

## A Study of Conditional in Japanese and Korean

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This paper discusses a basis for the selection of conditional suffixes in Japanese and Korean.

First of all, I will show how the basis for a selection of conditional suffixes ("the basis" later) is different in Japanese and Korean. Next I will propose how the Japanese teacher should explain the difference of "the basis" to the Korean student.

Japanese has two types of conditional, the hypothetical and the time-sequence. In the hypothetical conditional, it is very important that the protasis and apodosis relate semantically. This is "the basis" of TO, BA, TARA, and NARA. In the time-sequence conditional, on the other hand, the relation between protasis and apodosis is not "the basis".

For the hypothetical conditional in Korean, it is possible to use only one suffix, 'mjɔn'. It shows that the hypothetical character is "the basis" in the hypothetical conditional in Korean. Therefore, when Korean study Japanese, they have to choose between TO, BA, TARA, and NARA in Japanese. In Korean, however, we Japanese do not have to worry about which suffix to use. In the time-sequence conditional of Korean, "the basis" is also determined by the time-relation, however, its distinction is very strict.

The distinction is subjectivity. It reflects a speaker's cognition of the time-relation. The cognition of the time relation of the protasis and apodosis has three prototypes, completional, consecutive and overlap. In the completional time-sequence conditional of Korean, 'ni' and 'ɔni' are the most used suffixes. The 'ɔni' expresses the completion stronger than 'ni'. In the consecutive conditional, 'ɽa' is the most used

'ni'. In the consecutive conditional, 'tja' is the most used suffix. And when apodosis overlaps with protasis, 'laga' and 'tjani' are selected.

These facts show that "the basis" of the time-sequence conditional in Korean is very strict and complex compared to Japanese. The difference of "the basis" in Japanese and Korean will be an influence when a Korean studies the Japanese conditional, especially, the hypothetical conditional, because the student has to choose TO, BA, TARA, and NARA according to "the basis", which in Japanese is different from the Korean.

Therefore, it is important to make the student conscious of the difference through inductive or deductive explanation. For the inductive explanation, the teacher should indicate a typical conditional sentences of TO, BA, TARA, and NARA for the student's understanding of "the basis", to help the student avoid confusion. The deductive explanation is effective when the Korean student does not have any knowledge of the difference between "the basis" in Japanese and Korean, or can not understand it by the inductive explanation.

In the time-sequence conditional, also, the difference of "the basis" should be explained to the student. In Japanese, the time-sequence character is "the basis" and it is not necessary to categorize it.

The Korean students has a tendency to use what we call 'TE-form', sometimes in the time-sequence conditional, sometimes it is gramatical, and sometimes it is ungramatical. Korean has two suffixes 'ko' and 'a/ɔsɔ' which usage is similar to the Japanese 'TE-form'. However, the usage is more extensive than the Japanese 'TE-form'. Therefore, the teacher should be careful of the student's unnatural 'TE-form' in the time-sequence conditional.

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