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Study of Image Based Learning System to Acquire English Phrasal Verbs on Tablet Terminals

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It is thought that using English phrasal verbs accurately is difficult for Japanese people, but now there is no effective system to learn them. Rote memorization is often used when Japanese people study them, however, it is inefficient because one phrasal verb has a lot of meanings in general.

In this study, we have developed a new system to acquire them. It contains three elements that make understanding them much easier than before.

The first is "core theory" from cognitive linguistics. It says that every word has its unique core image. Therefore, it can explain each phrasal verb meaning from one core image that the word has. The second is touch function. It has been reported that learning words in the body is valid for understanding the meanings, so we have developed the system to learn a sense of phrasal verbs through the movement of the fingertip tactile. The last is metacognition. Evaluating learner's self-inference is reportedly effective to retain memories for a long time.

We have carried out an experiment on four different groups using the system. From this result, it was found that our system could significantly retain memories of the meanings of English phrasal verbs.