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Lexical Neologisms in Japanese

Chen Lee Shiu Chen

Abstract

The practically universal promotion of internationalisation and globalisation, coupled with the technological and scientific advances of the preceding decades, has provided a fertile ground for accelerated absorption of lexical neologisms reflecting the rapid changes in the social and material cultures of the different speech communities of the world. However, despite the universality of the language change phenomenon, the type and absorption methods of lexical neologisms differ considerably between languages.

Research in language change has important pedagogical implications for language teaching in the classroom and in preparation of linguistically up to date teaching materials. It is important for students to acquire the contemporary rather than the "petrified" language variety.

This paper, set within the theoretical framework of language change research, focuses on neologisms in the Japanese language. On the basis of data derived from examination of social pages of the *Asahi* newspaper, vocabulary that has come into being in the past ten years is examined in the categories of native, borrowed and native/borrowed neologisms. Selected examples are included to demonstrate the environments conducive to the birth of new vocabulary and the different ways the unique script used to transcribe the sounds of the language aids in the coining of Japanese neologisms.

This paper deals with language change in Japanese, focusing on lexical neologisms that have entered the language in the past five years.

Language, any language, reflects the lifestyle of its speakers: social organization, political system, economy, philosophy, arts, customs, mores, etc., that taken together

form the culture of a particular speech community. And, as the lifestyles change over centuries so does the language. As Aichison observes;

"There can never be a moment of true standstill in language. Like everything else it gradually transforms itself over centuries"(Aichison,1991:59)

That language is a living entity in the process of constant change is a universally accepted fact. Some decades ago Sapir (1921:160), one of the pioneers of linguistics science, wrote:

"Language moves down time in a current of its own making. Nothing is perfectly

static, every word, every grammatical element, every locution, every sound and

accent is slowly changing configuration moulded by the invisible and impersonal

drift in the life of a language".

Therefore, it is not language change itself that has occupied the attention of historical linguists for the past decades, but the causes and the processes of change. Early researchers, such as Saussure (1922) or Bloomfield (1933), for instance, maintained that the causes of linguistic change cannot be established despite numerous attempts at feasible explanations (Wardhaugh,1990:187). The majority of the early researchers have maintained also that the actual processes of change cannot be observed - that what one can observe and perhaps analyses are the consequences of change. The findings of later research, however, envisage the process of change as an initial fluctuation between the new and the old, with the completion of the process occurring when the new replaces the old (Fromkin et al.,1996:295). In other words, if the new form, be it phonological, morpho-syntactic, lexical or semantic, spreads "the change is in progress, if it eventually replaces the old form, the change has become a fait accompli - it has gone to completion"(Holmes,1992:212).

In regard to the causes of change, although the reasons for an aspect of a language undergoing change at a particular point in time still remain unclear, a number of theories have been proposed, depending on the orientation of individual researchers. For instance, McMahon M.S (1994: 179-182) discussing causes of semantic change, delineates the following:

- Linguistic causes
- Historical causes (subdivided into "ideas" and "scientific concepts")
- Social causes
- Psychological causes (subdivided into "emotive factors" and "taboo")
- Foreign influence
- The need for a new name

Aichison (1991:75), on the other hand, focusing on language change as a manifestation of a social phenomenon which portrays the changes in the social situation of a speech community, proposes three socio-linguistic causes: "fashion, foreign influence and social need" (Aichison, 1991:89). In this respect Aichison echoes the widely held view of socio-linguistic causes of language change involving the notion of need. Referred to as the functional view of language change, it postulates that "language alters as the needs of its users alter".

This paper focuses on lexical changes in Japanese occurring in response to the need for a new name. The speed of scientific and technological progress, combined with the practically universal adoption of the globalisation concept by the countries of the world, have created a pressing need in all speech communities for new lexicon to name new items or concepts.

New lexicon in any language can eventuate either through an internal process, that is by utilization of elements already present in the language, or an external process, that is by borrowing lexicon from another language (Wardhaugh, 1990:188). Borrowing is particularly pertinent to adoption of new lexicon as single lexis are easily detachable from the donor language and in most cases do not affect the structure of the borrowing language (Aichison, 1991:89). This is particularly true of the Japanese language which has a long history of borrowing and where the processes that adapt borrowed words into the phonological and syntactic structure of the language are well established. To describe the process briefly: most of the loan words are borrowed by sound, that is following the pronunciation of the word in the donor language. As most of the recent borrowings come from English, the Japanese version follows either the English or the American pronunciation. The borrowed lexicon is adapted to the phonemic structure of Japanese and transcribed in the consonant-vowel syllables characteristic of the Japanese language. Consequently, the resultant Japanese word is often incomprehensible to the speakers of the donor language. For instance, "virtual" becomes "*baacharu*" in Japanese. The majority of loan words are borrowed as nouns and verbalized, if necessary, by addition of the auxiliary verb *suru*, which can then be conjugated as needed. Nouns can also be used as adjectives by insertion of *na* between the borrowed lexeme and the noun it describes. An example of the former is *nokku suru* (to knock), and the latter *hansomu na hito* (a handsome person).

Lexical change in a language can involve a variety of processes such as, for instance, compounding, or recombining of old words to form new ones (Fromkin et al., 1990:295), gain or loss of lexical items, change in the meaning or semantic representation of words, making it broader, narrower, or shifted (Fromkin et al., 1990:300), word coinage, derivation of words from names, acronyms, and abbreviations or clippings (Fromkin et al., 1990:295). The results of most of these processes can be observed in the analysis of Japanese neologisms.

The data on which this paper is based are derived from a one month's survey of the morning edition of the Japanese daily newspaper *Asahi*. The main reason for choosing a newspaper is that the vocabulary used in the articles conforms to the rules of the standard language, so it can be safely assumed that any new word used on its pages is already well established in the language. In other words, a reputable newspaper like *Asahi* is not the right vehicle for "fashion" words which might occur in a less controlled environment and which might not survive in the language for long. To check the "newness" or otherwise of the words found in the different sections of the paper, the new lexicon was checked against the entries in the latest (2000-2001) *Shingo Jiten* (Dictionary of New Lexicon) as well as the most recent (1998) *Koajien* (Comprehensive Japanese-Japanese Dictionary).

All Japanese lexicon used in this text is transcribed following a modified Hepburn system of romanisation.

While in the larger study from which this data is excerpted, new lexicon is looked at within a number of discrete domains (eg politics, economy, etc), this paper limits discussion to the "society section" with articles on a variety of topics, aimed at the layman-reader. For instance, some of the articles that used new vocabulary are:

1. *Shoshi no shinseiki* (the childless era) - an article about an aging society with a very low birthrate. The article quotes statistics excerpted from government sources for April 2000, showing an attrition in the 0-14 year olds of 300,000 when compared with previous years, and discusses the role these children will play in the future life of Japan.
2. *Nisennen no kodomotachi* (children of the year 2000). This article carries the overall theme of the first one, discussing the future education needs for this diminishing number of children.
3. *Kateiban* (family pages)- a section comprised of short articles on family affairs, domestic violence, plight of single mothers, problems of the aged and similar.
4. *Shakaiban* (Society pages) - a section comprised of short articles on current affairs, welfare, medical treatments, public health system, etc.
5. *Te no kioku* (lit. a hand's memory) - a selection of short articles on the role of the human hand in the production of craft objects, sign language, palmistry and similar areas.

Japanese language uses four scripts, including a limited usage of the Roman alphabet for transcription of borrowed acronyms (eg PTA- Parent-Teacher Association). The native scripts are:

- *Kanji* - Chinese characters borrowed from China centuries ago and, in due course, somewhat modified and made structurally simpler. As a process of simplification, the number of *kanji* for use in newspapers and other forms of popular print media has been limited to 1945 characters referred to as *Jooyoo Kanji*.
- *Hiragana*- a syllabary developed in the 11th century, used today predominantly for the transcription of particles, verb endings and other grammatical features of the language.
- *Katakana*- a second syllabary, developed approximately at the same time as hiragana, used today mainly for the transcription of loan words, emphasis, or as a substitution for *kanji* that are not on the *Jooyoo Kanji* list.

Perusal of (600) articles in the society section, yielded 79 new words (Appendix 2) not listed in the *Koojien* dictionary but found in the *Shingo Jiten*. Assuming that it takes approximately 10 years for a new edition of a dictionary to appear in the bookstores, the words isolated in this study must have entered the language within approximately this time span. The distribution of the new lexicon into "native" and "borrowed" categories is shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Native and Borrowed Lexicon

Native	Borrowed	Native/borrowed	Total
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38	26	15	79
48.1%	32.9%	19.0%	100%

As shown in Table 1, less than half of the total new lexicon came into being through the internal process of coining new vocabulary by utilisation of native elements. Coining new words in a character-based language like Japanese is a relatively easy process. As each character has a specific meaning, grouping of appropriate *kanji* into new compounds results in the formation of a new lexeme. For instance, in the article on new regulations for renewal of driving licenses by people over 65 years of age, a new compound *fukashiryoku* was found that carries a specific meaning of eye testing for distance and its usage is limited to the specific license renewal situation. The new compound is comprised of three *kanji*. The first one *fuka(i)* means **deep**, and the following *kanji* combination *shiryoku* means visual acuity, therefore the meaning of this compound translates into **testing eyes for distance or depth**, in contrast to the four character compound *shiryoku kensa* used for the description of the standard eye-testing procedure. A reader, even if unfamiliar with the term, can broadly understand the overall meaning by referring to the meaning of the individual *kanji*. However, as this particular eye testing procedure and its purpose are innovations introduced in the year 2000, the article helps the reader to understand the new term by including an explanation. Free translation of the relevant excerpt is given below and the original text (romanised) is placed in Appendix 1.

Fukashiryoku refers to eyesight testing procedure that not only checks eyesight in the usual way, but also includes a new procedure for checking the sight for distance".

Another interesting example is a new compound *Shufubyoo* (lit. housewives' illness) that, like the example above, describes a new phenomenon in the Japanese society. The three-character compound can be easily understood by the reader but the nature of the "illness" requires explanation (original text in Appendix 1).

Shufubyoo refers to an occupational disease, a syndrome affecting female office-workers, that manifests itself in poor performance, lack of responsibility, inattention to the tasks they are expected to perform, frequent absenteeism and general indifference to work".

With two exceptions, the words tabulated in the "native" category were formed by creating new *kanji* compounds like the examples cited above. The two exceptions are words written in *katakana* (underlined) and *kanji*: *jikochuu* and *okizarichuu*. The former denotes a selfish person who does not care if he/she bothers other people. The latter means a litterbug, more particularly a person who litters the streets at night when nobody is around. In both cases the components written in *katakana* are native words which could have been written in *kanji*. Why the choice of *katakana* was made is unclear but most probably it was done to emphasize not only the novelty of the words but also the censure and condemnation of anti-social behaviour. Incidentally, pronunciation of the first compound is the same as that of an existing colloquial expression meaning a self centered person. The difference lies only in the choice of *kanji*. The last *kanji* of the older expression means **centre** while the *kanji* used in the new word means a **bug** or **insect**. This play on sound is an interesting aspect of the

Japanese language, allowing subtle expression of satire, condemnation or praise. The context in which these two new words appeared is as follows:

Jikochuu (lit. selfish bugs) are selfish people who are not concerned about the trouble they cause for other people. The aim of the metaphor **bug** used for such people is to point out the undesirability of their behaviour to them in the hope that they will take notice and improve their manners"

Okizarichuu are the people who are like nocturnal animals - they make frequent appearances at night, dump their rubbish around electric poles or rubbish collect points and disappear".

(For original text see Appendix 1)

In the "borrowed" category all new words originally came from English, are written in *katakana*, and in most cases, are used in different loanword combinations to express new concepts or describe new phenomena. Japanese language began to absorb Western vocabulary as early as the 16th century (Kindaichi et al. 1988: 424) with a very large intake after the Meiji restoration and the opening of Japan to the West from 1868 onwards (Schirokauer 1993:187). The intake of loanwords escalated even more in the post- World War II period, when most of the borrowings came from English. Consequently Japanese language today includes a large repertoire of foreign words that can be utilized for the purpose of neologism formation in the same way that the native neologisms are coined. For instance, *kikkusuketa* (*kikkubodo*) is a new word that combines the existing loanword *kikku* (a kick) used in sporting contexts (eg kickboxing) with another existing loanword *suketa*(skate), that is material used in some types of construction. Combined in this way, the new coinage becomes a very apt and descriptive name for the type of a scooter that has recently come into fashion- a plank on wheels propelled along by "kicking" the ground with one foot. The scooter is a western invention so it is not difficult to understand the reasons for choosing loanwords as the means of naming a new fashionable device.

A similar explanation can be applied to another new term *mai.baggu.kyanpeen* (lit. "my bag campaign"), denoting a move towards reduction of plastic waste by shoppers using their own non-disposable bags. The possessive pronoun *mai* (my) has been in use in Japan for a long time and, as in English, always as a modifier to another noun. The meaning, however, is somewhat different than in English. For instance, *maihoomu* (my home) does not equate with English **my home** but denotes anyone's privately owned residence. Similarly *maikaa*(my car) means a privately owned vehicle. The word (baggu- bag), although not used on its own, has been a part of the Japanese language as a component of *handobaggu* (handbag). The word *kyanpen* (campaign) has also been in use in Japan for a considerable length of time with the same meaning as in English. Since all the components of the new phrase are a part of the Japanese language, a reader would find it easy to understand the meaning: a campaign promoting usage of own bags or other receptacles for shopping rather than the plastic ones provided by the stores. Although this complete new term could be expressed by a *kanji* compound *kaimonobukuro jisan undo* (lit. "movement for using own bags"), the meaning would lack the desired nuance of modernity and identification with global concerns for the environment.

The same principle has been applied to the formation of other new words like *waakushearingu* (job sharing) or *gyarumama* (lit. "girl mother).

Waaku (work) has been introduced into the language some time ago as a component of *waaku bukku* (work book used at school) but *shearingu* (sharing) is new as an appropriate loanword was needed to complete the phrase that would adequately describe the practice of two or three people filling a single position. Job sharing is a relatively new phenomenon in the West and, until very recently has had no counterpart in Japan.

Gyarumama, comprised of a new loanword *gyaru* (girl) and an existing one *mama*, used in some Japanese families as an address or reference term for **mother**, also expresses a new social phenomenon. Unmarried mothers have always existed in Japan, the same as in all other countries, but the native term *mikon no haha* (*mikon* is unmarried and *haha* is the mother) would not adequately describe the new social phenomenon of teen-age promiscuity and the resultant emergence of teenage unmarried mothers. Hence the need for a new term and, since the incidence of teenage pregnancies echoes the relaxed morality codes of the West, the choice of a new loanword was an obvious one.

Not all new words in the "borrowed" category were coined by a combination of existing or new and existing items. Some came into usage as single neologisms, most often than not carrying a slightly different meaning to the parent word. For instance, the English word **skeleton** (*sukeruton* in its Japanese version) does not refer to a frame on which something is built (eg bone skeleton covered with flesh etc) but denotes a semi-transparent device through which the internal mechanism of a watch, computer monitor, etc can be seen. Another example of the same kind is *inkyubeeta* (incubator) which in Japanese does not mean an apparatus for hatching birds, rearing of prematurely born babies or developing bacteria, but the support given to small and medium enterprises for research and product development. Needless to say, words of these kind have to be acquired -the meaning cannot be deduced as is the case when native *kanji*-based neologisms are coined or existing loanwords combined into a new meaning.

In the "native/borrowed" category, an interesting new word is *chinsui kenchi pendanto* comprised of a group of *kanji* and a loanword (underlined). This neologism names a special radio device designed for use by elderly or infirm people. The device sounds an alarm if the user is submerged in the bath for an extended period of time. The *kanji* in *chinsui* mean submerged in water, and the ones in *kenchi* mean checking and notifying another person. *Pendanto* (pendant), used in Japan in the same meaning as in English, indicates that the device is worn on a chain or cord around the neck. As all the components of this neologism are known to the readers, understanding of the basic meaning presents no problem. However, in the same way as in some of the previous examples, the contemporary meaning as well as the nature of the device, require an explanation.

Many aged people suddenly die, particularly in winter, while having a bath.

Every year 10 -15 thousand accidents of this nature occur. The new device,

chinsui kenchi pendanto will immediately notify a member of the family or

other designated person in case of an emergency, that is when its user is in

the bath for an excessively long time".

(For original text see Appendix 1)

Another example describing a new phenomenon is *hiito airando genshoo* (lit. "heat island phenomenon"). The term refers to the excessive rise in the summer temperature in Tokyo (and other large cities of Japan) caused by the material used for paving the streets. The paving blocks cannot retain water with the result that the surface becomes very hot and the radiated heat affects the overall temperature of the city.

In Japanese, words borrowed from another language most often have a restricted meaning. For instance, in the neologism written in *kanji* and *katakana* (underlined) *ranshi banku* (an ovum bank), the English loanword *banku* (bank) is restricted to specific scientific contexts. According to Koojien (1998) *banku* refers to organisations that store specific items or collect information, while the native word *ginkoo*(bank) refers to financial establishments that carry out the usual banking activities.

A very similar treatment is given to the English word **money**. In the Japanese usage the new loanword *mane* is used only for electronic transactions as a part of the compound *denshimane* (lit. electric money). The native term *okane* (money) is used in all other contexts.

Another similar example is the use of the English word *risaikuru* (recycle) in contexts restricted to recycling of waste such as paper, cans or bottles. The native word, composed of kanji, *saishigen* (recycling) is used to denote re-use of natural resources eg water.

When lexical change occurs in a language, at first there may be some fluctuation between the new and the old, before the new form takes over (Aichison, 1991:98).

In the copies of the *Asahi* scrutinized for new lexicon, several old and new words appeared in free variation in the same context. For instance: *reiofu* (layoff) alternated with *ichiji kaiko* (temporary unemployment), both being used in reference to an interval of enforced unemployment. The old term may eventually disappear or both may be retained but as carriers of different nuances. In fact, anecdotal evidence suggests that the latter is already occurring. With the erosion of the life employment system and the need to economize due to the recession Japan is undergoing at present, *reiofu* is beginning to come into use as a term for people losing their jobs while the older word is retained in its original meaning. Nevertheless it can be said, until the separation of meaning gains acceptance, that in this particular instance one can perhaps observe a "change in progress".

Japanese language uses numerous acronyms and neologisms of this kind that were also found on the pages of the *Asahi*. One such acronym is PET botoru (PET bottle) where PET stands for Polyethylene Terephthalate, a type of new plastic material used in the manufacture of bottles and similar containers. Another acronym is SOHO *jinkoo* where *jinkoo* is a native, kanji-written word for population and SOHO is an acronym for **S**mall **O**ffice **H**ome **O**ffice. The phrase refers to a new phenomenon of people working from home or small office, relying on internet, e-mail and other similar communication devices for the conduct of their business activities.

One of the features of the Japanese borrowing is truncation of the borrowed vocabulary. Examples of these are *sekuhara* (sexual harassment) and *risutora* (restructure). The first, comprised of the first syllables of each of the two English words forming the phrase **sexual harassment**, seems to be replacing the original full-length loanword *sekusharu harasumento*. The second is a truncated version that reduces the new word to half of the original loanword *risutorakucha*. Once again it can perhaps be said that a "change in progress" can be observed. In view of past examples of loanword treatment

(eg *depaatamento.stoaa*, truncated to *depaato* to mean department store) one can safely assume that the shorter version will in due course replace the old.

An interesting example of native/borrowed coinage is *anime otaku*. *Anime* (animation) is a well established vocabulary item in Japanese but the addition of *otaku* to mean a **maniac** is new. *Otaku* is a native word, an honorific reference or address term meaning you or your family. In the article in which this word was found, the change in the original meaning of *otaku* was indicated by the simple process of substituting *kanji* with *katakana* and attaching it to words denoting artistic or professional pursuits. Thus it has become a new word somewhat derogatory in meaning, to describe people who are interested in one thing only to the exclusion of everything else. The translation below exemplifies the meaning:

Anime otaku refers to the kind of person among *anime* maniacs with whom people do not wish to associate. *Otaku* means maniacs in general.

With an appropriate modifier it also refers to people occupied with one thing only, such as overly academic people, collectors and similar.

(For original text see Appendix 1)

Most of the new vocabulary, as illustrated by the examples, are neologisms comprising one or several-word expressions that name new concepts rather than concrete items. This is not surprising as Japan, since the 19th century, has been keeping abreast of the ideological and physical developments of the modern, predominantly Western, world. Thus vocabulary pertaining to the westernized aspects of life in Japan has been a part of the Japanese language for a considerable length of time. Neologisms that are coined now predominantly reflect the social, political, economic and cultural changes occurring not only in Japan but also on the global scene.

Centuries of linguistic development through absorption of countless foreign words has made Japanese language into a very rich matrix for the coining of new lexicon. As illustrated by the examples cited above, the Japanese language being comprised of a mixture of native Japanese, Sino-Japanese and foreign vocabulary and aided by its writing system, provides countless possibilities for answering the need for new words that name new things, describe new concepts or express subtle nuances that differentiate the old words from the new.

Research in the field of language change has important pedagogical application not only for classroom teaching but also for preparation of appropriate teaching materials.

Teachers of Japanese in Australia are either non-native speakers, some of whom completed their studies of the language more than 20 years ago, or native speakers domiciled in Australia with limited opportunities of keeping abreast with contemporary developments in the language. It is important, therefore, that the findings of neologism research are widely disseminated among the language teaching profession so that a "living" variety and not the "petrified" kind of Japanese is taught at Australian schools and universities.

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Appendix 1: Original text of the translations cited in the body of the paper.

深視力：免許状の更新時に実施される視力検査は従来の静止視力だけでなく、距離感を測定する深視力についても実施されている。

(Fukashiryoku: menkyojyoo no kooshinji ni jisshisaretru shiryokukensa wa jyuurai no sheshishiryoku dakedenaku, kyorikan o sokuteisuru fukashiryoku nituite mo jisshi sareteiru)

ジコ虫：自己中心てきな人、他人の迷惑をかえりみない、ジコチュウを虫に例え、公共マナーの向上を呼ぶ。

(jikochuu: jikochuushinnteki na hito, tanin no meiwaku wo kaeriminai, jikochu wo mushi ni tatoe, kookyomanaa no koojyoo wo yobu)

オキサリ虫：夜行性で電柱やゴミの収集場付近に生息する。人気のない時間に出没してはゴミ袋を置いて立ち去る。

(okizarichuu: yakoosei de denchuu ya gomi no shuushuubafukin ni seisokusuru. hitoke no nai jikan ni shutubotu shitewa gomibukuro wo oite tachisaru)

主婦病：時間にルーズ、言い訳が次々出てくる、自分の行動に責任を持つ意識が稀薄、など主婦病という名の職業病。

(shufubyoo: jikan ni ruuzu, iiwake ga tugitugi detekuru, jibun no koodoo ni sekinin wo motu ishiki ga kihaku, nado shufubyoo to iunano shokugyoobyoo)

沈水検知ペンダント：冬は入浴中の突然死が多い、高齢者を中心に年間1万—1万5千にんにのぼる。異変を素早く家族へ知らせる。沈水検知ペンダントを大阪ガスが試作した。

(chinsuikenchi pendanto: fuyu ha nyuuyokuchuu no totuzenshi ga ooi, kooreisha wo chuushin ni nenkan ichiman-ichiman gosennin ni noboru. ihen wo subayaku kazoku e shiraseru.chinsuikenchi pendanto wo oosaka gasu ga shisakushita.)

アニメおたく：アニメのファンの中でも付き合いたくない特殊タイプのアニメを表す言葉、アニメ全般をいう。

(anime otaku: anime no fan no naka demo tukiaitakunai tokushu taipu no anime wo arawasu kotoba, anime zenpan wo iu.)

Appendix 2: 79 neologisms excerpted from 600 articles of the *Asahi* newspaper

1. Native vocabulary

futookoo: School refusal.

fukashiryoku: sense of distance.

tekiseikensa: an aged driver's aptitude test.

menkyohenoo: restore the aged driver's license.

shinbunkyoiku: newspaper in education.

roodoosaigai: industrial accidents.

chikyuuondanka: global warming.

shufubyoo: housewives' illness

kiryoooobin: light weight bottle.

haikibutushorihoo: a law of disposal of waste matter.

nigengoshugi: bilingualism

jinkoosensoo: a policy of prohibits the abortion and contraception

dokushinzei: heavy tax applies to singles.

kariharashussan: surrogate mother

tomodachison: a society help and cooperate with each other

iryooseidokaikaku: reform of the medical system

shintaiikaigo: rehabilitation therapist

saishigen: recycle

kyouryokushakai: cooperative society

ikujikyugyooseido: parental nursing leave system

shokumuronri: job ethics

hinkonghometu: eradication of poverty

gareki no shita no iryoo: confined space medicine

jyooohoo kookai: disclosure of official information

ijime: bullying

kooteieki: foot and mouth disease

haitateki keizaisuieki: exclusive economic zone

chapatu no wakamono: adolescent Japanese people

kinpatu no ikemenfuu: handsome boy

shooshika: decline in the number of births

jidoomadoguchiki: ATM

tuushinbooshu: interception of communications

idenshi kumikae shokuhin: genetically engineered food

2. Borrowed vocabulary

bikonraito: traffic information supply.

mireniamu: millennium

risutora: restriction

guroobarurizashon: Globalization

reiofu: lay off

hiito ailando: heat island phenomenon.

debitto kaado: debit card.

raifu waku: lifework.

homuhelupu saabiisu: home help service

baacharu riaritii: virtual reality

taimu kapuseru: time capsule

waasuto wan: the worst

keamaseejaa: care manager

baria furii: barrier free

maibaggu kyanpen: my bag campaign

waaku shearingu: work sharing

gyaru mama: teen age mothers

sukeruton: skeleton

ribasuteeshon: river station

mainoriti: minority

suteetasu: status

moraru hazaado: moral hazard

daiokishin:dioxin

3.Native/borrowed vocabulary

shienjyooohoo shisutemu: system for the disable people

chinsuikenchi pendanto: a special radio device designed for use by elderly or infirm people.

pre gimukyooiku: pre - compulsory education

han danpingu: anti- dumping

arufaka mai: an instant rice

ranshi banku: an ovum bank.

kuron hai: clone embryo

anime otaku: an animation maniac

denshi mane: electronic money

shiruba jinzai senta: silver manpower center

hakka kooi: hacker warfare

paburisiti ken: publicity right

non-remu suimin- non rapid eye movement

shikku hausu shookoogun: sick house syndrome

4.Acronyms

petto botoru: Polyethylene Terephtat bottle

koonai LAN: local area network inside the school

sekuhara: sexual harassment

kikkuboodo: scooter

shingulisshu: Singapore English

dinkusu: DINKS

roureika shakai: ageing society

SOHO jinkoo: the population of small office and home office.

infura: infrastructure