

## 論文の英文要旨

論文題目	A Study of Transitive Sentences with Inanimate Subjects in Modern Japanese Written Language
氏名	CHE LUMING

The aim of this study is to typify transitive sentences with inanimate subjects in modern Japanese written language from clarifying the contents of the sentences.

The conventional perspectives have provided two main directions to construe the transitive sentences with inanimate subjects. One is to discuss the reasons for the appearance of inanimate subjects, and the other is to discuss the semantic characteristics. Although they have explained the formation of the transitive sentences to some extent, there are still some unresolved issues. For example, criteria for classification are ambiguous. It is hard to say that the meanings expressed by the sentences, the type of it and the reasons for the appearance of inanimate subjects have been stated clearly.

This paper will thus attempt a comprehensive study of the transitive sentences with inanimate subjects. At that time, not only the characteristics of the subjects but also the characteristics of the objects and the predicates will be considered. Then, the paper will consider the parts that have not received much attention in the previous researches, for example, the case which the subject works as a cause, and the case which the subject and the object have a positional relationship. In addition, this paper also tries to clarify the principle of classification. There are two main directions when the transitive sentences with inanimate subjects are established. One is that the inanimate object is similar in a person as it has some properties, and there is an action from subject to object. The other is that although it is in the form of a transitive sentence in appearance, there is virtually no action from the subject to the object, and it is semantically closer to an intransitive sentence. According to this principle, the transitive sentences with inanimate subjects can be divided into the following five types.

- The type which the subject is similar in a person
- The type that is an expression of person's action or emotion in fact
- The type which the subject is the cause of an event
- The type which a transitive sentence corresponds to an intransitive sentence
- The type which the transitive verb is a lexical passive verb, and others

This classification can cover all the cases where the transitive sentences with inanimate subjects appeared.

This paper consists of three sections, Introduction (Part I), Main Discussion (Part II) and Conclusion (Part III). Part I consists of Chapters 1 and 2. Part II consists of Chapters 3 to 8, and Part III corresponds to Chapter 9.

**Chapter 1** shows the purpose and the subject of this study and the detailed corpus data which was used for analyzing.

**Chapter 2** provides an overview of previous researches relating to the transitive sentences with inanimate subjects, points out the problems of these previous researches, and then presents the stance of this paper.

**Chapter 3** is a pandect of this paper. This chapter describes the peculiarities of the transitive sentences with inanimate subjects in Japanese and the procedure for classification.

Chapters 4 to 8 examine each type, focusing on the reasons why the inanimate objects can appear as the subjects, the situations expressed by the transitive sentences, and the grammatical meaning of the subjects.

**Chapter 4** explores 'The type which the subject is similar in a person' and divides the nouns that appeared in the subjects into four categories, 'natural phenomenon', 'semi-natural phenomenon', 'organization / institution' and 'vehicle / machine'. For example: 'The setting sun dyed the town orange.' Although these inanimate objects are not person, they have some properties like persons. That is, they have some power in themselves and can move by themselves without being influenced by others. And they also can influence others by their original properties. This type expresses the inanimate objects' movements and actions on others.

**Chapter 5** explores 'The type that is an expression of person's action or emotion in fact' and divides the nouns that appeared in the subjects into four categories, 'body parts', 'some sides of a person', 'tools' and 'emotions / sensations'. For example: 'Toshiharu's index finger pressed the radial button.' In this type, there is a person behind who controls the inanimate object in fact. Although the movement is effectively realized through the person, the person is not syntactically placed in the position of the subject, and only the one that directly caused the situation expressed as the subject. This type describes a person's movement and some psychological or physiological changes in a person.

**Chapter 6** explores 'The type which the subject is the cause of an event', defines the criteria for determining 'the cause subject', and then divides the nouns that appeared in the subjects into three categories, 'events', 'concrete things and their natures' and 'time / spaces'. For example: 'The advent of television has brought entertainment to the lives of dairy farmers.' This type expresses that the subject affects the object by some properties of itself, and in some cases causes some changes in the object.

**Chapter 7** explores 'The type which a transitive sentence corresponds to an intransitive sentence'. This chapter focuses on the semantic relationship between the subject and the object, and

the semantic relationship between the object and the predicate. They are divided into four types, 'positional relationship', 'whole and parts relationship', 'idiom' and 'equivalent to idiom'. For example: 'The festival has quietly ended.' This type is a depiction of the characteristics of the inanimate subject. Although it takes the form of a transitive sentence in terms of expression, it has virtually no action from the subject to the object, and it is semantically equivalent to an intransitive sentence.

**Chapter 8** explores 'The type which the transitive verb is a lexical passive verb, and others'. This chapter mainly focuses on the passive verbs 'receive' and 'bathe', considers the characteristics of the subjects and the objects and the direction of actions. For example: 'The Ogasawara Islands were attacked by US MTF.' In this type, the subject is the recipient of the action or influence, and the object is the actual agent. The direction of action is from the object to the subject.

**Chapter 9** is the conclusion. This chapter examines the relationships between each type and attempts to position the transitive sentences with inanimate subjects in modern Japanese written verb sentences. Finally, this chapter will summarize a conclusion of this study and show remaining questions for future studies.