An Innovative Analysis of Japanese Grammar Teaching Methods from the Perspective of Intercultural Communication

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Abstract: Grammar is an important basic knowledge of Japanese teaching. In the teaching of grammar, etc., it is necessary to pay attention to the cultivation of students’ intercultural communication skills. However, in the current Japanese grammar teaching, there are some problems, such as insufficient cross-cultural input. Based on this, this paper first analyzes the problems in the current Japanese teaching, then comparatively analyzes the teaching content, ideas and methods commonly used in the current Japanese teaching, and points out which ideas and methods are suitable for Japanese teaching from the perspective of cross-cultural communication. Based on the exploration, effective methods of Japanese grammar teaching are indicated for cross-cultural communication.

Keywords: Cross-cultural Communication; Japanese Grammar teaching; Teaching Innovation

When teaching the Japanese language in China, we have always paid close attention to basic teaching content such as vocabulary and grammar. With the development of Japanese teaching, we have gradually improved students' mastery and application of Japanese grammar. In recent years, with the continuous expansion and deepening of multi-faceted communication between China and Japan, Japanese teaching has been updated and optimized in educational concepts. The teaching methods of Japanese grammar are also rapidly optimized and diversified. With the development of In-depth research of Japanese educators and researchers in China, different grammar systems have been created, which is a fruitful result of active research and practice of Japanese in China. However, it has also brought confusion and challenges to first-line Japanese teachers. In order to carry out high-quality Japanese grammar teaching and pay attention to the cultivation of students' cross-cultural communicative competence, it is necessary to analyze the problems in teaching and various grammar teaching situations in order to effectively balance the pros and cons and help teachers to be more clear and targeted in Japanese grammar teaching.

1. Problems in Japanese teaching from the perspective of intercultural communication and teaching points that should be paid attention to

1.1 Problems in Japanese Teaching from the perspective of intercultural communication

Japanese teachers attach great importance to Japanese-based teaching such as Japanese grammar, but they do not pay enough attention to cross-cultural communication in Japanese teaching, and they do not pay attention to the cultivation of students' cross-cultural knowledge, cross-cultural communication and Japanese application ability, which leads students hardly to practice and apply Japanese. There are great difficulties and problems in Japanese teaching, which are not conducive to improve their language skills in their later career. Secondly, the lack of Japanese culture teaching and communicative ability training in the teaching will not only cause students to not really understand Japanese culture, but also make them be tired of the single and imperfect teaching process. Therefore, Japanese grammar is not valued and students even have a sense of burnout, thereby their interest in learning grammar and the initiative to apply grammar...
reduce, which will hinder the in-depth learning of Japanese.

1.2 Teaching points that should be emphasized in Japanese teaching from the perspective of cross-cultural communication

First, modern Japanese grammar teaching should be penetrated with Japanese culture. Students only have limited knowledge of the Japanese major, so that teachers should help students understand the cultural differences between China and Japan, guide them to understand the characteristics of Japanese cultural communication in Japanese vocabulary, grammar, and attract their attention to understand the characteristics of Japanese culture. As a result, students’ mastery and application of grammar will be improved.

Second, it is necessary to pay attention to body language in Japanese culture. Japanese culture is very different from our country in body language and movements, and it is also a major feature of Japanese culture. In order to improve students’ proper application of Japanese grammar and other knowledge in Japanese communication, students need to master the common and important body language in Japanese culture. This is beneficial for improving students’ Japanese and communication skills.

Finally, we should focus on developing students’ oral expression skills. In foreign language teaching, oral expression training is a very important part. It is a prerequisite for students to accurately apply grammar and other knowledge of communication. Therefore, teachers should improve students’ Japanese oral expression ability and communication ability through various forms of teaching, so that students can know how to communicate and express accurately in formal learning.

2. Comparative Analysis of the Contents, Ideas and Methods of Japanese Grammar Teaching

The current mainstream textbooks for Japanese grammar teaching in colleges and universities are: ① New Version Japanese (Yunxinbianriyuzui) by Shanghai Foreign Languages Publishing House, which was published earlier; the textbook content includes descriptive grammar, school grammar, and related sentence patterns; ② Comprehensive Japanese language (Yunzongheriyuzui) by Peking University Press; the textbook integrates a series of grammar contents such as school grammar, Japanese teaching and research grammar, foreign Japanese grammar, etc., which is quite different from the school-type grammar teaching; ③ Comprehensive Basic Japanese Course (Yunjichuriyuzonghejiaohengzui) by Higher Education Press, including teaching and research grammar, Grammar content, school grammar and content related to teaching Japanese as a foreign language.

2.1 Comparative analysis of Japanese grammar teaching concepts

The teaching concepts of grammar textbooks in the previous versions are more traditional, and the content of the texts is widely used. The practice of Japanese grammar is more elaborate and systematic. Therefore, although there is no fundamental change for many years, the usage rate is high, but the learners always have difficulty in learning when using it.

The grammar textbook of Peking University has made great reforms to the traditional grammar system. It emphasizes the cultivation of students’ application ability and cooperative spirit, and has related specific goals and supporting plans. The textbook pays attention to knowledge and skills, and its structure is roughly the same as the traditional system so it is loved by modern Japanese teachers. However, the content in the grammar system is complicated, so teachers face the problem of reasonably streamlining and efficiently teaching knowledge.

The grammar textbook in the higher education version attaches importance to cross-cultural communication, absorbing the advantages of Japanese education grammar system. The grammar system is simple and easy to learn. Since the interpretation of grammar is designed for discovery- and task-based teaching, teachers need to use supporting PPT, reference books to assist teaching. It can be seen that the teaching concepts and emphasis of the three textbooks are different, but they all attach importance to the transformation of grammar knowledge.

2.2 Comparative analysis of Japanese grammar teaching content

There are a few grammar items in the three textbooks. The overall difficulty of the textbooks of Peking University
and Higher Education versions is much higher. There are more learning requirements than the Shanghai Foreign versions. There is more grammar on the 1-3 level content of the higher education version, and the content of the teaching content is more. True, grammar items are mostly placed under related real-life topics, integrated and infiltrated with related Japanese society and culture, so from the perspective of cultural penetration, it is better than other versions. The grammatical systems of the three textbooks vary greatly. The Shanghai Foreign version is based on school grammar systems. On this basis, Peking University has carried out the reform of general linguistic theory, and the Higher Education integrates the grammar systems of the first two, which is more suitable for Chinese learners.

2.3 Comparison of teaching methods
First of all, the Shanghai Foreign Edition focuses on teaching according to the grammar system. The teaching process is more traditional. Peking University Edition has added ability goals in each grammar project. Deductive teaching and other methods are used to carry out teaching. As the premise, corresponding prompts are given to guide students to discover, organize and apply grammar knowledge, and can flexibly use modern teaching methods such as task teaching.

3. Cultivation Strategies for Cross-cultural Communicative Competence

3.1 Hold a communication contest to encourage students to apply grammar knowledge
In order to help students better improve the application ability of grammar knowledge and the interactivity of cross-cultural communication, teachers can carry out related cross-cultural communication activities in daily teaching or after-school life to create an environment for students to apply grammar and cross-cultural practice to enhance their enthusiasm and initiative in applying Japanese. Japanese competitions related to Japanese culture can also be held, such as Japanese animation dubbing competitions, to enhance students' desire and interest in expressing Japanese.

3.2 Make good use of Internet resources to flexibly guide students' progress
Teachers use micro-classes and other connected materials or platforms, combined with mixed teaching and other methods, to guide students to flexibly and autonomously conduct after-school learning and consolidation. Because of the complex network resources and uneven quality, teachers can use the school website or public account to build an online teaching platform to facilitate students to use network resources more effectively and quickly; in order to strengthen students' cross-cultural communication skills, students can be encouraged to use network platforms such as WeChat communicate and interact online to improve the convenience of social training.

3.3 Optimizing the content of teaching materials and paying attention to the training of students' cross-cultural communication
According to the teaching concepts, content and suitable teaching methods of the different textbooks, the teacher should optimize the teaching content according to the specific characteristics of the Japanese major of his school. The focus of current teaching should be on application ability, comprehensive quality, etc. Therefore, traditional content needs to be streamlined so that teachers can use more advanced teaching methods to convey teaching content and enhance the efficiency of student learning.

3.4 Flexible and reasonable use of different teaching methods according to the teaching plan
Translation teaching and direct teaching are commonly used methods in grammar teaching. Translation pedagogy can encourage students to understand Chinese and Japanese expressions, which is helpful for their mastery of Japanese grammar and integration of cross-cultural knowledge, which requires students’ memory ability, and to read extensively. It is very helpful for cross-cultural communication. The direct teaching method needs to be combined with interactive scenes in order to promote effective oral communication for students, which is of great help to improve the oral communication ability of students in cross-cultural communication. Therefore, in grammar teaching, it is necessary to integrate these two methods, combined with situational teaching, network resources, etc., to improve the quality of Japanese grammar teaching from the perspective of cross-cultural communication.

4. Conclusion
To sum up, with the Sino-Japanese exchanges continue to deepen, the society has greater demand and higher requirements for Japanese professionals, and cross-cultural communication skills have become very important for modern Japanese students. Therefore, teachers need to thoroughly analyze the problems in teaching, combine the advantages of different textbooks, and flexibly use teaching methods to encourage Japanese majors to better grasp the basic knowledge of grammar and other aspects, and enhance students’ cross-cultural abilities in more communication practices.

References