

## Linguistics E Day 1: Do we really need word order

### 1 Research project/Conference preparation

Q.1 Find one study theme on language and plan to present it in the final round.

Q.2 If you find a problem on language, write a research question to solve it.

### 2 Is a subject really necessary?

Q.3 Discuss when you speak a subject and when you do not speak it in your language.

Q.4 If you don't have to say the subject in some cases, think about why you don't have to say the subject. Conversely, when you have to say the subject, think what problems would arise if you didn't say the subject.

Q.5 In any language, there are cases when we don't omit words or simply paraphrase words. When language abbreviations or omissions occur. Give some concrete examples.

### 3 Omitting a word/words and word order

Q.6 Do you think your language is relatively free in word order? Or do you think the word order is strictly fixed?

Q.7 Give some examples of when you should or may not change the order of words in your language, and discuss it with your partner.

### 4 World atlas of Language, and linguistic distance

Q.8 Discuss how many languages there are in the world.

Q.9 Discuss what the standard for counting languages is.

Q.10 There are many things in the world that are difficult to find boundaries, such as how to count languages. Discuss what there are other than language.

Q.11 Discuss what language is closest to English. Also, discuss what language is closest to Japanese.

Q.12 Discuss how you define the proximity between two language?

Q.13 In various languages, how is the length of word which is closely related to daily life? How about that of not related to daily life.

Q.14 When talking, are there any changes in the length of sentences and the number of utterances when the topic is clear or unclear?

Q.15 Discuss whether words that are difficult to tell their meaning are really meaningless.

Q.16 Discuss why such words exist.

Q.17 Considering through the above questions, discuss what characteristics are common to all languages, even though there are various kinds of languages.

## 5 Further exercises

Q.18 Find some articles relating to today's questions/topics in textbooks your instructor introduced, and describe the name of the book, the number of pages, the title of the article, and your opinion.