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Representation of Emotion in Conceptual Metaphor With Food Lexicon in Japanese Language

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ABSTRACT

Human communication has linguistic variations. One of which is at the semantic level. Humans may produce meanings to express emotions. Besides denotative, connotative meaning is often present formed through metaphor. Metaphors are human creativity result based on cognitive processes adapted from sensory receptive results and meaning comparisons determined by surrounding objects. Food, one of the most familiar objects, can be a symbol of expression of an emotion. However, if a metaphor is not equipped with knowledge of meaning, then its delivery will not succeed. Therefore, this study is aimed to answer the problems of what Japanese metaphors related to food are found and how conceptual metaphors with food lexicon are formed. The primary data sources were the Weblio corpus and songs in Japanese. Secondary data sources were literatures supporting this study, namely the book 180 Common Native Japanese Figures of Speech in Regular Conversation from Sei (2018) and the Shin Meikai Kokugo Jiten Japanese dictionary. The data were collected through listening and documentation methods with note-taking technique. This study applied the metaphor identification theory of Knowles and Moon (2006) and the conceptual metaphor theory by Lakoff and Johnson (1980). The data collected were determined by vehicle, topic/tenor, and grounds to be further analyzed. Data analysis was conducted by descriptive-qualitative method. The results show that conceptual metaphors with the food lexicon in Japanese express the emotions of love, sadness, and fear. The representation of emotions in food is useful for providing easy understanding with everyday objects.

Keywords: Conceptual metaphor, Cognitive semantics, Japanese language

1. Introduction

Every language has their own uniqueness. That uniqueness can be seen from the pronouncation, grammatical structure, or the meaning of the language. Japanese idioms are the one of evidence of that uniqueness in language. Idiom in Japanese called *kanyouku* (慣用句) (Gapur et al., 2019). *Kanyouku* is a combination of words with different lexical meaning (Sutedi, 2011). Throught of that definition, can be understood that *kanyouku* has denotative and connotative meaning. Denotative refers to the lexical meaning (Parera, 2004). Whereas connotative is the hidden meaning that contains additional emotions, feelings, certain values, and certain varying stimulus (Parera, 2004). This made Japanese's learners have to know about idiom because of the difference meaning between lexical and connotative. Furthermore, Inoue states that *kanyouku* consist of five types based on its meaning (Inoue, 1992). There are 1. 感覚、感情を表す慣用句 (*kankaku, kanjou wo arawasu kanyouku*) or idioms that show meaning related to emotions; 2. 体、性格、態度を表す慣用句 (*karada, seikaku, taido wo arawasu kannyouku*) or idioms that show meaning related to human body, attitude, and nature 3. 好意、動作、行動を表す慣用句 (*koui, dousa, kodou wo arawasu kanyouku*) or idioms that show eating is related to human actions, movements, and activities；4. 状態、程度、価値を表

す慣用句 (*joutai, teido, kachi wo arawasu kanyouku*) or idioms that show meaning related to the situation, level or value of things or work, and ; 5. 社会、文化、生活を表す慣用句 (*shakai, bunka, seikatsu wo arawasu kanyouku*) or idiom that has meaning related to society, culture, and life.

Kovesces states that most of idioms are not just language, but also the results of human conceptual systems (Kovesces, 2010). In other word, it can be said that idioms are the result of human thought using objects around them as references. Idioms can be done with cognitive mechanisms, one of which is a metaphor. Metaphor is a real essence of shifting meaning that serves human thoughts and feelings (Parera, 2004). Keraf also states that metaphor is something same but not same (Keraf, 2010). In other words, metaphor is an arrangement of words that come from human's thought and have different meaning from its lexical meaning.

Kanyouku consists of five types, one of them is idiom that related to human's emotions. Continuing with the types, and considering the fact that idioms are also related to human concepts, which is can be seen from metaphor, the research about idiom with conceptual metaphor is interesting to research. In this case, the reference that used is food. Food is the primary need for human. In Japanese, there are metaphors that use food lexicons and produce meanings related to emotions.

Based on the background above, this study aims to identify the Japanese conceptual metaphor using food lexicons that conveys emotion and to analyze the creation of the conceptual metaphors with food lexicons. Study about conceptual metaphor is relevant to be done as human communication develops regularly upon human creativity. Therefore, in order to provide broaden knowledge regarding conceptual metaphors, particularly those in Japanese language, this study is conducted.

2. Methodology

The data of this study were qualitative sourced primarily from songs in Japanese that contain conceptual metaphor related to food metaphor. Song is an artistic expression that can have figurative language like metaphors to deliver messages. Song commonly produces unique figurative language as it depends on the inspiration of the songwriter. Therefore, in order to find new conceptual metaphor related to food and emotion, Japanese songs were used. The secondary data sources in this study were the book 180 Common Native Japanese Figures of Speech in Regular Conversation from Sei (2018) and the *Shin Meikai Kokugo Jiten* Japanese dictionary (Yamada, 2011). These sources were helpful in supporting the study in terms of providing meaning.

The documentation and listening methods were used in collecting the data. Documentation method was used to collect the data through the lyrics of the songs and the metaphors from the book of Japanese figures of speech, while the listening method was used to listen attentively from Japanese songs that contain conceptual metaphors with food lexicon. Note-taking technique was applied to highlight and list the terms found.

The data found were in descriptive form and the collected data were analyzed using the descriptive qualitative method. The method of descriptive qualitative was used to explain the data by metaphorical theory. This method was used to describe and connect the phenomena that occur to the theory used. First, the data found were identified the metaphorical aspect from theory of metaphor identification by Knowles and Moon (2006). This theory identified the metaphors found from three elements, namely vehicle, topic/tenor, and grounding (Knowles & Moon, 2006). Second, the data were analyzed using conceptual metaphor theory by Lakoff and Johnson (1980). This theory divided conceptual metaphor into three types. They are structural metaphor, orientational metaphor, and ontological metaphor (Lakoff & Johnson, 1980).

The data analysis was presented through informal method using words. The structure of the analysis consisted of the data, the metaphor identification, and the type of conceptual metaphor occurred.

3. Result and Analysis

Conceptual metaphor with food lexicons in Japanese language conveys four kinds of emotion. They are sadness, love, and fear. The metaphors are related to the lexicons of food in general and specific names of food in Japanese. The foods represent emotion that humans feel. The analysis of each emotion depicted from the metaphors can be seen below.

3.1. Sad Emotion

The sad emotion is shown by the metaphor in the sentence below.

胸に残り離れない苦いレモンのにおい。

(Kenshi Yonezu-Lemon, 01:14-01:16)

Mune ni nokori hanarenai nigai remon no nioi.

The metaphor means that inside my chest, the bitter lemon smell has never left. It is taken from a song entitled Lemon sung by Kenshi Yonezu. The song tells about the sense of sorrow and loss of a precious partner.

The vehicle of this metaphor is 胸に残り離れない苦いレモンのにおい. The topic/tenor is sadness emotion. The ground is that sadness is compared with the bitter smell of lemon that lingers in one's heart, just like a negative memory is always remembered. The food lexicon present here is the lemon.

This metaphor has two kinds of conceptual metaphors. There are orientational and ontological. The orientational metaphor is shown by the concept of chest is a container. The ontological metaphor is shown by the concept that emotion is food and the food is an entity. Therefore, the sentence above is considered as complex metaphor.

Orientational metaphor of chest is a container is shown by the lyric *mune ni* that means inside my chest. A chest is a part of human body that functions to hold many vital organs, such as lungs and heart that have systems for breathing and circulating blood. In this data, the chest is viewed as an object that can be filled with something. The objects in the chest can represent anything. Therefore, a concept to use a chest as a container is applied. It shows a spatial relation of being inside of an object. A container can be filled with water, oil, cereals, school supplies, and so on. Someone can know what is inside a container by looking at it, shaking it, or smelling it. There is a scheme of space here, which is used to a chest. As inside a chest is a heart, the use of chest is influenced by that conception that emotions come from one's heart. A chest has a context as a container for storing hearts. The heart stores various emotions that humans feel, namely sadness, joy, disappointment, love and anger (Jahja, 2015). The use of heart is meant to make the metaphor is well understood as it has the concept of feeling. Therefore, the chest is seen as a container that can contain many emotions. However, the emotion in this data exclusively is sadness.

The ontological metaphors of sadness is food and emotion is an entity are shown by *nokori hanarenai nigai remon no nioi* that means the bitter lemon smell has never left. The bitter lemon smell is correspondence with the sad emotion. A lemon tastes sour and bitter. These flavours are usually not in many people preferences. Not only the fruit, but the smell also contains bitterness. This is affected by the rind of the lemon. The concept of sad emotion is seen as the bitter smell of a stinging lemon. The rind of the lemon has a pungent, bitter smell and taste. Even after washing, the bitter smell still lingers. The smell is like a memory of bad events occurred in life. Despite wanting to be forgotten many times, the sad reality of life cannot be erased. This condition that is not easily accepted by humans causes sad emotions. Therefore, the bitter lemon smell represents sadness.

The concept of emotion is an entity is shown by the data that says bitter lemon smell has never left. As bitter lemon smell is already explained above that it represents sadness, therefore, the conceptual metaphor is emotion is an entity. Sadness is an abstract object that does not have the ability to perform actions like animate objects. However, the emotion is said to be cannot leave. The ability of leaving is possessed by human and animal. They have mind as a source of the idea of leaving. They have legs as the tools to leave from an area. Sadness does not have mind and legs. Therefore, the metaphor tries to conceptualize an emotion as an entity. As sadness cannot move, it stays consistently in one place. The meaning of this data is connotative. It means that someone always feels and remembers the sad emotion.

3.2. Emotion of Fear

The emotion of fear is shown by the data below.

彼女失恋で食事がのどを通らないんだって。

(Rei, 2018:87)

Kanojo shitsuren de shokuji ga nodo wo tooranain datte

The data means one is brokenhearted and cannot eat. The vehicle of this metaphor is 彼女失恋で食事がのどを通らないんだって. The topic/tenor is fear and worry. The ground is the fear is like a food that cannot be swallowed. The metaphor consists of a combination of the words *shokuji* 'food', nodo 'throat', and tooru 'to pass'. In this case, it is in the negative form of *tooranai* means 'cannot pass'. The metaphor *shokuji ga nodo wo toooranai* has a relationship with the meaning of metaphors in the form of ontology metaphors, orientation metaphors, and structural metaphors.

The ontological metaphor is shown by the concept emotion is food. The structural metaphor is displayed by the concept food is a moving entity. The orientational metaphor is shown by the action of swallowing that has a spatial concept of going down.

The ontological metaphor explains the concept of worry or fear as food that cannot be swallowed. Food is needed by the human body to fulfil nutrition as energy. Energy is needed by humans to be able to perform activities. If there is no food, then humans will become weak. In this case, appetite also affects humans in enjoying food. If the appetite is high, then the human mind develops the concept of hunger. But if they do not have the appetite, the concept of the human mind will not form a feeling of hunger. The feeling of appetite is

influenced by the state of human feelings. Therefore, food that cannot be swallowed properly represents excessive worry or fear. The process of eating forms a pattern of entering objects from the outside into the body. This leads to the analysis of structural metaphor. The concept of the structural metaphor is that food is a moving entity. The food is viewed as object that has the ability to pass a route, in this case is a throat. The object that has such ability is for example a human. When a human sees a dog on the street and he is afraid of the dog, he will not move. He can be in the state like paralysis. However, if a person is brave, then he will continue walking and pass the dog. This situation has the similar concept of the food that cannot pass. Therefore, the food here symbolizes the fear that makes people not do anything.

The orientational metaphor is shown by the spatial concept that a swallowed food goes down the throat. The spatial orientation of down indicates negative emotion. As Lakoff and Johnson mentioned a concept that SAD IS DOWN, any action that denotes the movement of down is considered as a negative emotion. A fear is a negative emotion. It is supported with the concept of the spatial relation of down. Furthermore, as the data said that the food cannot pass, it means that the food is not completely swallowed. As explained above that food resembles fear or worry, people who have the feelings are usually uncertain to take decision. Thus, they usually stay in one place.

3.3. Love Emotion

The love emotion is shown by the metaphor below.

咽返る魅惑のキャラメル

(Doriko-Romeo and Cinderella, 00:36-00:39)

Musekaeru Miwaku no Kyarameru

The metaphor above means the charm of caramel makes you choke and infatuated. The vehicle is 咽返る魅惑のキャラメル. The topic/tenor is love. The ground is that love can makes people infatuated just like the taste of caramel. This metaphor comes from a song entitled Romeo and Cinderella by a Japanese singer named Doriko. The song tells a tale of a female student who is in love with her partner. However, the parents of the girl does not give permission for the relationship, thus the couple should keep their relationship as a secret.

This metaphor has ontological metaphor as it compares abstract object with an entity. The caramel represents love. The caramel is a sweet treat that many people like. It is food product with brown colour made by heating sugars. The sweet flavour of the caramel makes people wants to eat it. However, if it is too sweet, then the feeling is not as pleasurable as the caramel with suitable amount of sweetness. Due to the flavour, people can reach a point in which they think one is not enough and always want more. People who want caramel in an excessive amount can form an addiction. Similar to love, love is a positive emotion that many people like to feel. Love can have happy moments that can people smile and be joyful. These reactions are similar to what the caramel can make to people. People always want more of love. People who always want love can be blinded until they only have love and their partner in their minds without realizing anything else.

This metaphor also has a structural metaphor that compares a caramel with a drug. In this data, a caramel is said to make someone choke and infatuated. These reactions are similar to what drugs can cause to people. Those who consume drugs can have the feeling like being choked when they do not consume the drugs. They can feel a difficult moment of breathing as they feel panicked in the needs for drugs. Drugs are addictive. They can make people severely be addicted. They cannot live their days without consuming drugs. They become infatuated with drugs. These characteristics of drugs are carried by the caramel in this data. Therefore, in order to understand this lyric of the song, a concept of caramel is drug can be applied.

The meaning of this data is that love is like a drug that can give bad effect. Love is an admiration feeling. People can have intense feeling for someone else. This feeling makes them always want to be close with their partner. However, love can choke people when it is too much and when it is absent. As the song tells about a secret relationship, it brings a bad effect to the couple as they cannot show the love they have. The absence of displaying love makes them suffered.

4. Conclusion

There are three emotions shown by metaphors in Japanese language. The three emotions are sadness, fear, and love. Based on the findings, conceptual metaphors in Japanese language can be created by using food lexicon. The process of creating the metaphors is to adjust the concept of emotion to the process of consuming and the characteristic of the food.

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