

## Free and Bound Forms of Personal Pronouns in Haida

HORI Hirofumi

Haida, a language isolate spoken in the southeastern part of Alaska in the United States and the northwest coast of British Columbia in Canada, has two sets of personal pronouns, namely, bound forms and free forms, for the first person singular (1sg) and the third person, while the other personal pronouns have only free forms. The present study argues that syntactic and discourse factors play a role in determining which of the two forms of the 1sg and third person pronoun occurs in discourse.

The free form of the 1sg pronoun occurs as the subject of a two-argument verb when its object is absent. On the other hand, a discourse factor is relevant in the choice between the two forms when the 1sg pronoun occurs as the subject of a two-argument verb while the object is present or as the subject of a one-argument verb. The bound form is used when the 1sg pronoun is activated as the main participant in the discourse, while the free form is used when the 1sg pronoun is introduced or reintroduced to the discourse as an entity that was not mentioned in the preceding utterance.

The choice between the free and bound forms of the third person pronoun is rather complicated, since the third person pronoun can occur, not only as the subject, but also as the object of a two-argument verb. Firstly, when it is used as the subject of a two-argument verb, the choice between the free and bound forms depends on the transitivity of the verb: the free form occurs with a verb of high transitivity, while the bound form occurs with one of low transitivity. Secondly, when the third person pronoun serves as the object of a two-argument verb, the free form is used when it precedes the subject, while the bound form occurs when it follows the subject. The subject can precede or follow the third person pronoun, according to its status in the information structure, which means that the subject can be foregrounded when it conveys relatively important information, particularly when followed by the focus marker. Thirdly, when the third person pronoun occurs as the subject of a one-argument verb, the bound form tends to be used when it is activated during the discourse, while the free form tends to occur in its

inactivated context. It can also be pointed out that the free and bound forms are used in order to distinguish two different entities occurring in the same discourse that can both be referred to by the third person pronoun.