Comparative Analysis on the Expression of Upward Displacement between Chinese and Japanese Compound Verbs: Taking the "-ageru" and "-shang" as a Research Objection

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Japanese compound verb "-ageru" and Chinese compound verb "-shang" both are able to express the meaning of the spatial upward displacement, but there is big difference on the meaning extension between them. This paper emphasizes on analyzing their relevance between basic meaning (the spatial upward displacement) and expansion meaning, and analyzing their differences from the semantics perspective. They will be classified firstly according to the particular meanings expressed in the various usage scenarios (based on specific practical examples), and then studies their significant features expressed in the specific sample sentences, such as, the coincidence of specific components, etc., comparative analysis on their process of semantic grammaticalization between the two languages.

Their similarities: (i) Have the same basic meaning, both are able to express the meaning of spatial upward displacement. (ii)Both are able to express meaning of the completion of action. (iii)On the meaning extension, both are able to express the aspect of action.

Their differences: (i) On the meaning of "completion of action", "-ageru" simply express the meaning of the completion of action, have no meaning of the result of action. "-shang" emphasizes on expressing the good result or state after the completion of action. (ii) On the expansion meaning, both are able to express the meaning of "aspect of action". But "-ageru" only express the meaning of "completion of action", while "-shang" besides express the meaning of the completion of action, it also can express the start of action or state. (iii) Regarding it as a whole, "-ageru" has a broader scope than "-shang" on the expansion meaning. (iv) The expansion meaning of "-ageru" is space-related, its expansion meanings are derived from the spatial relationships. While the expansion meaning of "~shang" have a close relation with the space and internal time relationship of the action, its meanings are commonly derived from the space and the internal time relationship of action.