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Interferences Of English-Japanese Language In The Covid-19 Pandemic

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Abstract

Interference is the use of other language elements by individual bilingual languages. Several researchers have researched interference, but no one has examined the interference with Covid-19 as an object. This study describes the English language phonological, morphological, and syntactic interference to the Japanese language. This study used a qualitative descriptive research method, with data sources in vocabulary or terms during the Covid-19 pandemic. This study indicated that the phonological interference forms found are phoneme addition, phoneme insertion, and phoneme substitution, which are caused by differences in syllables. The morphological and syntax interference in the form of compound words and phrases caused by differences in the class of terms that form between the two languages.

Keywords: Covid-19; Fonology; Interference; Morphology; Syntax

1. Introduction

The existence of a foreign language is considering important by the world community. This fact can be understood because foreign languages often appear as world languages with extensive usages, such as English. Japan is a country that also has high standards in mastering English. As a country that continues to progress, of course for international relations, the people feel the importance of learning the English language. Especially in the modern era, the dissemination of information is done through the media, of course, in English. Thus, English became the first foreign language that the community needed to master.

Such a community, who speaks in two languages in language studies is called bilingualism. According to Weinreich in Achmad and Abdullah (2013: 160), bilingualism is the speaker's habit of using one language and then switch to another. Such languages are categorized into conditions of a mutual contact, while the individuals (speakers) involved in them are referred to as bilingual (Rofii, 2019).

The bilingual people's contact language triggers the occurrence of irregularities in the use of spoken or written language (Pitoyo, 2017). Communities who use two or more languages in communicating in formal and informal settings may make mistakes. The impact of using two languages in communication is called language lapses, and one language disorder that occurs in the community is called interference. Corder (1982: 99) further explained that basically, a language system that is almost the same "facilitates" the existence of negative transfers and positive transfers. If there are characteristics of the first language that are the same as the second language's characteristics, it is assumed to have a positive transfer. If there are characteristics of the first language that are the same as the second language's characteristics, it is considered to have a positive transfer. Vice versa, if there is a transfer of the first language that is different from the characteristics of the second language, it is assumed that a negative transfer occurs. This negative transfer is

guided by interference. The general public often does negative deviations in the language. So, in short, interference is the use of other language elements by bilingual individuals individually in a language (Kridalaksana, 2008: 95).

The relevant research about this study is the first by Effendy (2017) with the title "Interferensi Gramatikal Bahasa Madura ke Dalam Bahasa Indonesia". This study aims to describe Indonesian language interference with the use of the Madura language. The findings produced in this study were grammatical interference at the level of morphology and phonology. The second study by Jannah (2016) with the title "Interferensi Bahasa Indonesia Dalam Pemakaian Bahasa Inggris pada Wacana Tulis Siswa". This study aims at the factors underlying Indonesian interference in English written discourse by students of SMP I Tikung. This study's results were interference caused by two factors, namely linguistic factors, non-linguistic factors, and the forms of interference obtained in syntax, which includes the types of phrases.

In this modern era, the first language used is the respective regional language so that Japanese or the national language becomes the second language. This fact means that most people in Japan are actually bilingual or even multilingual speakers. Typically, multilingual speakers in Japan use a second or third language, English. Vocabulary or foreign terms appeared because of the limitations of words and their equivalents that are difficult to find in a language. As happened in the current pandemic, many new foreign terms have emerged. These terms are the community's response to language efforts, which result from panic amid the Covid-19 pandemic. This situation all happened because of language limitations in the region.

Therefore, this study will discuss language contact between English and Japanese in japan community who speaks English & Japanese or better known as direct language contact events that affect language users in using and determining language variations. So, this study aims to explain interference during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Weireich first used the term interference in Ohoiwutun (1966; 72) in "languages in contact" to refer to a change in the system of a language connected with the contact of the language with other language elements carried out by bilingualism. Ohoiwutun considers interference as a symptom of deviation from the linguistic norms that occur in the language use of a speaker due to the contact of the mother language and foreign language.

Interference is generally considered a speech symptom. This symptom only occurs in bilingual, and the event is regarded as a deviation. This symptom is considered something that does not need to happen because the absorption elements are already equivalent to absorbent language. Chaer and Agustina (2004: 162-165) also identified language interference into four types, namely 1) phonological interference, which occurs when speakers express words from one language by inserting language sounds from other languages; 2) morphological interference, which occurs when in the formation of words a language absorbs the affixes of other languages; 3) syntactic interference, which occurs when the structure of other languages is used in the construction of sentences of the language used; 4) semantic interference, which happens in the realm of meaning. Nevertheless, in this research, we will only discuss phonological, morphological, and syntactic interference because the object under study is in the form of vocabulary or terms that emerged during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Phonology is a process that attempts to explain morpheme or word changes based on distinguishing phonetic features (Rafael, 2019). The usual difference is phoneme removal at the beginning, middle, end, or through a process of merging, absorbing,

inserting, permutation, assimilation and dissimilation. In addition to removing phonemes, phonemes can also be added.

The morphological process proposed by Ramlan (1985: 63) is in the form of affixation, reduplication, and compounding. According to Suwito (1983: 55), morphological interference can occur if the formation of words in a language absorbs other languages' affixes. Affixes of a language are used to form words in different languages, whereas affixes are affixed morphemes in prefixes, suffixes, inserts, and combinations of affixes. In other words, affixes can occupy a position front, back, middle, and even among the basic morphemes (Ramlan, 1985: 63).

Syntactical interference occurs when one sentence structure is absorbed by another language's sentence structure (Suwito, 1996). Syntactic interference can be seen in using words, phrases, and clauses in sentences (Chaer and Leonie, 1995: 162).

2. Methods

This research was a qualitative descriptive study. Descriptive analysis is not intended to test particular hypotheses but only describe their symptoms or circumstances. The descriptive method was chosen because the research conducted aims to describe the data naturally. It is in line with Djajasudarma (1993) opinion that the descriptive method aims to make factual and accurate descriptions of the data, the nature of the data, and the relationship between the phenomena studied. The data used in this study were taken from the social media published in 2020 about coronavirus pandemic in the English-Japanese language.

At the data collection stage, it was carried out by referring to the method. This method was done by reading and understanding discourse, then proceeding with the note-taking technique by recording words, phrases, or sentences in the data source (Sudaryanto, 1993: 135). After all the data is collected, the current information is checked, then identifies the forms of interference in the data object and marks words or sentences with forms of interference. Next is the grouping of data. The selected data were grouped. Data grouping was based on forms of interference found, such as phonology, morphology, and syntax.

In the data analysis stage, the method of analysis used in this study was the distributional method (Lenci, 2008). The distributional method was used to sort data based on criteria in terms of structure. The data obtained were 24 and grouped into types of interference: morphological phonology and syntax. The data analyzed came from the corpus relating to the form of interference.

3. Result and Discussion

The discussion begins with the presentation of data that has been sorted from the corpus found. Then, they analyzed descriptively qualitatively based on the form of interference found.

3.1 Phonological Interference

As seen in Table 1 are the data that contain phonological interference analysis.

Phoneme Addition

In the Table 1 data number (1), (3), (5), (6), (9), (10), (11), (12), and (17), it can be seen that the vocal phonemes [ɯ] [+high, -low, +back, and +round] rest on the consonant inhibitory [k], fricative [s], nasal [m], and alveolar vibrations [r] which previously sounded [l]. At the end of this word, the consonants will have the addition of vowel phonemes [ɯ] after being absorbed from English.

The same thing happened with data (10) and (16), which adding phonemes [o] [-high, -low, + back, and + round] to the source language words ending in consonants [d], [t]. It preceded by previous consonant letters into the target language.

The pronunciation of [d], [t] is an alveolar plosive sound pronunciation.

Thus, the vowel at the end of a word in Japanese is needed as a supporting vowel. In Japanese, it is an open word. In the phonological system, there were additional phonemes [ɯ] and [o] at the end of words for words that absorbed into Japanese to avoid consonants' sound at the end of the word as happened, as seen in table 1.

Table 1. Phonological Interference Data

No	English Language		Japanese Language		Meaning
1.	Alcohol	[ˈælkəhɒl]	アルコール	[aɾɯkoorɯ]	Alkohol
2.	Challenge	[ˈtʃæl.ɪnd]	チャレンジ	[ʧaɾenji]	Tantangan
3.	Distance	[ˈdɪstəns]	ディスタンス	[disɯtansɯ]	Jarak
4.	Faceguard	[feɪsgɑːd]	フェースガード	[ɸeesɯgɑadoo]	Pelindung wajah
5.	Home	[hoʊm]	ホーム	[hoomɯ]	Rumah
6.	Homework	[hoʊmˌwɜrk]	ホームワーク	[hoomɯwɑakɯ]	Pekerjaan Rumah
7.	Life	[laɪf]	ライフ	[ɾaiɸɯ]	Kehidupan
8.	Lockdown	[ˈlɒkˌdaʊn]	ロックダウン	[rokkɯdɑɯn]	Bantuan
9.	Mask	[mæsk]	マスク	[mɑsɯkɯ]	Masker
10.	Outbreak	[aʊtbreɪk]	アウトブレイク	[ɑutobɯreikɯ]	Wabah
11.	Pandemic	[ˌpændəmɪk]	パンデミック	[pɑndemikkɯ]	Pandemik
12.	Social	[səʊʃl̩]	ソーシャル	[sooʃaɾɯ]	Sosial
13.	Spray	[spreɪ]	スプレー	[sɯpɯre:]	Menyemprot
14.	Stay	[steɪ]	ステイ	[sɯtei]	Tinggal
15.	Support	[səˈpɔːt]	サポート	[sɑpooto]	Bantuan
16.	Tren	[tʃ)ɹɛnd]	トレンド	[torendo]	Gaya
17.	Virus	[ˈvaɪɹəs]	ウイルス	[ɯirusɯ]	Virus

Phoneme Insertion

In Table 1 data number (8), (10), (13), and (14), it can be seen that the phoneme insertion process [ɯ] [+ high, -low, + back, and + round] occurred if it is preceded by an inhibitory consonant [b], [p], and [k] and fricative [s].

The same thing happens with data (10) and (16) phoneme insertion [o] [-high, -low, + back, and + round]. The data above is a phonological process that occurred when preceded by a dental inhibitory consonant [t].

Thus, inserting phonemes [u] and [o] occurs because Japanese is known as an open syllable system. Words adapted from English into Japanese will adjust the phonological rules in Japanese. Besides, in Japanese also do not recognize two different consonants or more directly side by side, so that the phoneme sound will be inserted between the two consonants.

Phoneme Substitution

It can be seen that the substitution in Table 1 data (1), (2), (7), and (12) showed that the lateral consonant sound [l] changes to a vibrating consonant [r]. Based on the two sounds from the data, when viewed in terms of the characteristics of the main class, such as [consonantal], [silabis], [sonorant], and [nasal], all the features are the same. The articulation area, produced in the anterior part, the top part of the oral cavity, was also the same. Consonants [r] and [l] were produced in the alveolar region. The articulation method also had several features that are shared by the two

sounds, such as [+continuity], [delayed release], [-strident], [+sound], and [-aspiration]. However, the difference is the lateral sound. In the phonological system, the Japanese language does not recognize the lateral sound [l], so that the phoneme [r] will replace the phoneme [l] in the adaptation of English.

3.2 Morphological Interference

As shown in Table 2 are the data that contain morphological interference analysis.

Table 2. Morphological Interference Data

No.	English Language	Japanese Language	Meaning
18.	Coronavirus	コロナウイルス /*koronauirusu*/	a new type of virus "Corona"
19.	Lockdown	ロックダウン /*rokkudaun*/	Closing access inside and outside
20.	Social distance	ソーシャルディスタンス /*so-sharu disutansu*/	Social restrictions by keeping a distance from others

Compound Words

It can be seen in Table 2 is a compound word, as in the data (18), (19), and (20).

In the data (18), コロナウイルス /*koronauirusu*/ 'Coronavirus' with the following explanation:

コロナ (Noun)+ウイルス(Noun) = コロナウイルス
Virus Corona

The data consists of formed from the combination of the words 「コロナ」 /*corona*/ and 「ウイルス」 /*uirusu*/, with the two-component categories (Noun + Noun), meaning endocentric with nouns modifying other nouns with the right noun as the head: ウイルス (Noun). This word means 'Coronavirus'.

In the data (19), ロックダウン /*rokkudaun*/ 'lockdown' with the following explanation:

ロック (Verb) + ダウン (Noun) = ロックダウン
Lock Down

The data was formed from the combination of the words 「ロック」 /*rokku*/ and 「ダウン」 /*daun*/, with the two component categories (Verb + Noun), meaning endocentric with nouns modifying the verb as the core: ロック (Verb). This word means 'Closing inside or outside access'.

In the data (20), ソーシャルディスタンス /*so-sharu disutansu*/ 'social distance' with the following explanation:

ソーシャル (Noun)+ ディスタンス (Noun) = ソーシャルディスタンス
Social Distance

The data was formed from the combination of the words 「ソーシャル」 /*soosharu*/ and 「ディスタンス」 」 /*disutansu*/, with the two-component categories (Noun + Noun), meaning endocentric with nouns modifying other nouns with the right noun as the head: This word means 'limiting contact with not being close to other individuals'.

3.3 Syntax Interference

As shown in Table 3 are the data that contain syntax interference analysis

Phrase

As seen in Table 3, the data is a compound word, as in the (21), (22), (23), dan (24).

In the data (21), アルコール除菌 /*arukooru jyokin*/ 'Alcohol disinfection' is a noun phrase with the following explanation:

アルコール (Noun) + 除菌 (Noun) = アルコール除菌 (Noun Phrase)
Alcohol disinfection

The data above is a phrase formed from アルコール /*arukooru*/ (Noun) as a head modified by 除菌 /*jyokin*/ (Noun) to form a noun phrase.

In the data (22), 除菌スプレー /*jyokin supure-*/ 'Disinfectant spray' is noun phrase with the following explanation:

除菌 (Noun) + スプレー (Noun) = 除菌スプレー (Noun Phrase)
Disinfectant Spray

The data above is a phrase formed from 除菌 /*jyokin*/ (Noun) as a head modified by スプレー /*supure-*/ (Noun) to form a noun phrase.

In the data (23), ステイホーム /*sutei ho-mu*/ 'stay home' is a verb phrase with the following explanation:

ステイ (Verb) + ホーム (Noun) = ステイホーム (Verb Phrase)
Stay Home

The data above is a phrase formed from ステイ /*sutei*/ (Verb) as a head modified by ホーム /*ho-mu*/ (Noun) to form a verb phrase.

In the data (24), 在宅ワーク /*zaitaku wa-ku*/ 'work from home' is a verb phrase with the following explanation:

在宅 (Verb) + ワーク (Verb) = 在宅ワーク (Verb Phrase)
From home Work

The data above is a phrase formed from 在宅 /*wa-ku*/ (Verb) as a head modified by 在宅 /*zaitaku*/ (Verb) to form a verb phrase.

Table 3. Syntax Interference Data

No.	English Language	Japanese Language
21.	Alcohol disinfection	アルコール除菌 /*arukooru jyokin*/
22.	Disinfectant spray	除菌スプレー /*jyokin supure-*/
23.	Stay home	ステイホーム /*sutei ho-mu*/
24.	Work from home	在宅ワーク /*zaitaku wa-ku*/

4. Conclusions

Based on the analysis and discussion above, conclusions can be drawn from the forms of interference from the English language to the Japanese language into phonological, morphological, and syntax. In this Pandemic situation, the factors causing English interference into Japanese include the bilingual aspect of the speaker's language and the prestige factor of English compared to other local languages in Japan. It is complicated to create a new vocabulary in an emergency, so Japanese absorb vocabulary from outside.

Phonological interference is found in the form of phoneme addition, phoneme insertion, and phoneme substitution. The addition of phonemes occurred because Japanese is an open group word. So, in the phonological system, it is necessary to add phonemes at the end of terms to avoid consonants' sounds at the end of the word, as happened in the data above. The insertion of phonemes occurred because the Japanese language does not recognize two different consonants or is more contiguous directly, so that phonemes will be inserted between the two consonants. The phoneme substitution occurred because in the Japanese phonological system does not recognize the lateral sound [l], so the phoneme [r] will replace the phoneme [l] in the adaptation of English.

Morphological and syntactical interference found in the form of compound words and phrases. Both of them occurred because of differences in the class of words. For example, in English, there is a preposition word class, whereas Japanese does not recognize this word class.

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