

Reaction paper from last week

Tok Pisin	English
mausgras	moustache
gras bilong fes	beard
gras bilong hed	hair
pisin	bird
han	hand
han bilong pisin	wing
gras bilong pisin	feather
bilong	of

Standard Languages

National and official language

A *national language* is the language of a political, cultural and social unit. Each country typically (but not always) has the unique national language.

An *official language* is a language for government business. Some countries recognize multiple official languages.

What are the official languages in those countries?

France	French
Switzerland	German, French, Italian and Romansh
Brazil	Portuguese
Canada	English and French
Indonesia	Indonesian
Phillipines	Filipino and English
India	a lot (24 languages)

What is the official language of Japan?

There is no law or regulation. (exception: Article 74 of the Court Act states Japanese must be used in the court.)

Japanese is just the *de facto* standard.

Four steps in establishing an official language

Selection: Choosing the variety or code to be developed. (Status planning)

Codification: Standardizing its linguistic features.
Elaboration: Extending its functions for use in new domains. (Corpus planning)

Securing its acceptance: Enhancing its prestige through education etc. (Acquisition planning)

Dialects

Regional and social dialects

- *Regional dialects*: Dialects defined by geographic areas.

Social dialects: Dialects defined by non-geographic factors, such as social class and profession.

Today we will focus on regional dialects.

Distinction b/w language and dialect

Linguists often use the criterion of *mutual intelligibility*: if two people understand each other, they are speaking the same language.

cf. *dialect continuum*

But in reality it depends on political and other factors.

"A language is a dialect with an army and navy"

Distinction b/w language and dialect

Pairs of varieties that are very similar, but given different language names

Serbian and Croatian / Hindi and Urdu

Pairs of varieties that are mutually unintelligible, but often regarded as "dialects"

Mandarin and Cantonese / Japanese and Ryukyuan

Isogloss

A geographical border of a linguistic feature is called *isogloss*.

Kindaichi word class

あね (older sister), かぜ (wind), うし (cow), あめ (candy), ほし (star), はな (nose), みず (water), はし (edge)

かわ (river), うた (song), いし (stone), かみ (paper), きた (north), ふゆ (winter), まち (town), ゆき (snow), はし (bridge)

あし (foot), いえ (house), いぬ (dog), かみ (god), こめ (rice), やま (mountain), はな (flower), みみ (ear)

いと (string), そら (sky), きょう (today), なに (what), うみ (sea), いき (breath), たね (seed), はし (chopsticks)

あき (fall), あめ (rain), さる (monkey), こえ (voice), はる (spring), まど (window), まえ (front), あせ (sweat)

Difference in intonation

	wh question ("Who came?")	yes/no question ("Did John come?")
Tokyo	Rising	Rising
Fukuoka	Rising	Falling
Matsumoto and Hiroshima	Falling	Rising
Kagoshima	Falling	Falling
(English)	Falling	Rising

Dialects

Differences between dialects are most often noted in vocabulary and in accent, but they differ in grammar, and even in the way people speak

progressive/resultative distinction in western dialects

	Tokyo	Western dialects (e.g. Hiroshima)
<i>Flower is falling</i> (progressive)	花が散ってる <i>Hana-ga chitteru</i>	花が散りよる <i>Hana-ga chiriyoru</i>
<i>Flower has fallen</i> (resultative)	花が散ってる <i>Hana-ga chitteru</i>	花が散るとる <i>Hana-ga chittoru</i>

Reaction paper

Ask questions to your classmates and find differences in words between dialects. Try both English and Japanese.

Examples (But: I encourage you to find words not in the list here)

Japanese: *throw away, very, stye, bicycle, break* (between classes in school), *driving school* etc.

English: *eggplant, sidewalk, expressway, driver's license, French fries, zip code, "for here or to go",* etc.