

CONSTRUCTION AND MEANING OF COMPOUND WORDS WITH JAPANESE LEXICON *ATAMA*

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Abstract

This research focuses in analyzing the construction and meaning of compound words formed by the Japanese lexicon *atama*. *Atama* can be translated into head, hair, leader, mind, and intelligence. The data was collected from various Japanese official news websites likes Asahi Shinbun and NHK through the observation method dan note-taking technique. The data was analyzed using the identity method. The identity method was used to analyze the construction and meaning of Japanese compound nouns by using compound theory by Booij (2007), Akimoto (2001), and Katamba (1993). The results of this research show that there are 11 compound words formed by the Japanese lexicon *atama*. It consists of two words of which *atama* appears first followed by different words. There are different types of combinations including compound nouns, adjectives, and adverbs. Based on contextual meaning, it can be divided into two categories: endocentric, exocentric, and copulative meanings. Endocentric meaning includes words *atamadekacchi*, *atamakabu*, *atamakazu*, *atamatsuki*, *atama-kin*, and *atamawari*. Exocentric meanings include the words *atamagonashi*, *atamadashi*, *atamagoshi*, and *atamauchi*. Copulative meanings include *atama-kabu*.

Keywords - *construction, meaning, compound word, Japanese*

Introduction

Compound words are words that are formed from the process of combining two or more morphemes, words, phrases, or clauses that are combined to form a single construction (Kridalaksana, 2009: 184). The process of combining the basic with the base (in the form of roots or affixed forms) to accommodate an idea that cannot be expressed in a single word. From the morphological standpoint, each language's word-formation process is distinct. By systematically expanding words, the morphological process of word-formation can generate new words (Booij, 2007).

There are many word concepts in everyday life, yet the vocabulary available is limited. As a result, the process of compounding words is a key factor in the development and enrichment of vocabulary (Chaer, 2008:209). Compounding is the most common method for creating new lexemes. It is made up of lexemes that are combined to form larger words, in which one word modifies the meaning of the other. The only task when a new compound is formed is to determine the semantic relation between the two parts. A compound of the form XY has a general semantic pattern that implies a Y has something to do with X, or vice versa, depending on the language (Booij, 2007:75).

Understanding the meaning of the word formed from the compounding process is not easy. Like compounding in other languages, compounding in Japanese has a different meaning from the meaning of the individual words or elements that make up it. In this case, the dictionary meaning of the constituent verbs does not explain the meaning of compound verbs (Sudipa, 2018:3). In addition, there are compounds where one of the constituents is the same lexeme,

but the meaning is different from one another. One of which is when formed by lexeme *atama* or head. This study analyzes the construction and meanings of Japanese compound words that formed by lexeme *atama*.

There are three types of compounds: endocentric compounds, exocentric compounds, and copulative compounds (Katamba, 1993:311). Compound with a head is called endocentric compounds. Endocentric means that the category of the whole construction is identical to that of one of its constituents. Exocentric compounds are headless compounds that are modified by the non-head element. The constituent does not have a head-modifier semantic relationship. Copulative compounds are compounds that have two words which are a couple or conjoined. Syntactically, copulative compounds are headed. But semantically the combined elements are equal status, with neither dominating the entire word.

This process of compounding words is also found in the Japanese language. Akimoto (2001) divides compounding into categories based on the type of words connected to the end: 1) *fukugou-meishi* (compound noun); 2) *fukugou-doushi* (compound verb); 3) *fukugou-keiyoushi* (compound adjective); 4) *fukugou-keiyoudoushi* (compound adjectival noun); dan 5) *fukugou-fukushi* (compound adverb).

Various studies on compound words have been carried out in the past. One of them is Rosliana (2018) who researched meanings of Japanese compound verbs with lexemes *kaesu*. *Kaesu* can form many compound verbs with different meanings. The researcher's purpose is to describe its semantic meaning of *kaesu* when combined into compound words. The data was collected from the website as well as certain online news sources. The theory used in this research was compound verbs theory by Kageyama (2012). Based on the results, there are 12 meanings found within the compound words formed by lexemes *kaesu*. There are kinds of meaning relation within parts of the compound.

Septiani (2021) has researched word formation and types of meanings expressed by English compound words. The object is taken from YouTube videos uploaded on the channel Beauty Within. The researcher collected the compound words found in the videos and categorized the data based on the problem. The theory used to analyze the data is the compounding theory compiled by various researchers. The results show that there are three types of compound words found, which is: compound nouns, compound adjectives, and compound verbs. Each type is generated from the combination of two or more different free morphemes and syntactically function as one of the word classes. The majority of compound words found in the videos are compound nouns. By its meanings, there are endocentric compound and exocentric compound. Endocentric is a type of compound whose head denotes the meaning of the compound word itself. On the other hand, an exocentric compound has meanings that are not similar to the meanings of the parts within the compound itself.

Both Rosliana and Septiani's research analyze compound words. There are various differences of previous research with this study. Rosliana only studies compound words that are classified as nouns. This research conduct analyzes compound words within various classes formed by lexemes *atama*. Septiani analyzes the meanings of endocentric and exocentric compound words in English. This study conduct analyzes the meanings of compound words in Japanese.

Methods

The method used to collect the data is the observation method with note-taking techniques (Sudaryanto, 2015). The objects of the research are compound words appearing in Japanese news official news websites likes Asahi Shinbun and NHK. Which is one of the largest Japanese

national newspaper website that is still published today. In Japanese newspapers, compound words are especially useful because they convey a lot of information in a compact expression (Hisamitsu, 2003: 550). The data of this research are in the form of sentences containing the usage of the compound word with lexeme *atama*. By using this method, sentences using compound words formed with *atama* are observed and then recorded for further analysis.

Data that has been collected is then analyzed using the distribution method, which is a method that refers to the language in question (Sudaryanto, 2015: 18). This method is with expansion techniques, namely expanding the lingual unit using certain elements. In this case, the sentences were expanded by lexeme *atama*. After the data is analyzed, next is presenting the results. By using the informal method, this article provides the results of the analysis in ordinary words (Sudaryanto, 2015).

Finding and Discussion

Based on the results, there are 11 different compound words formed by lexeme *atama* found within the data. Which are: *atama-dekkachi*; *atama-gonashi*; *atama-kabu*; *atama-kara*; *atama-kazu*; *atama-kin*; *atama-uchi*; *atama-wari*; *atama-tsuki*; *atama-dashi*; and *atama-goshi*. The results are divided into two categories, which are the types of the compound words, followed by a discussion of the meanings. The following are the results of the analysis:

By its types of class words, compound words by lexeme *atama* consist of the compound noun, compound adverbs, and compound adjective. Compound noun include *atama-kabu*, *atama-kazu*, *atama-kin*, *atama-uchi*, *atama-wari*, *atama-tsuki*, and *atama atama-dashi*. This type can be formed by noun+noun and noun+verb. Compound adverbs include *atama-gonashi*, *atama-kara*, and *atama-goshi* that formed by noun+adverb. The last is compound adjective include *atama-dekkachi* that combined noun+adjective.

By its meanings, *atama* itself has the meaning of the top parts of the body that has eyes, nose, and mouth in front of it, and the brain is housed inside. *Atama* also has the meaning of representing a person as a unit (Kindaichi, 1995:21-22). It can be translated into head, hair, leader, and mind (Matsuura, 2014). Compound words formed with lexeme *atama* consist of the endocentric, exocentric, and copulative compound. There are 6 endocentric compounds, 4 exocentric compounds, and 1 copulative compound. Each compound does not necessarily use *atama* as the head of the compound.

Endocentric compound

- (1) 毎月定額で、**頭金**なし、保険料や税金といった諸経費が「全部込み」を売りにする。
Maitsuki teigaku de, atamakin nashi, hoken-ryō ya zeikin to itta shokeihi ga `zenbu-komi' o uri ni suru.
'It is a fixed amount every month, and it sells "all-inclusive" with no **down payment** and various expenses such as insurance premiums and taxes.'

The word *atama-kin* is formed from two elements *atama* (noun) and *kin* (noun). *Kin* can be translated into 'money'. By combined with *atama*, the compound word *atama-kin* can be classified as a compound noun. It has the meaning 'money that should be paid in advance of contract'. Semantically, the word *atama-kin* has *atama* as the modifier and *kin* as the head. Thus, classified as an endocentric compound.

- (2) その結果、ペルーやウズベキスタン、インド、バングラデシュ、ラオス、ポーランドなど出国が難しかった国々から計 6400 人の邦人が帰国したという。費用は自己負担で、搭乗者で**頭割り**にしているという。

Sono kekka, perū ya Uzubekisutan, Indo, Banguradeshu, Raosu, pōrando nado shukkoku ga muzukashikatta kuniguni kara kei 6400-ri no hōjin ga kikoku shita to iu. Hiyō wa jiko futan de, tōjō-sha de atamawari ni shite iru to iu.

‘As a result, a total of 6,400 Japanese have returned from countries that were difficult to leave, such as Peru, Uzbekistan, India, Bangladesh, Laos, and Poland. It is said that the cost is paid and **split** by the passengers.’

The word *atama-wari* is a compound word. The morphological process of *atama-wari* is *atama* (noun) combined with *wari* (verbs). *Wari* is derived from the verb *waru* that has the meaning ‘splitting something’. By combining both words, *atama-wari* is a compound noun that has the meaning ‘splitting something per-head or per-person. In this context, splitting the cost of the plane ticket. The lexemes *wari* acts as the head, while *atama* acts as a modifier.

- (3) 数え切れないほどの人生相談を通して色恋沙汰や人の煩惱と向き合った瀬戸内さんは、時にはものすごく突き放すようなこともありましたが、**頭でっかち**の上から目線というよりは、同じ目線の高さの「情ある人」でした。

Kazoekirenai hodo no jinsei sōdan o tōshite irokoi sata ya hito no bon'nō to mukiatta Setouchi-san wa, tokini wa monosugoku tsukihanasu yōna koto mo arimashita ga, atamadekkachi no ue kara mesen to iu yori wa, onaji mesen no taka-sa no jō aru hito' deshita.

‘Mr. Setouchi, who faced worldly desires through countless life consultations, sometimes it was terrible, but rather than looking down with **big-headed**, he was a "kind-hearted person" who's looking equal at persons.’

The word *atama-dekkachi* is formed by combining different elements, *atama* (noun) and *dekkachi* (adjective). Both words are combined into a compound adjective. The word *dekkachi* is an adjective that has the meaning of ‘something large’. The word *dekkachi* combined with *atama* into *atama-dekkachi*, then created a new meaning ‘conceited’ or ‘arrogant’. It also can be translated into ‘big-headed’ and used to describe someone’s trait. Thus, it is classified as an endocentric compound with *atama* as the head.

- (4) エノキは、まとまりがいいので石突きをつけたまま、**頭から**刻む。

Enoki wa, matomari ga inode ishizuki o tsuketa mama, atama-kara kizamu.

‘After lining-up, the enoki mushrooms, cut them **from the top** with the hard tip attached.’

The word *atama-kara* is formed from two elements, *atama* (noun) and *kara* (adverb). Both words combined into compound adverbs. The meaning of *kara* is ‘to represents the starting point of an action’ and can be translated into ‘from’. After those words are combined, it created a new word *atama-kara* which means ‘from the top of something’. The word *atama* is synonymous with top position, thus *atama* acts as modifier and *kara* as head of the compound.

Exocentric compound

- (5) 政府が後発薬の利用拡大を進めるなか、市場には**頭打ち**の気配も出ており、メーカー間の競争は激しさを増している。

Seifu ga kōhatsu-yaku no riyō kakudai o susumeru naka, ichiba ni wa atama-uchi no kehai mo dete ori, mēkā-kan no kyōsō wa hageshi-sa o mashite iru.

As the government expands the use of generic drugs, the market is showing signs of **peaking**, and competition among manufacturers is intensifying.

The word *atama-uchi* is formed from two elements with a different class word, which are *atama* (noun) and *uchi* (verb). *Uchi* is derived from the verb *utsu* that has the meaning ‘to hit something’. These two words create a compound noun *atama-uchi*, which means ‘peaking’ in this context ‘the peak of market price and will not rise anymore’. Based on its types, it is classified as an exocentric compound, because the head is not explicitly expressed.

- (6) ニュースサイトで2人の経験を明かすと、**頭ごなし**に否定するコメントが連なり、ため息が出た。

*Nyūsusaito de futari no keiken o akasu to, **atamagonashi** ni hitei suru komento ga tsuranari, tameiki ga deta.*

When they revealed their experiences on the news site, they sighed with a series of denial comments **without listening to others**.

The compound word *atama-gonashi* is a combination of *atama* (noun) and *gonashi* (verb). When combined, it grammatically changes into an compound adverb. *Gonashi* is from derived from the verb *konasu* that also has a slight phonetic change. *Konasu* means ‘to break down something’. However, *atama-gonashi* is not related by both elements. It has meanings ‘something that has been decided without listening to other people’. Thus, *atama-gonashi* is classified as an exocentric compound.

Copulative compound

- (7) 若手**頭株**だったディフェンス橋岡大樹はベルギー1部へ。

*Wakate **atamakabu** datta defensu Hashioka Daiki wa berugī 1-bu e.*

Defense Daiki Hashioka, who was a young **leader**, went to the first division of Belgium.

Atama-kabu is a noun compound formed from *atama* (noun) and *kabu* (noun). The word *kabu* means ‘indicate status’. Morphologically, the word *atama* act as head and *kabu* as the modifier. But semantically, both *atama* and *kabu* have equal status. Neither element dominates the entire compound. The word *atama-kabu* means ‘the status of the leader’ or ‘leader as the status’. Based on the types, *atama-kabu* can be classified as a copulative compound.

Conclusions

According to analysis, there are 11 different compound words formed with lexemes *atama*. The data shows compound words: *atama-dekkachi*; *atama-gonashi*; *atama-kabu*; *atama-kara*; *atama-kazu*; *atama-kin*; *atama-uchi*; *atama-wari*; *atama-tsuki*; *atama-dashi*; and *atama-goshi*. Based on its types, there are compound nouns (with the combination of noun+noun and noun+verb), compound adverbs (with the combination of noun+adverb), and compound adjectives (with the combination of noun+adjectives).

Based on the meanings, there are three types of meanings found within compound words with lexemes *atama*. There are endocentric, exocentric, and copulative compounds. The meaning of an endocentric compound can be predicted based on the meanings of its elements, particularly the meaning of its head. On the other hand, the meanings of the exocentric compound can not be seen of its element and become unpredictable. Copulative is made up of two words that are paired together and have the same status (headless), but their meanings are not idiomatic. Each compound does not have to utilize *atama* as the compound's head.

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