Comparison of Conjunctive Word Uses
between Japanese Learners and Native Japanese Students
in Contextual Reading

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Among the papers in which learners prepare their outline. 'An introduction. a main issue and a conclusion.' to express their ideas effectively. I have had the impression that some papers have no coherence in them. One of the reasons was wrong selections of conjunctive words. These selections included improper use of conjunctions, demonstrative words, transitional words and so on.

In this paper, I aim to survey and analyze conjunctive words that learners use to keep coherence in contextual reading. I also aim to compare the uses of Japanese learners writing style with those of native Japanese. After that, I wish to grasp their similarities and differences. The similarities and differences of the two will be useful in teaching ways of composition and reading for Japanese learners.

Secondly, I will explain about subjects, material, and methods used on this survey. The subjects were 28 Japanese learning students (12-Korean, 8-Chinese, 8-Non Kanji Bloc) and 29 native Japanese students. The material used in this survey was Japanese discourse in which its structure was deductive. I set two tasks for the survey discourse paper. Task 1 was to fill in appropriate conjunctive words in four blanks, and task 2 was to show separation of paragraphs, by drawing lines on the context.

The following show the results & analysis.

<u>About the results of task 1:</u>

(1)Native Japanese and learners showed similar tendency in the responses, but they showed differences of meaning and function in the subdivision of its conjunctive relation type. In this case, these differences were in constrasting type and additional type.

(2)Each contextual reading influenced the selection of different words on subdivision. The same was proved about the selection in predicate modifier or conjunctions.

(3)Korean learners showed more responses of the modifier 'aru ~' and

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non-conjunction use type than other learners. Chinese learnes showed
similar tendency in the grasp of context, to native Japaneses.

About the result of task 2:

Structual patterns of this discourse and meanings and functions of
conjunctives were influential to grasp paragraph in Japanese discourse.

At the end, I will mention about products & problems undone.

On the above mentioned results, I have watched differences and fea-
tures between learners and Japaneses students. These products are use-
ful for the learners to understand meanings and functions of conjunctive
words and to use them in their papers to keep coherence on context.

Improvement should be made in the following areas:

(1)varieties of the types of discourse and conjunctive relations.

(2)Number of the subjects.

(3)Authenticity of the learners composition.

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