A Study in Korean Learners of Japanese of Self-disclosure on First-acquaintance with Strangers

JEON Jong-mi

The purpose of this study is to know the features of self-disclosure between Japanese Native Speakers and Korean learners of Japanese on first-acquaintance with strangers. Data for analysis are 30-minute conversations recorded and 15-minute follow-up interviews. The subjects were Japanese Native Speakers (JJ), Korean Native Speakers(KK) , Japanese Native Speakers(JJk) and Korean Advanced Learners of Japanese(KJ).

The findings in this study are follows:

1. In the case of native situations, KK tend to do more self-disclosure than JJ to strangers. Both JJ and KK did self-disclosure related to student life.

2. In the case of contact situations, KJ tend to do more self-disclosure to JJk compared with JJk to KJ. All of the JJk and KJ did self-disclosure related to "occupation". And they tend to do self-disclosure related to "name" "school year". One specific thing about the self-disclosure of KJ is that it is mostly about "exchange studies".

3. In contact situations, JJk were responsible for leading conversations. However, self-disclosure of KJ has different features than does that of JJ. I compared the self-disclosure between KK and KJ to investigate the possible reasons. First, the

contents and expressions of JJ's and JJk's self-disclosure is more limited than KK's and KJ's. Second, in the case of the self-disclosure on first-acquaintance, JJ tend to not to talk about their own personal stories. On the other hand, KK and KJ often easily begin by talking about themselves, even at the first-acquaintance. It is proved that, the difference between the JJ's and KK's self-disclosure is due to the different socio-cultural norms and behavior patterns of the two countries. With the similarity of self-disclosure between KK and KJ, It is thought that KJ do self-disclosure which is based on Korean socio-cultural norms and behavior patterns.

(Graduate School of Languages and Cultures, Nagoya University)