

[論文要旨]

Epistemology of Space and Time Analysis of Conceptual Metaphors in English and Japanese

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This thesis analyzes English and Japanese conceptual and linguistic organizations of time metaphors on the basis of George Lakoff's theory of metaphor. In particular, it analyzes the conceptual metaphor in which concepts of spatial motion are mapped onto those of passing of time, whereby a revision of Lakoff's Invariance Principle is proposed. In the latest version of the Invariance Principle, the image-schematic structures of the source domain are said to be preserved in metaphorical mappings, but with the restriction by the target domain structures in a way that the target domain structures are not violated by the mappings. This thesis claims that the target domain override in this principle should be separated as an independent constraint on the mappings of the source domain structures other than image schemata. Thus, the Invariance Principle should consist of two parts: the preservation of the image-schematic structures of the source domain, and the target domain override as a constraint on other structures of the source domain. This proposal of revision is argued from two points: (1) it is theoretically implausible to allow image schemata to be deformed by metaphorical mappings, because the experientialist philosophy, on which this theory of metaphor is based, claims that the image-schematic structures permeate through our mental structure, (2) the detailed analysis of the TIME AS MOTION metaphor in English and Japanese shows that the partial mappings seen in this metaphor are consistently explained in our frame, which defines the image schema narrowly enough and separates it from broader schematic structures of the domain of motion (the Motion Event Frame), and that the differences between English and Japanese appear only outside the image-schematic mappings. The proposed revision is consistent both theoretically and empirically.

It is also clarified that English and Japanese share at least five constraints on the mappings from motion to time: the Front-Back constraint, the Straight Path constraint, the inseparability of time and path, the restriction on Manner information, and the exclusion of Cause, Circumstance, and Resultant State. The major difference between English and Japanese is found in the restriction on Manner information, which is explained in terms of lexico-semantic differences between these languages.

It is further suggested by these findings that the borderline between the universal and the language-specific parts of the concept of time must be drawn somewhere outside the image-schematic mappings.