〔研究ノート〕

A Study on the Kango Usage by L1 Chinese Learners of Japanese:
A Comparison with Japanese Blogs

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Summary

Analyzing the L2 Japanese essay corpus, this study examined how L1 Chinese learners of Japanese use Japanese *kango* (Sino-Japanese words that originated in Chinese) in their essays. The analytical focus was put on the relationship between the learners' L2 Japanese learning stages (i.e., the length of Japanese learning) and their usage of Japanese *kango*. The quantitative analysis showed that the learners come to use a broader range of *kango* as they learn Japanese for a longer period, but they do not necessarily come to use more *kango*. In addition, it was shown that the qualitative nature of the *kango* adopted in the essays remained largely the same in spite of the difference in the learning stages. This study also proved that the learners use a quite smaller quantity of *kango* in comparison to Japanese native speakers.

Key words : corpus, kango, L1 Chinese Learners of Japanese, longitudinal study