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Psychology and Utterance of Multi-language Users in Contact Situation

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This paper examines the place of psychology and utterance of multi-language user in contact situation as a first step toward the construction of theoretical foundation for the emically-based study of interactions in contact situations building on Bakhtinian philosophy of language. First, this paper extracted three theses from Bakhtinian philosophy of language; (1) the reality of psychology is inner speech/utterance, (2) external speech/utterance is the subject's psychology or an expansion of it, (3) self continues to respond to the existence that develops in the unique place it occupies, i.e. self continues to create meaning. It is made clear that within this perspective, we can see that multi-language user as the speaker uses language as a fragmentary embodiment of his/her psychology within the historical situation where the act is executed and that the target language speaker as the listener vigorously engage in the restoration of the thematic event of an utterance.

A study of overseas program participants' experiences and the transformations of their consciousness through the PAC analysis

WATANABE Rumi

In recent years, more than 80% of Japanese universities conduct short-term exchange programs of less than one year for students and each year approximately 10,000 students participate in intensive programs that are less than one month. The policy surrounding and the impact of these programs differ from one to the next. They are normally considered to be a good opportunity for inter-cultural experiences and developing students' language skills, as well as acting as an incentive for longer-periods of study abroad in the future. However, there are few studies of the effects of short-term programs.

This study aims at demonstrating the impact of a three-week intensive program by using the PAC (Personal Attitude Construct) analysis of students who participated in the program. The students were asked to write their images of studying abroad before/after participating in the summer program. They were also asked what experiences they faced and how they felt during the program. The analysis shows they have reflected on themselves and their own culture and have been motivated in terms of their learning after having various experiences and exchanges.

For further development of this program, sustainable surveys for participants, improvement of program contents and follow-up for participants are needed.