

Special Issue

The Significance of My Conducting Life Story Research as a Japanese Language Education Practitioner

From the life story of a former privately financed
international student

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Abstract

In this paper, I give an account of the story of the storyteller, a former international student, and of the changes that occurred within me, the listener, while focusing on the dialogical nature of life story interviews. First, I talk about why I, a Japanese language teacher, started to conduct life story research. As a case study, I interpret former international student Ninko's interview and I make her story visible, while at the same time clarifying the changes in my personal stance. Finally, based on the account above, I make several considerations on the significance of my conducting life story research as a practitioner of Japanese language education.

Keywords

dialogical nature, self-reference, identity work, interviewer's stance, accountability

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