

A Linguistic Study on the Shortening of Terms in the Japanese Language

ABSTRACT

The aim of this research is to conduct a linguistic analysis on the shortening of terms in the Japanese language. Shortening many words used in the day to day context for easy usage, is a new trend in the Japanese language. Such short words are rapidly added to the Japanese language and comprehending its meaning is a problem for students who study the Japanese language. The reason for this is that they do not possess the basic understanding of short terms or the formation. Therefore, the aim of this research is to identify the primary ways and the process in which the words are shortened. In conducting this research, the short words that appeared in the books and periodicals written for students who study Japanese as a Foreign Language were collected and compared with their basic nature and analyzed as to how they were being shortened. It was identified that, original terms (*nishpanna vachana*), borrowings and a blend of both are subjected to shortening. Furthermore, it was revealed that, within those word categories, there are several ways of shortening terms. Moreover, the special features can be seen in the words when they are transferred from the basic form to the shortened form. This dissertation sheds light on the basic knowledge on the shortening of words in the Japanese language - for the students who study Japanese as a Foreign Language, and for teachers who teach the Japanese language.

Keywords: Japanese language, Short terms

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