Abstract

The main purpose of the thesis entitled "Usage and Meaning of 'kara' and 'kedo' at the end of the sentence" is as follows

1) To study the usage and meaning of 'kara' at the end of the sentence

2) To study the usage and meaning of 'kedo' at the end of the sentence

3) To compare the usage and meaning of both 'kara' and 'kedo' at the end of the sentence from the perspective of "Speech act," which is considered as the use of speech to motivate action, in order to analyze at which level of speech act such sentences can work (locutionary act, illocutionary act, perlocutionary act). Analyzing their meanings and how they are presented (representative, directive, commissive, expressive, declaration) would also be a part of the research.

In conducting the research, conversations of males and females at work recorded on cd-rom, produced by the Institute of Contemporary Japanese Language and attached in the published books named 'Conversation of females at work' launched in 1999 and 'Conversation of males at work' launched in 2002 would be used as tools.

Findings were as follows: from the perspective of "Speech act," the sentences which use 'kara' and 'kedo' at the end can be frequently found at the level of 'locutionary act', 'illocutionary act (indirect)' and 'illocutionary act (direct)' respectively. However, the levels of 'perlocutionary act' are not found in either sentences with 'kara' or 'kedo' at the end of the sentence. From the perspective of the meaning of the "Speech act", sentences with 'kara' at the end of the sentence are mostly found in the meaning categories of 'representative', 'expressive' and 'directive' respectively. Sentences with 'kedo' at the end are mostly found in 'representative', 'directive' and 'expressive' respectively. However, sentences with meanings of 'commissive' and 'declaration' are not found in either sentences with 'kara' or 'kedo' at the end of the sentence.

Comparing the usage and meaning of 'kara' and 'kedo' at the end of the sentence shows the following results. 'Kara' and 'kedo' used in the meaning of 'saying' are mostly found. The latter are 'showing expression'. In the case of 'illocutionary act

(direct)' in 'directive', the 'kara' and 'kedo' sentences are both found in the meaning category of 'questioning'. But the meaning of 'commanding or ordering' is only found in 'kara' sentences. Meanwhile, the meaning of 'asking for comment', 'requesting' and 'suggesting' is only found in 'kedo' sentences. In the case of 'illocutionary act (indirect)' in 'directive', both 'kara' and 'kedo' sentences are used as the meaning of 'suggesting', 'requesting', 'asking for confirmation' and 'inviting'. But the differences are that 'suggesting' and 'inviting' sentences use 'kara' more than 'kedo' while 'requesting' sentences use 'kedo' more than 'kara'. Moreover, sentences which have the meaning of 'commanding or ordering' and 'warning' are only found in 'kara' sentences while the sentences which have the meaning of 'questioning', 'asking for decision', 'asking for comment', 'asking for permit', 'giving permit' and 'opening new topic' are only found in 'kedo' sentences.