

Where the progressive and the resultative meet: Imperfective aspect in Japanese, Chinese, Korean and English.

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Where the Progressive and the Resultative Meet: Imperfective aspect in Japanese, Chinese, Korean and English

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This paper surveys the progressive and resultative morphology of Japanese, Chinese, Korean and English, and argues that the distinction between perfective and imperfective is the most fundamental of aspectual distinctions, analysis of this distinction can sometimes be murky. A unified account of the imperfective morphology in these languages is suggested on the interaction of inherent aspect and viewpoint aspect markers (Smith 1991). It is suggested that the differences between languages are the results of the different patterns and degrees of grammaticization of their imperfective markers.

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