

Abstract

The main purpose of the thesis entitled “The meaning and usage of ‘shika, dake and bakari’ to indicate a limit : A comparative study between the Japanese and Thai languages” is to study and compare the usages and meanings of shika, dake and bakari and “khê” “phiaᅇ” and “Verb + t̄” in Thai. (These words can be compared to the word “only” in English.)

The findings were as follows; shika, dake and bakari share the same meaning and usage as words used to indicate a limit of a word or phrase. The differences are that the word shika is used to imply the speaker’s expectation while bakari is used to emphasize frequency.

The Thai words “khê” “phiaᅇ” and “Verb + t̄” also have the same meaning, as words used to indicate a limit of a word or phrase. However, these words do not imply or emphasize expectation or frequency as in Japanese.

To compare shika, dake and bakari to “khê” “phiaᅇ” and “Verb + t̄”, shika, dake and bakari can convey the same meanings as “khê” “phiaᅇ” and “Verb + t̄”. However, the selection of words depends on context and appropriateness.