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FOREWORD

Language is a uniquely human and a complex, multi-level phenomenon, and is now being studied not only by linguists, but by scholars outside the field of linguistics who are interested in various phases of language, such as psychologists, philosophers, logicians, physicists.

The Group of Linguistic Studies was organized eight years ago in the College of General Education, Kyushu University, by such scholars of various disciplines as were interested in language and language education. The reason it was started at that time in this college is that there was an increased demand on interdisciplinary study of language, and that, because our college comprised a number of scholars of different disciplines who were interested in language, cooperation of such scholars was easily available.

Up to now the group has sponsored 49 meetings in which participants discussed various language problems. It has published seven volumes of *Linguistic Science* in one issue usually March of each year.

To the present writer who is interested in foreign-language education, discoveries in the field of linguistics, such as the transformational-generative theory of grammar, is a source for insights towards increased effectiveness in foreign-language teaching, and for this reason he joined the group at the time of its inauguration. Now the writer is leaving the group as he reaches the age limit and retires from the position of professor of English at the end of March.

Because the need for cooperation in research efforts among scholars of various disciplines may be still greater today than at the time this group was started, the writer wishes the members to make combined efforts in language study and to play an important role in the field of linguistic study.

Kenkichi Watanabe