

言語学

(1) 日本語の存在を表す動詞には「いる」と「ある」の二つがある。両者はそれぞれ生物と無生物の存在を述べるのに使われるのが原則とされるが、その原則に反する例をいくつか挙げるとともに、そうした例も無理なく扱えるような「いる」と「ある」の語義の記述を試みなさい。

(2) 性別とアメリカ英語の発音に関する次の英文を読んで、下の設問に答えなさい。

We can point to similar behavior in the evolution of New York City English, and here the pattern of sex differences is even richer. In case after case, we find that women use the most advanced forms in their own casual speech, and correct more sharply to the other extreme in their formal speech. (中略)

Why do women do this? It cannot be only their sensitivity to prestige forms, since that explains only half of the pattern. We can say that they are more sensitive to prestige patterns, but why do they move forward faster in the first place? Our answers at the moment are not better than speculations, but it is obvious that this behavior of women must play an important part in the mechanism of linguistic change. To the extent that parents influence children's early language, women do so even more; certainly women talk to young children more than men do, and have a more direct influence during the years when children are forming linguistic rules with the greatest speed and efficiency. It seems likely that the rate of advance and direction of a linguistic change owes a great deal to the special sensitivity of women to the whole process.

It would be a serious error to construct a general principle that women always lead in the course of linguistic change. The centralization of /ay/ and /aw/ in Martha's Vineyard* was found primarily in male speakers; women showed a much weaker tendency here. Trudgill (1971) shows in Norwich that women are more influenced by standard forms than men, but that men are in the lead in the use of new vernacular forms in casual speech. This seems to be generally true for a number of sound changes taking place in English cities. The correct generalization then is not that women lead in linguistic change, but rather that the sexual differentiation of speech often plays a major role in the mechanism of linguistic evolution.

We are now faced with data that pose even greater difficulties for those who claim that language change is independent of social variation. The sexual differentiation we are dealing with clearly depends upon patterns of social interaction in everyday life. The differentiation of men and women cannot depend upon weaknesses in communication networks as Bloomfield would have it, or the law of least effort as Sweet would argue. In the communities we have been studying there is no barrier to men and women talking to each other, and no reason to think that women are lazier than men. If anything, they put more effort into speech, as we observe from the extreme fronting in women's vowel systems in current spectrographic work. We are dealing with some positive factor here, operating upon a subtle set of conventional social values. There are of course physical differences between the vocal tracts of men and women to be taken into account, and the shorter length of women's vocal tracts does predict higher formant positions. But I. Mattingly demonstrated that there must also be conventional, social factors involved in the differentiation

of men's and women's speech. (中略) The sexual differentiation of speakers is therefore not a product of physical factors alone, or of different amounts of referential information supplied by speakers, but rather an expressive posture which is socially more appropriate for one sex or the other. On Martha's Vineyard, men are more "close-mouthed" than women, and use more contracted areas of phonological space; conversely, women in New York City and Philadelphia use wider ranges of phonological space than men with more extreme lip-spreading, lip-rounding, for vowels, more blade-affrication and palatalization of consonants. (William Labov, *Sociolinguistic Patterns*, 1972 から)

*The centralization of /ay/ and /aw/ in Martha's Vineyard : マサチューセッツ州の離島, マーサズ・ビンヤードにおいて, 生粋の白人島民の発音に母音の中舌化が観察されたこと。

(a) 著者が指摘している女性の発音の特徴と, その考えられる要因として挙げられていることを書きなさい。

(b) 発音の変化が社会的バリエーションと独立に生じうるという考え方は, なぜ適切ではないのか, 本文の内容に基づいて書きなさい。必要であれば, 例を追加したり自分の見解を述べたりしても構わない。