

A Pan-East Asian Perspective in Language Teaching

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Abstract

This talk intends to illustrate how a pan-East Asian perspective can be implemented not just in content courses, but also in language classrooms. We will enumerate areas and examples, including address terms, humble expressions, counters and measure words, idiomatic expressions, traditional celebrations and cultural customs, such as Duanwu/Tango no sekku, Qixi/Tanabata, and Lichun/Setsubun, culturally representative food items such as Lamian/Ramen, Jiaozi/Gyoza, Baozi/Nikuman, or Qingtuan/Kusamochi, cultural goods, such as chopsticks and fans, social taboos, fables, for such instructions and strategies for how to teach them at various levels. Moreover, as linguists, we would also like to advocate a translingual approach that addresses the intensive relationship between the two languages. To attract collective efforts, we are currently developing a website dedicated to providing resources that support Japanese and Chinese teachers to incorporate a pan-East Asian perspective in their teaching, starting from food items familiar to American students.

Bios

Lin Deng received her Ph.D. in Chinese linguistics from the University of Washington and is currently Visiting Assistant Professor of Chinese in the Department of Asian Languages and Literatures at Carleton College. She specializes in Old Chinese phonology, morphology, syntax, pragmatics, and paleography and early Chinese inscriptions.

Koji Tanno is an Assistant Professor of Japanese at the University of Kentucky and coordinates the Japanese Language Program in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures and Cultures. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Washington. His research interests are computer-assisted language learning, corpus linguistics, second language acquisition, pragmatics, discourse markers, and grammaticalization. He develops online apps for learning Japanese using JavaScript.