



# CENTRAL ASIAN JOURNAL OF LITERATURE, PHILOSOPHY AND CULTURE

Volume: 03 Issue: 06 Jun 2022

## The Analysis of Demonstrating the Action in the Example of Onomatopoeia

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*Received 22<sup>th</sup> Apr 2022, Accepted 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022, Online 16<sup>th</sup> Jun 2022*

### ABSTRACT

In this item we will analyze the demonstration of the action, using variety of examples of onomatopoeia in Japanese language. Initially, we are going to look at a list of onomatopoeia which expresses actions such as sleeping and laughing. By using these onomatopoeia words, language learners will be able to express more precisely how to sleep and laugh, among other things. We can even use them at the doctors to express the symptoms.

Additionally, there are many onomatopoeia words which describe the action of eating, too. Here, we introduce some of them which are used frequently.

**KEYWORDS:** analysis, Japanese language, onomatopoeia , ideophone, facial expressions, action, sleeping, laughing, looking, drinking, eating, mimic, analogue, crying, manga.

### INTRODUCTION

Onomatopoeic and mimetic expressions in Japanese, although used very frequently in all levels of the language, are considered to be among the most difficult challenges for those learning Japanese, and for translators. The present study aims to identify and analyze the methods used to translate Japanese onomatopoeia and mimetic words into Uzbek and English, based on study materials and textbooks. Japanese onomatopoeia is similar to onomatopoeia in any other language . They are words used to describe the sounds of the words they portray. However in Japanese, there are also some words that do not describe the actual sounds, but the feelings or actions they portray instead. It will be clear when we look over the main categories of Japanese onomatopoeia.

In Uzbek language, there are many words which express the actions, such as laughing, eating, looking and etc. Furthermore, in Japanese, it is natural that we come across a great deal of examples. In this article I would like to elaborate on above-mentioned states.

### The main findings and results

In the present paper, some basic information about Japanese onomatopoeic and mimetic expressions will be provided, with looking through at a list of words which expresses actions, along with consideration of the use

of these expressions in literature. Firstly, I would like to start with imitative words that demonstrate sleeping and even, laughing. By using these onomatopoeia words, we will be able to express more precisely how to sleep and laugh, among other things.

Mainly , ぐうぐう (gūgū) is the most frequently used onomatopoeia word which expresses the action of sleeping. There are also more onomatopoeia words to describe the action of sleeping, such as ぐっすり (gussuri), すやすや (suyasuya), and うとうと (utouto). When ぐうぐう (Gūgū) describes an actual snoring sound, ぐっすり (Gussuri) indicates sleeping soundly. Moreover, It also describes the state of sleeping well, often associated with snoring. The ideophone which is called すやすや (Suyasuya) describes the state of someone sleeping peacefully and quietly, accompanied by the sound of light breathing.

Noteworthy of this matter is the existent of some words that have both giongo and gitaigo elements. For example, there is ぐうぐう (gūgū). When you use gūgū as giongo, it mimics the sound of snoring. On the other hand, as gitaigo, it means “to sleep well.” It expresses the concept of sound sleep and doesn’t have to actually imitate the snoring sound.

Besides all of the mentioned, うとうと (Utouto) refers to the inability to resist drowsiness, such as dozing off or nodding off. It refers to a light sleep that takes place outside of one’s regular sleeping hours.

Here is the usage and grammatical structure of them:

[gussuri / gūgū / suyasuya] +(to) nemuru / neru

[ utouto ] +(to) suru

We use the words gūgū, gussuri, and suyasuya with 寝る (ねる・neru) or 眠る (ねする・nemuru). Neru and nemuru are adjectives which essentially mean “to sleep.” On the other hand, utouto belongs to the category of verbs. So we use with する (suru) with it, which means “to do.”

Furthermore, in Japanese we can use onomatopoeia words to express how we laugh, in what manner, etc. What sound does a person make when laughing? Or smiling, for that matter? In Japanese there is a plethora of onomatopoeia that correspond to this cheerful facial expression. Some of them we might hear in a conversation, others we will surely find in any manga picked up. Of course there is the rather international and neutral hahaha ははは, but also many other interesting ones that describe the action with more detail. There are many onomatopoeia for laughing, but we picked three of the most useful onomatopoeia words to show: くすくす (kusukusu), ゲラゲラ (geragera), and ケラケラ (kerakera).

くすくす (Kusukusu) is the giggling sound used to indicate suppressed laughter. Winding down a little, if we let out a small giggle, it would be doing くすくす kusukusu (which has nothing to do with couscous), or an equivalent of ‘tee-hee’, which is うふふ ufufu. ゲラゲラ (Geragera) describes the sound of guffawing in a rather loud voice.

ケラケラ (Kerakera) is used for a higher-pitched laugh than geragera. “K” sounds are used to describe lighter or higher-pitched sounds than “G” sounds.

Here is the grammatical construction of them :

[ kusukusu / geragera / kerakera ] +(to) warau

The another important aspect is that we can use the words kusukusu, geragera, and kerakera with 笑う (わらう・warau) which means “to laugh.” Plus, there are smiles and laughs that are not straightforward attractive. For this case we have にやにや niyaniya, which is a kind of a mean smirk or a suggestive grin. It is also important to remember about the diabolical ‘mwahaha’, which in Japanese is expressed with くくくっ kukuku, being maybe a little less open-mouthed and quietly sinister than its Uzbek equivalent.

In addition to the terms related to sleep and laugh, in Japanese there are some mimic words which represent eating and drinking. Here, we introduce four of them which are used very often: どんどん (dondon), がつがつ (gatsugatsu), ぱくぱく (pakupaku), and ぺろぺろ (peropero).

Let me begin with どんどん (Dondon) which refers to a situation where something occurs one after another, continuously or rapidly without hesitation. We can use it with other verbs as well. In contrast to the above, ぱくぱく (Pakupaku) describes the action of eating food quickly.

When がつがつ (Gatsugatsu) refers to the action of devouring something or the state of being hungry and wanting to eat, ぺろぺろ (Peropero) describes the action of someone (a person or animal) licking something.

Here is the grammatic structure of them:

(dondon / gatsugatsu /pakupaku) +(to) taberu

(peropero) +(to) nameru

We use dondon and gatsugatsu with 食べる (たべる・taberu) which means “to eat.” Peropero is used with 舐める (なめる・nameru) and it means “to lick.”

In Uzbek language, there are many words which express the action of looking. For example, the word “hang-mang” which is translated from Uzbek as “looking with wonder” does not have analogous in Japanese. Principally, in Japanese, people commonly use 見る (みる・miru). However, to explain how we look, we can use onomatopoeia. There are many onomatopoeia words to describe the action of looking: じろっと (jirotto), じろじろ (jirojiro), ちらちら (chirahira), and きょろきょろ (kyorokyoro).

じろっと (Jirotto) indicates the action of looking sternly for a moment or giving an accusing look. It is usually associated with anger or an uncomfortable feeling. Besides, じろじろ (Jirojiro) refers to the action of blatantly and repeatedly looking something up and down, usually in an offensive way.

ちらちら (Chirachira) refers to something becoming invisible from time to time. きょろきょろ (Kyorokyoro) describes the action of looking around curiously or nervously.

The usage of mimic words of looking:

[ jirotto ] + miru / nimiru

[ jirojiro / chirachira / kyorokyoro ] +(to) miru

[ kyorokyoro ] +(to) suru

We should note that Jiroto, chirachira, and kyorokyoro are often used with 見る (みる・miru) which means simply “to look.” Also, we can use jiroto with にらむ (niramu) which means “to glare.” Further, kyorokyoro can be used as a verb when used with する (suru).

Moreover, onomatopoeias are very helpful when we want to express crying in Japanese. Here are three very useful crying onomatopoeia words to use: ぎゃあぎゃあ (gyāgyā), めそめそ (mesomeso), and しくしく (shikushiku).

ぎゃあぎゃあ (Gyāgyā) indicates a considerably high-pitched noisy crying or screeching. This phrase usually implies that the speaker is feeling quite unpleasant. It is noteworthy that I could not find the equivalent of this word in Uzbek. However, in Uzbek we regularly use the term “yum-yum” to express crying deeply, which is the closest in meaning with Japanese しくしく (Shikushiku).

しくしく (Shikushiku) indicates quiet crying, usually by women or children. めそめそ (Mesomeso) is similar to shikushiku in sound volume. However, shikushiku focuses on the sound of someone’s crying, whereas mesomeso focuses on the attitude of a crybaby who keeps moaning and groaning.

The word めそめそ (Mesomeso) in Uzbek means to weep and the concept of long, relentless crying with corresponding to the word “piq-piq”.

Here is the usage of these onomatopoeias :

[ gyāgyā / mesomeso / shikushiku ] +(to) naku

[ gyāgyā ] +(to) iu / wameku

[ mesomeso ] +(to) suru

Gyāgyā, mesomeso, and shikusiku usually use the verb 泣く (なく・naku) which means “to cry.” Gyāgyā also can be used with 言う (いう・iu) “to say,” and わめく (wameku) “scream loudly.” Further, you can use mesomeso as a verb with する (suru).

## Conclusion

To conclude, onomatopoeia are often made to mimic the sounds they describe, though some of them actually come from existing Japanese words. Extracting onomatopoeic expressions is quite simple, as those are the expressions that imitate real sounds, be they human or animal voices, or inanimate sounds. Extracting mimetic expressions is somewhat more complicated, as they “imitate” or express with sounds the states, movements, emotions, etc., which do not produce real sounds. Some of the mimetic words are very commonly used and it is hard to judge whether they still maintain mimetic character. It comes from the word “yurasu” (揺らす) which means “to sway.” By this point, you may have noticed that onomatopoeia kind of switch between being written in hiragana and katakana. The truth is, some of them can even be written in kanji, like “yurayura” (揺ら揺ら). The way they are written generally depends on the context they are used. The combination of various words seems to be a very effective method of translation. The difficulty here is to understand profoundly the meaning of each onomatopoeic and mimetic expression, to be able to “decompose” it into various elements and translate each of them into the target language.

Manga and other media that intends to be easy to read will generally write them in katakana, however you will also see them written in hiragana pretty regularly. These words are sound words, so they tend to be spoken more than written. Seeing them written in kanji will probably be very rare.

For further development, a deeper study is needed to understand the differences between a voiced and voiceless consonant on onomatopoeias which affect the meaning and usage of onomatopoeia in expressing actions.

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