令和６年度　海外派遣研究員研究報告書〔研究実績〕

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令和６年度海外派遣研究員（長期）の研究実績を，下記のとおり報告いたします。

記

１　区　　分　　長期

２　研究課題

韓国語の音韻論に関する研究

３　派遣期間　　西暦 2024 年 9 月 12 日　～　2025 年 9 月 16 日

４　派　遣　先　　韓国

５　Research Purpose

To communicate fluently in Korean, Korean language learners must clearly understand Korean phonological variation rules and accurately apply them to actual Korean pronunciation. The Korean language possesses complex and diverse phonological variation rules, causing many learners to struggle with grasping them. Therefore, providing systematic and effective instructions on phonological variation rules from the very beginning of Korean language learning is essential to guide learners to grasp them easily. This enables learners to independently apply these phonological variation rules and produce accurate Korean pronunciations. As learners progress from the beginner to intermediate and advanced levels, they acquire more Korean vocabulary and expressions. As Korean phonological variation rules gradually become more complex and diverse, learners may face considerable challenges. Therefore, these rules must be clearly explained at the beginner level of Korean education to ensure that learners understand them accurately. Subsequently, learners should be guided through various learning activities to enable them to apply Korean phonological variation rules naturally.

Accordingly, this study examined the complex and diverse phonological variation rules of the Korean language in detail from an educational perspective.

It analyzed stage-specific learning methods to ensure that instruction on phonological change rules is appropriate for each learning stage, from the beginner to intermediate and

advanced levels.

Furthermore, it conducted various learning surveys related to phonological change rules, based on which it analyzed a systematic and efficient curriculum for teaching phonological change rules to enhance learner comprehension.

6 Research Overview

Owing to the phonological variation rules in the Korean language, learners may encounter difficulties when studying Korean pronunciation. Acquiring a detailed and accurate understanding of Korean phonology is thus essential to understand Korean pronunciation, which has complex and diverse phonological variation rules. This understanding will enable us to present systematic and efficient learning content and educational materials concerning Korean phonological variation rules.

Korean language learners, when communicating in Korean, encounter difficulties if they do not speak with accurate pronunciation. Therefore, teaching the phonological change rules is extremely important in Korean language education. Learners must first systematically understand the principles underlying the complex and diverse phonological changes in the Korean language so as to apply these rules and pronounce accurately. The recent increase in the number of Korean language learners has led to the emergence of various Korean language textbooks. Most of such textbooks comprehensively cover four skills: “reading, speaking, listening, and writing.” However, not many of these textbooks explain in detail the phonological phenomena of Korean pronunciation, especially according to phonological change rules. This study therefore conducted various learning surveys related to phonological variation rules among learners studying Korean in Korea. Moreover, it analyzed the results to provide systematic guidance on Korean phonological variation rules in Korean language education and support efficient Korean pronunciation learning. Before conducting the learning surveys, the complex and diverse phonological variation rules of Korean were examined in detail. First, the Korean phonological system was examined item-by-item from a linguistic perspective. The study also comprehensively reviewed existing studies on Korean phonology by comparing and analyzing past and recent research to examine Korean phonology from multiple perspectives. Next, the phonological variation rules of Korean were examined in detail by category and type from the perspective of Korean language education. As the phonological variation rules of Korean must be taught in stages according to the learner’s acquisition level and study duration, the analysis criteria were specifically considered to account for various situations related to the learner’s learning process. Furthermore, the current state of Korean pronunciation education and the latest research trends in the field of Korean language education were examined in detail. Acquiring accurate and natural pronunciation is crucial for Korean learners to communicate effectively with native speakers. If learners fail to understand Korean phonological variation rules properly, they will encounter significant difficulties in real-life communication with native speakers. Therefore, teaching these phonological variation rules correctly so that learners can easily understand and apply them to accurately pronounce words is vital in Korean language

education. Korean phonological variation rules persist at not only the beginner level but also the intermediate and advanced levels, becoming increasingly complex as learners progress. Therefore, it is essential to establish a solid foundation in phonological variation rules from the beginner stage and present efficient learning methodologies that enable learners to engage in continuous, self-directed learning. This study conducted an in-depth review of stage-specific learning methods and teaching approaches to ensure that phonological variation rules are taught appropriately to beginner, intermediate, and advanced Korean learners. Moreover, it analyzes the curriculum content to ensure that systematic instructions enable learners to understand Korean phonological variation rules, apply them, and produce accurate Korean pronunciation.

7 Research Findings and Outcomes

To provide systematic and specific guidelines on phonological variation rules in Korean language education and propose efficient learning methodologies, various learning surveys related to Korean phonological variation rules were conducted among foreign learners studying Korean in Korea and the results were analyzed. As educational content on Korean phonological variation rules differs according to the learner's language learning level, specific criteria considering diverse learning levels were set as analysis standards, and the survey results were analyzed in detail. This clarified the acquisition process of phonological variation rules, enabling an analysis of the rules that learners first understand and acquire during Korean language learning. Furthermore, the acquisition process at each learning stage was identified by analyzing the understanding and acquisition status of each phonological variation rule at the beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels of Korean learning.

The various learning surveys conducted in this study enabled the identification of specific phonological change rules that Korean learners find difficult to acquire at each stage. Moreover, a comparative analysis of the survey results revealed the characteristics of the acquisition process observed at each stage. Based on these findings, stage-specific learning methods for Korean phonological change rules were reviewed. Furthermore, the composition of educational content and explanation methods were analyzed to help learners understand Korean phonological change rules using systematic instructions, apply them, and produce accurate Korean pronunciation.

Considering the diverse and complex nature of the Korean phonological change rules, it is crucial to present systematic and efficient teaching methods that enable learners to easily understand and acquire these rules from the very beginning of their Korean studies. To ensure that beginner-level Korean learners can continuously study these phonological change rules as they progress to the intermediate and advanced stages, diverse teaching methods that enhance learning motivation are necessary. Further, to enhance learners' motivation and learning effectiveness regarding Korean phonological change rules, it is necessary to analyze the acquisition process, particularly by identifying rules that learners find difficult and those that they can understand and acquire more rapidly. Therefore, the acquisition process was analyzed from various perspectives. As Korean learners advance from the beginner to intermediate levels,

the number of vocabulary items they must memorize increases, and sentence structures become more complex compared with the beginner stage. Consequently, the number and complexity of phonological change rules learners must apply also increase. Therefore, establishing a solid foundation for these rules from the beginner stage and systematically teaching the application of each phonological change rule are crucial. The above findings provided insights into the curriculum and learning content required at each learning stage to understand the diverse and complex Korean phonological change rules.

Presenting systematic and efficient learning methods and teaching approaches that enable Korean learners to apply phonological change rules and produce accurate pronunciation is crucial in Korean language education. Consequently, this learning is expected to help improve students' reading, speaking, listening, and writing abilities in the Korean language.