

中国在住日本人児童の日本語会話力と家庭言語環境

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本研究は、中国の日本語補習授業校に通う日本人児童（以下：中国在住日本人児童）を対象に、彼らの日本語会話力を Oral Proficiency Assessment for Bilingual Children（OBC テスト）を用いて調査したものである。それに加え、中国在住日本人児童と日本語モノリンガル児童の日本語会話力との比較を行った。また、中国在住日本人児童の家庭内のリテラシー活動、家庭内の言語使用を含む家庭言語環境について保護者へのアンケート調査を行い、これらを踏まえ、中国在住日本人児童の家庭言語環境と日本語会話力との関係を検証した。その結果、中国在住日本人児童の日本語会話力は日本語モノリンガル児童と比べて個人差が大きく、日本語の発音、語彙、文法、文の生成といった基礎言語面において、モノリンガル児童との差異が見られた。また、継承日本語の維持のために、家庭内のリテラシー活動はその環境づくりになり、日常会話の中で継承語で話しかけ継承語を使わせることはその有効な手段だと考えられる。

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Oral Japanese Proficiency of Japanese Children in China and their Home Language Environment

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This study investigated the oral Japanese proficiency of Japanese children in mainland China (speakers of Japanese as a Heritage Language: JHL) and monolingual children (MC), and examined the relation between JHL's home language environment and their oral Japanese proficiency. Children's oral Japanese proficiency was measured by Oral Proficiency Assessment for Bilingual Children, which focuses on the dimensions of children's basic oral language skills, interactional skills and cognitive aspects. In addition, a parent questionnaire was used to ascertain the children's home language environment. Results revealed differences between JHL and MC in basic oral language skills such as capability of speaking with natural pronunciation, using necessary vocabulary in conversation and speaking grammatically. However, JHL did not differ from MC in interactional skills and cognitive skills such as conversational strategy and capability of telling logical stories with rich content. Correlation analyses suggested that more heritage language use is associated with higher oral heritage language proficiency. The findings indicated that more literacy activities in heritage language predicted a tendency of higher oral heritage language proficiency.

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