

Introduction

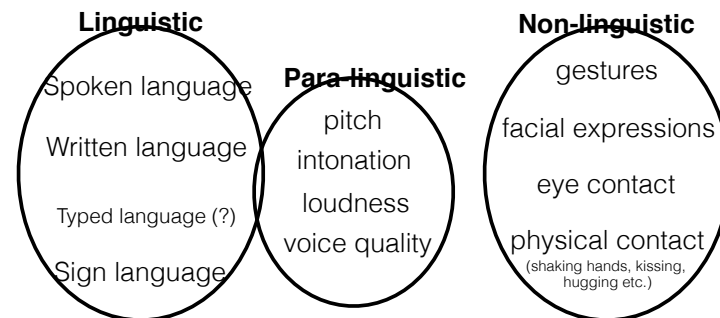
Japanese Culture and Communication II
Fall 2015

Menu

- Diversity of communication modes
- About this course

Different ways of communication

Different ways of communication



Spoken language

- impromptu (not carefully planned)
 - hesitation, silence, and overlap are common
- situational
 - deixis (e.g. this, that / これ, それ, あれ)
- interpersonal
 - -ね, -よ, -でしょ, -じゃん, etc. / politeness

Written language

- Written language is taken for granted today, but this is a recent phenomenon.
- Writing is common only in a stable society with an educational system. The majority of the world's languages are almost never written.
- Sometimes it is invented on purpose (e.g. Hangul)

Typed language?

- 「打ちことば」

Sign language

- Sign languages are natural languages, just like spoken languages.
 - They were *not* invented to help deaf people (unlike Braille, which was invented to help blind people), but emerged naturally in deaf communities
 - The grammar of the Japanese Sign Language is not related to Japanese.
- Nicaraguan Sign Language
- <http://www.amara.org/ja/videos/GqNLd83HZO8u/info/the-birth-of-new-sign-language-in-nicaragua/>

Sign language

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pjtiIFuNf8>

Para-language

- Pitch
- Intonation
- Loudness
- Voice quality
- etc.

Non-linguistic communication modes

- Gestures
- Facial expressions
- Eye contacts
- Physical interactions

Cultural differences in gestures

- Pointing yourself
- "Come here"
- Money
- Peace sign
- Quote
- Bowing

7%-38%-55% Rule?

- Shares of words, tone of voice, and non-verbal cues (Mehrabian 1963, 1967)
 - words - 7%
 - tone of voice - 38%
 - non-verbal (facial expressions etc.) - 55%
- Note that it is only about when people are asked to judge the speaker's attitude (e.g. *like vs. dislike*).

Typical and atypical communication situations

	impromptu?	para-linguistic cues available?	non-linguistic cues available?	situational?	interactive?
conversation in person	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
phone					
text					
TV					
letter					
book					

Typical and atypical communication situations

	impromptu?	para-linguistic cues available?	non-linguistic cues available?	situational?	interactive?
conversation in person	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
phone	✓	✓	—	?	✓
text	✓	—	—	?	✓
TV	?	✓	✓	?	—
letter	—	—	—	—	✓
book	—	—	—	—	—

About this course

About me

- Yoshihiko Asao
 - Linguistics
 - Especially interested in how word frequency interacts with our linguistic knowledge.
 - Kyoto Univ. → University at Buffalo
 - International Student Advisor at the School of Letters

Course outline

- Two main topics
 - Sociolinguistic topics of Japanese
 - Diversity of languages in Japan
- There will be two guest lectures

Course material

- There is no textbook for this course.
 - Slides will be uploaded to the website after class
 - Relevant readings may be introduced in class

Grading

- **Attendance and participation** - You are expected to actively participate in class discussions. At the end of each class, you will be asked to write a short reaction paper.
- **Quizzes** - There will be ~~three~~ **two** quizzes, which will ask your understanding of key facts and concepts in class.
- **Final essay** - Discuss a topic of your choice. More information will be announced later.

Notes

- This course is not a practical language course. It is not about how to communicate better in Japan, at least in a direct manner.

Guest Lecture #1

Daisuke YOKOMORI (Kyushu Univ.)

Repetitions and information receiving in conversation

Room 307

Humanities Integrated, Nagoya Univ.

Oct 26, 2015 10:30-12:00

Contact:

Yoshihiko Asao (School of Letters, Nagoya Univ.)

asao@lit.nagoya-u.ac.jp

Reaction paper

- Your name, school, year, student ID, and major (if any)
- Your native language and the language(s) you learned
- What you expect for this course