CLIPPING AND BLENDING WORDS IN JAPANESE INTERNET SLANG: PHILOSOPHICAL PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Philosophy is also a process, a way of searching for truth indefinitely. The philosophy of science, on the other hand, is a philosophical study that seeks to answer questions about the nature of science in terms of ontology, epistemology, and axiology. More than two decades ago, the world was stunned by a new technology known as the internet. As the internet matures into a technology that connects the world, the number of internet-related languages grows. Similarly, in Japanese, there are many words that were created and are related to the internet. There are special internet terms in Japanese that arose as a result of borrowing from English terms. There are also those that arise as a result of the word process. Some internet-specific terms, such as web or bug, are derived from English vocabulary that predates the internet. However, in Japanese, the term has been adapted into a new vocabulary related to the internet. This paper is designed to highlight the particular forming new words through the process of blending and clipping. This paper also intends to highlight philosophical aspects. It investigates the use of blend words and clipping in Japanese internet slang. In terms of internet in Japanese, the blending process consists of a combination of Japanese (wago) and English (gairaigo) words from different or the same word classes. Blends created from word which belong to the different words classes, the interpretation of their meaning generally involved straightforward process.

Keywords: Clipping, Blending, Japanese, Internet slang

INTRODUCTION

Philosophy is a system of thought or rather a way of thinking that can be challenged. Philosophy is also a process, a way of searching for truth indefinitely. The philosophy of science, on the other hand, is a philosophical study that seeks to answer questions about the nature of science in terms of ontology, epistemology, and axiology. *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia dalam jaringan* (Indonesian Big Dictionary) defines philosophy as follows: 1) knowledge and research utilizing reason on the nature of all that exists, its causes, origins, and rules; 2) the theory that underlies the mind or activity; 3) science with logic, aesthetics, metaphysics, and epistemology at its core; and 4) philosophy.

Meanwhile, Florida State University's Department of Philosophy explains that the term "philosophy" means "love of wisdom". Philosophy is an activity people undertake when they seek to understand fundamental truths about themselves, the world in which they live, and their relationships to the world and to each other. Those who study philosophy are perpetually engaged in asking, answering and arguing for their answers to life. What often motivates the study of philosophy is not merely the answer or arguments themselves but whether or not the arguments are good and the answer are true. Thus,

philosophical questions arise in almost every discipline. This is why philosophy also encompasses such areas as: philosophy of law, philosophy of religion, philosophy of literature, philosophy of language and so on.

Language is a tool for communication and part of philosophy. Language evolves as a tool as technology advances. When humans discover new technology, they always name the new invention. As a result, while some vocabularies appear, others are gradually disappearing. More than two decades ago, the world was stunned by a new technology known as the internet. Because of technological improvements, internet users who used to use a PC now use a smartphone. As the internet matures into a technology that connects the world, the number of internet-related languages grows. Together with the usage of social media, causing the development of new languages that originate from the internet. Similarly, in Japanese, there are many words that were created and are related to the internet.

There are special internet terms in Japanese that arose as a result of borrowing from English terms. There are also those that arise as a result of the word process. Some internet-specific terms, such as web or bug, are derived from English vocabulary that predates the internet. However, in Japanese, the term has been adapted into a new vocabulary related to the internet.

In the past, new vocabulary was created through a variety of processes such as compounding, derivation, coinage, blending, and clipping. Before the internet, Japanese often to blending and clipping new words that came from English or other foreign language (*gairaigo*). According to Pratama and Ali (2021) Each *gairaigo* vocabulary has a meaning that is identical to the original vocabulary. However, as its use changes, and there will be variants of *gairaigo* that have a meaning that differs from the meaning of the original vocabulary, including having less meaning than the original meaning, as well as *gairaigo* with additional meanings that are very different from the meaning of the original word.

The word ラジカセ*rajikase* is blending word or portmanteau from ラジオ*rajio* ("radio") and カセット*kasetto* ("cassette"). The word テレビ*terebi* is clipping from テレビーション *terebishon* ("television"). Based on this phenomenon, this paper attempts to analyze the process of word formation in terms of the internet in Japanese. Especially, how is the process about blending and clipping in Japanese internet terms as seen through philosophical aspects?

Blend, in word formation**,** synchronic or diachronic crossing or combining of two expressions into a single new one. Blends may develop from an unconscious or unintentional misspeaking. Blends, in comparison with more usual compounds. tend to be formed spontaneously through the close association of two words and do not themselves usually serve as models for further compounds. Because most blends can only usually be understood in context, only a very few of them are adopted into everyday language (Bussmann, 1996:137). Clipping is short variant of a complex word. (a) In 'head words,' the first part is used: *ad(vertisement), math(ematics).* (b) In 'end words,' the beginning of a word is dropped: *(tele)phone, (airplane).* (c) Occasionally, the middle part of a word is dropped to create an 'elliptical word': *news(paper)boy* (Bussmann, 1996:189).

Habibah and Tamawi (2023: 33) stated that understanding the combination of words become crucial to comprehend since there are linguistic rules that are instinctively adaptive to changing times because of technology development in the process. As a result,

understanding how a new term is created and adopted by the general public via procedures and applicable linguistic regulations is crucial since it can increase language awareness. As previously said, technological improvements now facilitate people's expression by allowing them to combine existing words to create new meanings.

According to Yule (2010: 41-42), blending is typically accomplished by taking only the beginning of one word and joining it to the end of the other word. When a word of more than one syllable is reduced to a shorter form, often in casual speech, is called clipping. However, according to Plag (2003:122), blending dan clipping ia a part of prosodic morphology. Blends, as words that combine two (rarely three or more) words into one, deleting material from one or both of the source words. Plag argued that blends can be assigned to two different classes:

Blend type 1, existing compounds are shortened to form a new word. The meaning of these forms is one where the first element modifies the second element. For example, breathalyzer (breath+analyzer) is a kind of analyzer, a motel (motor+hotel), is a kind of hotel, not motor. In contrary, blend type 2 is denote entitles that share properties of the referents of both elements. For example, a brunch (breakfast+lunch) is both breakfast and lunch, a smog (smoke+fog) is both smoke and fog.

Ljung (2003) states that clipping mainly consists of the following:
a. Back clipping, the common type of clipping, in which the beginning is retained. Most back clipping are nouns
b. Fore clipping, retained the final part. Example are phone (telephone)
c. Middle clipping, the middle word is retained. For example: flu (influenza)

Complex clipping, one of the original compound most often remain intact. For example: op art (optical art).

METHODS

Clipping and word blending can be seen from ontological, epistemological, and axiological perspectives in philosophy of science. The ontology aspect, according to Wirami, discusses the nature of science, specifically how to obtain scientific truths. For him, existence is held by another, as the cause of existence, rather than by itself (causa prima). In principle, the study of ontology is an attempt to discover what one desires to know, what exists, and what is true. The essence of science is truth. Ontology is a branch of philosophy that studies everything that exists as far as it exists.

Epistemology is a branch of philosophy that studies human knowledge, beliefs, and character, as well as the foundations of experience. Knowledge of the theory of knowledge, also known as the philosophy of knowledge in this context. The realm of binoculars is "What can be known and how can it be known?" The nature of knowledge, types of knowledge, objects of knowledge, and the origin of knowledge are all included in this domain. This realm encompasses how knowledge can be attained or obtained, as well as how knowledge is obtained.

Axiology is concerned with where science is heading, or, more specifically, what science is used for. In this case, axiology will discuss how knowledge can be applied to influence attitudes and behavior. Axiology is related to all sciences that have an impact on changing human behavior, both personally and in the environment. Axiology can also be defined as thoughts, knowledge, or knowledge about things that are appropriate, reasonable, or ethical (of good value or goodness) as a sign of life's nobility. As a result, it is hoped that the field of axiology studies will be able to influence people's behavior.

This paper is designed to highlight the particular forming new words through the process of blending and clipping. This paper also intends to highlight philosophical aspects. It investigates the use of blend words and clipping in Japanese internet slang. The study is exploratory-interpretative. Data are collected from 用語集dotcom about Japanese internet phrase on https://yougoshu.com/information-technology/internetslang. The data were analyzed using Yule and Plag's theory of word formation process and Kageyama's Japanese word processing.

RESULTS

Several researchers have previously studied the word formation process, particularly blending and clipping, with a focus on the English word formation process. Some of them are from Baram and Noori's (2019) study of blend words and their impact on the lexicon and future English. Baram and Noori focused their research on the growing blend of words (portmanteau). Blend word are exocentric, not only for second language learners but also to natives too, since they have not been listed in English dictionaries. So this continuous process of forming new words does a great change to English vocabularies now and upcoming years.

Hosseinzadeh (2014), wrote about new blends in English language. The descriptive approach is used in the research. The results obtained from Hosseinzadeh's research is that most of the blends are made by clipping: using the first part of the first word and the last part of second word and the second most common form is clipping and overlapping.

Meanwhile, Ivona Baresova and Halina Zawiszova studied the process of word formation in Japanese (2015). Baresova and Zawiszova researched the word formation process in the Japanese youth language. Several types of word formation processes found are compounding, blending, clipping, alphabetism creation, derivation, syllable inversion and Chinese character neologism formations.

The different research about word formation process in Japanese held by Ito and Mester (2015) which study about word formation process from a phonological perspective. Ito found that there are 9 types of word formation and phonological processes. The analysis of Japanese word formation process in the past and how phonological studies of different types of Japanese word formation have contributed important case studies leading to the advance in the general theory of phonology and phonology morphology interactions.

Following data collection, over the internet slang was obtained in Japanese as a result of blending and clipping, as shown in table 1 below.

Table 1. Japanese Internet Slang

	Internet slang		
	Part of speech	**Type of word**	**Meaning**
Ikebo	Noun	*Wago+Gairaigo*	Good voice
Insutahae	Noun	*Wago+Gairaigo*	Instagramable
Owakon	Noun	*Wago+Gairaigo*	Finished content
Aka	Noun	*Gairaigo*	Account
Anisuto	Verb	*Gairaigo*	Uninstall

Otsu	Verb	*Wago*	Thanks for your hardwork
Ime	Noun	*Gairaigo*	Image
Jidoraibu	Noun	*Gairaigo*	Google Drive
Sukusho	Noun	*Gairaigo*	Screenshoot
China	Adverb	*Wago*	By the way
Doro	Noun	*Gairago → Wago*	Android OS
Furiso	Noun	*Wago+Gairaigo*	Free source
Ripu	Verb	*Gairaigo*	Reply
Resu	Verb	*Gairaigo*	Response

DISCUSSION

1.1 Blending

Blending is word formation process which is not typically used in standard Japanese. It is similar to the creation of compounds and subsequent complex clipping. In terms of internet in Japanese, the blending process consists of a combination of Japanese (*wago*) and English (*gairaigo*) words from different or the same word classes.

N1/V1/NAdj1+N2/V2/NAdj2 → {blending} → N3/V3/NAdj3

1) イケメン *Ikemen* ("Good looking, cool") + ボイズ *boizu* (from English, "voice") → {blending} → イケボ *Ikebo* ("Good and cool voice")

2) インスタグラム *insutaguramu* ("Instagram") + 映える*haeru* ("shining" or "beautiful")→{blending} →インスタ映え *instahae* ("shining on Instagram" or instagramable")

3) 終わった *Owatta* ("Finished") + コンテンツ *kontentsu* ("content") → {blending} →オワコン *Owakon* ("finished contents" or "not popular content anymore")

The examples showed that blends created from word which belong to the different words classes, the interpretation of their meaning generally involved straightforward process. Blending can be described as follows from the standpoint of philosophy of science. The ontological aspect of blending is the combination of words that results in the formation of new words. Meanwhile, in epistemology, it is about the theory of blending word formation in Japanese, specifically through patterns: **N1/V1/NAdj1+N2/V2/NAdj2 → {blending} → N3/V3/NAdj3**. Finally, the axiological aspect is that knowing how to use blending words in Japanese language forums on the internet will help Japanese language learners.

1.2 Clipping

Japanese language in general, clipping of Sino-Japanese compounds and noun of foreign origin in common. Japanese internet slang also clip adjectives, adverbial phrase, and even idiomatic expression. The clipping of Japanese internet slang can be found like this example.

1) アカウント *aka*unto ("An account") → 垢 *aka*

2) アンインストール *ani*nsutóru ("uninstall") → アニスト *anisuto*

3) イメージ *ime*ji ("an image") → イメ *ime*

4) お疲れ様 *otsu*karesama ("thanks for your hardwork") → 乙(おつ) *otsu*

5) ジドライブ *jidora*ibu (google drive) → ジドラ *jidora*

6) スクリーンショット *suku*rinsho*tto* ("screenshoot") → シュクショ *sukusho*

7) ちなみに *china*mini ("by the way") → ちな *china*

8) アンドロイド an*doro*ido ("Android OS") → 泥（どろ） *doro*

9) フリー素材 *furiso*zai ("free source") → フリソ *furiso*

10) リプライ *ripu*rai ("reply") → リプ *ripu*

11) レスポンス *resu*pon ("response") → レス *resu*

From the examples above, most of the Japanese internet slang is **back clipping**, like *aka*, *ime*, *otsu*, *jidora*, *china*, *ripu* and *resu*. Some of them are **complex clipping**, like *furiso*, *anisuto*, and *sukusho*.

The ontological aspect of clipping in Japanese on the internet, as viewed from the philosophy of science, is the understanding of clipping as cutting a word or phrase, either at the beginning, at the end, or more complexly. Meanwhile, clipping is new knowledge about cutting a word from an epistemological standpoint. Finally, knowledge of clipping patterns in Japanese aids Japanese language learners in axiological aspects such as word blending.

CONCLUSION

In terms of internet in Japanese, the blending process consists of a combination of Japanese (*wago*) and English (*gairaigo*) words from different or the same word classes. Blends created from word which belong to the different words classes, the interpretation of their meaning generally involved straightforward process. In other hand, Japanese internet slang also clip adjectives, adverbial phrase, and even idiomatic expression. From the philosophical aspects, both blending and clipping can be described as follows from the standpoint of philosophy of science.

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