Abstract

The aim of this thesis is to investigate the relationship between boundedness and parallel-marking particles in Japanese from a multimodal, gesture-oriented perspective. The first part of the thesis introduces the history of the field of gesture studies and then explains in detail the basic background and terminology needed for the study of gestures. A definition of co-speech gesture based on Kendon's continua and the different phases of gestures are introduced. The second part of the paper focuses on multimodal list research and Japanese parallel-marking particles as a means for list construction. Here the notion of boundedness is explained as well as the connection between boundedness and list types. Finally, the third section presents the process and the results of a corpus analysis aimed at investigating the relationship between particle type and gesture boundedness.

Keywords: japanese language, parallel-marking particles, co-speech gesture, multimodal corpus, boundedness