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著者(和文)	スルダノヴイツチ エリヤヴエツシ イレーナ, 仁科 喜久子
Authors(English)	Irena Srdanovic, KIKUKO NISHINA
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Synonyms according to situational types Irena Srdanovic Erjavec, Kikuko Nishina Tokyo Institute of Technology

srdanovic.i.ab@m.titech.ac.jp, nishina.k.aa@m.titech.ac.jp

Analyzing lexical units using Frame Semantics theory and lexical sets reveals some helpful information on polysemy and usage. However, semantic approach or combination of semantic and syntactic approach as suggested in the theory of Frame Semantics (FrameNet project) is not sufficient to reveal the difference in the meaning and usage of near-synonyms. Also, this approach does not cover pragmatic information on lexical items. To cover such kind of information, classification according to situational types should be implemented in lexical analysis and thus the so called "pragmatic meaning" and the "pragmatic context" of lexical units could be considered. Adding such information into learner's dictionaries is very useful in supporting learners not just to grasp the meaning of lexical items but also to understand the difference in the senses and usage of near-synonyms. In this paper we give a lexical analysis of two Japanese synonymous idioms ki ni suru and ki ni kakeru. After defining their semantic frames and lexical sets, we classify the idioms into various situational types to reveal the difference in their usage. Two Japanese language corpora are used and compared, a corpus of literary texts, Aozora bunko, and a large web corpus, JpWaC.

First, we classify ki ni suru and ki ni kakeru into semantic frames and conclude that they share two semantic frames. The results indicate that they have two similar senses and are synonymous. After classifying words that function as objects of the idioms into lexical sets we understand more about the usage of the idioms. The most frequent lexical sets for objects of the idioms are other people's thoughts/opinion, personal appearance, human (activities, state of affairs in relation to) etc. The web corpus shows a bigger variety of the lexical sets since the data set is larger than in the literary works (400 million vs. 8 million tokens). As number of frames and lexical sets is larger for the ki ni suru idiom, we conclude that it has a wider semantic range and a

wider usage.

Furthermore, we classify the corpus examples into situational types in order to understand how the idioms differ inside the shared frames and lexical sets. Each of the corpus examples describes a specific situation. We search for similarities in the situations in which the idioms occur and classify the examples according to situational types. In this way we can obtain additional information on the differences in usage of the synonymous idioms. For example, the difference in the relationship between the Experiencer and the Topic, the degree of the importance of the Topic, and some other differences between two idioms are revealed. This kind of information could be called 'pragmatic context'. Additionally, the information on 'pragmatic meaning' is obtained: for example, *ki ni shinaide*, that is used when comforting someone and belongs to the *expressive* speech act type.

The obtained results could be applicable to language learning and lexicography. Including the pragmatic description of language alongside with the syntax and semantics has its roots already in the tradition of functionalism, but the field of lexicography has only recently seen the first systematic steps in this direction. This information is very important for language learners to assist them in grasping the differences in the usage of lexical units, especially those bearing similar meanings.