The Intellectual Evolution of Humans: An Anthropological Exploration

Katsuhiko Someya
The Linguistic Society of Japan
24 Washinoya Kashiwa-city
Japan

Abstract

This study examined the intellectual evolution of humans. Anthropological studies are conventionally conducted by focusing on fossilized human remains and tools, but these types of materials have not enabled researchers to learn about the intellectual side of past human development. This study considers the origin of language, which has not been addressed, and it aims to thereby understand humans' past intellectual evolution. The study includes a discussion of methods and results.

Keywords: Discovery, origin of language

Introduction

This study investigated the intellectual evolution of humans, which is yet to be understood, by focusing on the origins of language. The study further aimed to illuminate the ultimate reason why humans have evolved from primates into humans, a higher race, and to provide insights for future research. The importance of this study lies in its pursuit and investigation of human thought, which requires a truly deep exploration. The evolution of the human species and the origins of language are unknown because of the lack of an exploration of the origins of animal behavior and a variety of other things in the humanities. The major contribution of this study, therefore, lies in its identification of the unknown rationality.

1.1 Section 1

Collection of sounds

a, h, k, m, n, s, t, y, r.

The above list comprises the nine sounds with which human language is built. These sounds are extracted from the alphabet. The reason that the 26 letters of the alphabet are reduced to nine is because the alphabet contains duplicate representations of sounds using distinct letters. For example, the letters "k" and "q" as well as "t" and "c" represent the same sound and "d" is a voiced consonant of "t." The following sounds are those that evolved with some particularity. For example, "o", "u," "e," and " I " could have emerged from "ho," "hu," "he," and "hi," from which the "h" has faded. The alphabet is believed to include all of the sounds required for language. The above list demonstrates that the seemingly highly complex human language is, in fact, built from these nine sounds.

Common words in the English and Yamato to Language

Many words are common among the languages of the world. However, because the numbers are so vast, this study focused on common words in the English and Yamato language. Yamato is an original name for "Japan," which is a name derived from Chinese. The fact that there are common words between the languages of two cultures that are distant from each other suggests that the basic parts of language originated in one region. Table 1 shows some common words in English and Yamato; each row identifies a word in English followed by its meaning, after which the Yamato word and its meaning are presented.

The Birth of Sounds for Language

k: This sound is obtained by hitting exhaled breath to the upper jaw as if coughing, resembling a dog's bark. Hypothetically, before mammals had developed vocal cords, they produced irritating fricative sounds by bashing the breath against the upper jaw to threaten their enemies.

The friction led to the development of vocal cords by stimulating the upper jaw. This phenomenon primordially led to the production of sound. Thus, this must be the oldest sound produced by mammals.

ku (tt)！ku (tt) !/(tt) is the mark of a double consonant

y: This sound is obtained by exhaling through the nose and creating an echo in the nasal cavity. When a puppy makes a feeble sound or when a cat begs for something, these animals create echoes in their nasal cavities. This sound is used to beg for something by presenting an appearance of weakness by applying a damper to the "k" sound. Therefore, humans have possessed this sound since before they were human and its origin must be found in crying.

yuerr・・・・・・

h: This sound is obtained by arranging both lips to form a circle as if puffing out a smoke ring and exhaling while voicing the sound, "Hoo." This sound is often used by monkeys and other primates. Hypothetically, this sound is an amplifying effect devised to convey sounds to others who are out of sight but within earshot. When in season, female Japanese macaques are believed to attract male macaques by voicing, "Hoo."The duet of a gibbon couple is a highly evolved play of sounds. Humans inherited this "Hoo" call, but, as humans evolved, they advanced the simple "Hoo" to a questioning call, "Hoor?"

Hoor ?・・・・・・・・

s: This sound can be obtained by vocalizing the sound "see!" while exhaling sharply between the teeth and grinding the teeth. Orangutans produce an unpleasant sound, "churrr," when something that they do not like approaches them. Probably, in the case of humans, this is sound is "see." However, in the case of orangutans, it resonates with their long lips. Moreover, chimpanzees spit at humans they do not like while voicing "shee!" as a deterrent behavior. Modern humans try to dispatch noisy dogs and cats with this sound. Long ago, human ancestors used this sound toward others they did not like. Thus, this is the sound that humans learned when they were primates.

See!

n: This sound is obtained by exhaling through the nose with the mouth closed and by producing voice at the same time. In other words, it denotes a response but it does not appear to be an independent word in cultures other than Yamato. When an individual clearly understands what another individual is communicating and is in agreement with him or her, the individual automatically responds in agreement, without hesitation, and this is what the "n" sound does. That one individual can clearly understand what another individual is communicating suggests a further evolution of the human brain and that the communicating individual clearly expressed himself or herself by gestures. Gestures are important and are discussed below.

N--------nrrrrr・・・・・・・

t: This sound is made by clicking the tongue. When the human nervous system evolved, it became very sensitive, and, when stress accumulated, someone clicked his or her tongue to release stress. However, when people began doing it, it was modern and sophisticated. Everyone imitated it and it became the fashion of the day. Thus, the "t" sound was born.

t, t, t, t・・・・・・・・・

a: This sound is obtained when the sounds" a(tt)!" or "aa!" are involuntarily expressed, an unintended production of sound. It is an exclamation. As humans' sensitivity gradually developed and became highly sophisticated, humans began to voice their emotions. This development predated singing and poetry and people who produced this sound were similar to modern humans. Originally, there was this one vowel, which is "a."

a (tt)！/ aarrr・・・・・!

m: This sound is produced by slightly opening the mouth. It is not an original sound, but a visual representation of an expressionless face. Evolved humans, such as thinkers, metaphysically produced this sound.

Muurr・・・・・・・・

R: This sound is obtained by vibrating the tongue to create a sound that was introduced to language by the thinker similar to the "m" sound. The sound of a vibrating tongue is produced by animals and birds as well as by humans.

It may be that, in the past, humans could not fully control their tongue and the tongue inevitably vibrated, particularly when an extended sound was produced.

Rrrrr・・・・・・・・

This section discussed the sounds that are produced by the mouth, their natures, and the spiritual process behind them, according to their order.

1.2 Section 2

The Gesture Hypothesis

It is hypothesized that, with few exceptions, humans began using gestures before they began using vocal language to communicate. This happened because of the sudden emergence of complicated words when there was no language, suggesting the existence of some means of expression, which could only have been gestures. However, due to the lack of conclusive evidence, the proposition is presented as a hypothesis. Gestures are common throughout the animal world. For example, horses scratch the ground with their forelegs to beg for food. Gorillas' drumming is well known. Macaques bare their teeth to indicate friendliness. Gesture is a natural way to enact feelings. Humans continued to rely on gestures until about 100,000 BCE, when language was fully formed. The intellectuality of the human species has been largely nurtured by gesture.

The Birth of One-Syllable Concepts

When humans began using gestures, professionals emerged to teach them how to use gestures. The more advanced among these professionals began thinking or engaging with metaphysics and some of them began to capture the concepts. These people are referred as "thinkers" in this study. Intellect grew in their highly-developed minds, which means that they began to logically think about things. This study refers to this thinking as metaphysics because it was more creative than culturally based Greek philosophy. An unknown thinker then posed the following question:

Question: "Hr?"

How do we make sense of "Hoorr….?" as a sound that we exchange when we meet others?

To those who were questioned, this was a two-part question. Confused, they produced the following tentative answers: "Hr?" is the informal mark of "Hoor?"

To ask how a person was feeling
To ask how a person was
To ask how a person's work was going
To ask whether person had experienced something interesting

The questioner was troubled because many answers were given to a question. He or she therefore pondered the contradiction and found the following suitable answers. It was to find commonality among several answers. For example:

To walk
To run
To jump　　　　　To carry and move the body (motion)
To swim
To fly

The commonality among these items is to carry and move the body. Therefore, the questioner explained this to his or her colleagues and posed the same question again. The commonality was identified as following:

Commonality: To care about the condition of a person
The answer to the question was thus defined as follows:
Answer: To inquire after if it is as it seems or not so.
The following are used at the present:
Hallo in English (Shigeru, 1967)
Hello in English (Shigeru, 1967)
Oo, a greeting in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991).
Or, in English (shigeru, 1967)

These prove that these words and concepts existed.

Question: "Yr"

How do we make sense of addressing someone feebly with the nasal sound, "Yuerr…."?
They first listed possible answers and looked for commonality among them.

When relying on someone
When asking for a favor
When asking for help from someone
When one is weak

Commonality: To ask for a favor from a weak position
Answer: To make a pathetic plea (in other words, to implore)

yo: to beg for something in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)
iu: say in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)

"Iu" is a later derivative, to plead. The "u" was added when it became a verb. These prove that the word and concept existed in the past. In Yamato, this was expressed as "to implore with a weeping."

Question: "Kr!"

How do we make sense of our shouting, "Kuurr….!" to each other?
They first listed possible answers and looked for commonality among them.

When scolding someone
When telling off someone
When threatening someone
When one is desperate

Commonality: To take an overbearing attitude
Answer: To yell at someone

cry: English(Shigeru, 1967)
k'ārā: to yell in Hausa(Matsushita, 1988)
Kora!: yelling in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)

These are proofs that the words existed.

Question: "Sr!"

How do we make sense of our producing, "seerr….!" through our teeth to those whom we do not like?

When we want to reject a person who is approaching
When we want to avoid people we do not like
When we want to exclude people who cause a hindrance
When we abandon people who are bad

Commonality: To treat a person as a nuisance

Answer: To expel a person
shoo: used to send birds away in English(Shigeru, 1967)
shi (tt)!: the same as above in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)
saru: to make the other leave in Yamato(Shinmura, 1991)

These are the proofs.

Question: "Nr"

How do we make sense of our reply to a person by producing the "N….nr" sound through the nose?

When we agree with a person
When we trust a person
When we commend a person
When we are interested in a person
Commonality: To agree

Answer: To harmonize a tone with a person [reference to harmonize atone with the saying of a person]

n・・・・・n : a word used in replying in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)
noru: to synchronize with something in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)

For example, to synchronize with the rhythm is to go along with the rhythm.
These are the proofs.

Question: "Tr"

How do we make sense of the clicking our tongues, "t, t, t, ….", or "Teerrr"?

When we are in a hurry to do something
When we are confused
When we are ashamed
When we have failed at something

Commonality: To be upset and irritated
Answer: To be irritated and impatient (impatience)

jirijiri: (to describe the state of impatience) in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)
jireru: (to be impatient) in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)

These are the proofs.

Question: "Ar!"
How do we make sense of saying, "A(tt)!" when surprised or saying, "Aarr!" when something does not go well?
How do we make sense of "Aarr….!"?

When we are surprised by something
When we are moaning
When we are tired of something
When we sigh

Commonality: To produce a sound unintentionally
Answer: To do something unintentionally

ah!: sigh in English(Shigeru, 1967)
a (tt) !a sound produced when surprised in Yamato(Shinmura, 1991)
aa: sigh: in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)
aléa: an unexpected event in French(Ei, 1982)

These are the proofs.

Question: "Mr"

How do we make sense of someone who is silent with his/her mouth shut? How do we make sense of "Muurr …."?

When we do not want to say anything
When we have a secret
When we are sulking
When we do not understand what a person is saying

Commonality: As it appears because he/she is silent
Answer: To be silent with the mouth shut

muro: wall: in Spanish(Takahashi, 1972).
muro: (an enclosed granary) in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)
mureru: (the state of being enclosed):in Yamato (Shinmura, 1991)

These are the proofs.

Question: "Rr"

When we try to produce voice, the "r r r…." sound is produced. How do we make sense of this "Ruu rr …."?
When the tongue is vibrating

When it is the tongue's habitual motion
When it is something that clings to the voice
When the tongue is tangled

Commonality: To cling stubbornly
Answer: To cling to somebody

Reel: in English (Shigeru, 1967)
lierre: ivy in French (Ei, 1982)

These are the proofs.

Because they obtained these nine answers, they should have been happy. However, a new problem emerged for them. For example, although the answer that "Kuur!" means "to yell" was obtained, it quickly became a new question: What does it mean to yell? When an answer to this question was obtained, it also became a new question.

The birth of two-syllable concepts

At the next stage, thinkers realized the following fact about adverbs: An adverb requires another word, such as in "quickly run" They began combining two words and developed 63 pairs of words. They continued to capture concepts. However, because there were a vast number of concepts, only the patterns are shown in this study. Tables 2 and 3 show the patterns in one-syllable concepts and two-syllable concepts, respectively. The concepts in Table 3are obtained by devising all of the two-concept combinations of the concepts presented in Table 2. The development of two-syllable concepts was heralded by the discovery of the adverb, "Ar," and the letter row starts with "Ar." In addition, because few modern language words end with Yr, it is listed in the far right column. The other concepts are generally organized according to the alphabet because their birth order is unknown. Concepts with more than two syllables came later. The thinkers continued to question, drawing from these 72 patterns of words. If they were to have had 100 stages of question-and-answer based on these, there would have been 7,200 concepts captured during the language creation period. However, this can be determined only when the origin of all words has been identified.

1.3 Section 3

The Intellectual origins

Early language is about social relations. Its purpose was not hunting or tool making and it was not about nature in the form of rain or wind; it was about fellow humans. Hypothetically, the subject of interest was in the habits of ancient prosimians that clung to each other. Because they lived in the trees, mothers tightly held their babies to keep them safe and babies clung to their mothers so as not to fall. This led to the more general behavior of clinging to each other and it surely meant that there was mutual conscious relationship. Having an interest in others was then passed onto common monkeys, to primates, and to humans. Greeting others with the sound, "Hoor," was a psychological reaction to being interested in others and this greeting, "Hoor," was the driving force that evolved primates into humans. This psychological reaction developed the greeting into the question "Hoor?" and those who were questioned needed to answer. However, they did not have a language with which to answer. Therefore, they naturally used gestures. Because of these developments, communication became highly sophisticated and, whenever they chanced to meet, they exchanged the word "Hoor?" (How are you?), which increased their consideration and affection toward each other. Answering another person's question required an individual to use her or his mind to determine a response and communication that was carried out by thinking beings evolved them toward modern human beings. The aforementioned "Nr," "Tr," and "Ar" demonstrate intellectual evolution at this stage. The subject of metaphysics, which those with stronger minds developed, was of the original seven words, to which two words were added. It is reasonable that they first pondered the mystery of rules—the question, "Hr?," soliciting an answer. Because of this, the question-and-answer method of investigating things was born. The creation of metaphysics and the understanding of concepts were one of the greatest developments in human evolution because, at that point, humans could learn about things that they could not see by asking a question and obtaining an answer. Moreover, everyone could learn about these things and they could discuss them as a group. The need to capture concepts was the unrivalled driving force of the further evolution of the human brain.

When there was no building worthy of its name, they constituted something similar to an academy in the field, where there were periodic presentations of captured concepts, and only those thinkers who passed the test were widely accepted among the people. People who passed the tests became referees and people who did not pass became itinerant teachers of language. Perhaps because they reached a point where there were no more new ideas, they began thinking about transforming language that expressed concepts into spoken language, at which point humans finally left their reliance on gestures. Thus, humans began focusing on making things, ushering in the Neolithic era. Spoken languages developed when humans formed ethnic groups and searched for new horizons and, consequently, each culture has a different language. The seven words discussed in Section 1 and gestures are believed to have been used by the Neanderthals and Denisovas, judging from the timing of their formation. However, metaphysics that captured concepts was created by *Homo sapiens*.

1. Discussion

This article presents inferences about human evolution based on language development and drawing on hypotheses, reasoning, and logic. There may be sharp criticism that the inferences are based on make-believe. Nevertheless, the facts of the distant past, which we cannot know, can be approached through reasoning and inference, starting with a hypothesis, as this study has done. If this important issue remains unaddressed as it has been to this point and if we remain ignorant of this fundamental issue, what is the use of science?

2. Conclusion

The conventional view is that human beings developed about the time of ancient Egypt. However, that is a fundamental mistake. This study has provided new insights into human origins by challenging these underdeveloped views. Humans began as lovable creatures, they early developed intellect, and they reached metaphysical thinking, which is the great basis on which human beings exist. When thinking about humans, or when taking an action regarding humans, we should not forget to respect ourselves as built on this evolution. Thinking about humans' intellectual evolution with respect to language is a method has never been tried before, so it needs a name. The term, "Meta-physical Anthropology," which refers to the need to identify the origins of all language from this point, is appropriate. This is the fundamental problem of all human beings and every person on Earth should pursue this subject.

Further Questions to be Asked

The study of language teaches us very little about human evolution in terms of regions and periods. However, fossilized human bones of *homo sapiens idaltu*, from about 160,000 BCE, were found in the Afar Depression in eastern Ethiopia. Accordingly, it can be surmised that human beings began engaging with metaphysics about 100,000 BCE in North Africa. This needs further investigation in the future.

3. References

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5. Notes

Hausa: The language is spoken in Tanzania and Uganda. With Arabic words mixed in.
Yamato: The original name of Japan. Yamato language refers to Japanese without Chinese words.

Table 1: Comparison of Common words in English and Yamato

English word	Meaning	Yamato word	Meaning
a	indefinite article	aru	refer to something indefinite
are	to be (verb)	aru	to be, is, are (verb)
beat		utsu	beat
boss		osa	boss
fire		hi	fire
hot		hoteru	to become hot
grass		kusa	grass
hello		oo	hello
I	first person singular	yo	first person singular
lovely		rohatashi	lovely
man		mono	man
mean		mune	meaning
no		nai	no
occur		okoru	occur
woman		omina	woman
–th		–tsu	–th

Table 2: Patterns in One-Syllable Concepts

Ar	Yr	Hr	Kr	Mr	Nr	Sr	Tr	Rr

Table 3: Patterns in Two-Syllable Concepts

AHr	AKr	AMr	ANr	ASr	ATr	AYr
YHr	YKr	YMr	YNr	YSr	YTr	YYr
HKr	HMr	HNr	HSr	HTr	HHr	HYr
KHr	KMr	KNr	KSr	KTr	KKr	KYr
MHr	MKr	MNr	MSr	MTr	MMr	MYr
NHr	NKr	NMr	NSr	NTr	NNr	NYr
SHr	SKr	SMr	SNr	STr	SSr	SYr
THr	TKr	TMr	TNr	TSr	TTr	TYr
RHr	RKr	RMr	RNr	RSr	RTr	RYr