves). "Lover" in Japanese is equivalent to "lover" in Chinese.

娘→Mother, married female elder

"Niang" refers to young women in Japanese, but has the opposite meaning in Chinese.

Hand towel→Toilet paper

When you want to express a letter in Chinese, you must use the Chinese character "信". Using "手纸" can easily cause misunderstandings.

#### 4.Conclusion

Through the detailed comparison of the three directions of space, time and direction, the usage of "\( \perp \)" in Chinese and Japanese is compared, but there are still some gaps. For example, in Japanese, the meaning of "above" and "... or above" of "above" are not mentioned. In Chinese and Japanese, the word "shang" behind

human nouns does not mention the use of metaphor. In addition, the Sino-Japanese bilingual corpus describes bilingual translations of a fixed number of texts, and it may not be possible to say that all usages of "\pm" are included, so in some cases other usages that do not mention "\pm" are inevitable.

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