

The English Progressive vs. The Japanese -teiru

Matsumura Yoshiko
九州大学言語文化部

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Yoshiko Matsumura

This paper aims at showing the difference between the English progressive form and the Japanese -*teiru* form. These two forms have long been treated as near synonymous in traditional Japanese teaching grammars. However, they have a significant difference in meaning; the English progressive form refers to an imperfective situation, whereas the Japanese -*teiru* form refers to the resultant state of a perfective situation. This difference often causes misunderstandings to Japanese learners of English. The purpose of this paper is to clarify the difference by doing contrastive analyses and to give a guideline for the teaching grammar of English.