

Toward a More Textual, as Opposed to Conceptual, Approach to Metaphor Research

A Case Study of How to Cook a Husband

Kow KURODA* Keiko NAKAMOTO** Yoshikata SHIBUYA* Hitoshi ISAHARA*

*National Institute of Communications and Information Technology (NICT), Japan

**Bunkyo University, Japan

How to Cook a **Husband/Chicken** (as Ingredient)

[General Remarks]

A good many **husbands/chickens** are utterly spoiled by mismanagement in cooking and so are not tender and good. Some women keep them constantly in hot water; others let them freeze by their carelessness and indifference. Some keep them in a stew with irritating ways and **words/manners**) Some wives keep them pickled, while others waste them shamefully.

It cannot be supposed that any **husband/chicken** will be tender and good when so managed, but they are really delicious when prepared properly.

[On Selection]

In selecting a **husband/chicken**), you should not be guided by the silvery appearance as in buying a mackerel; nor by the golden tint as if you wanted salmon. Do not go to the market for **him/it** as the best ones are always brought to the door.

Be sure to select **him/it** yourself as tastes differ. It is far better to have none unless you will patiently learn how to cook **him/it**.

[On Preparation]

If **he/it** sputters, do not be anxious, for some **husbands/chickens** do this until they are quite done. Add a little sugar in the form of what confectioners call **kisses/magic powder**; use no pepper or vinegar on any account.

[On Finishing Preparation and Preserving]

You cannot fail to know when **he/it** is done. If so treated, you will find **him/it** very digestible, agreeing with you perfectly; and **he/it** will keep as long as you choose unless you become careless and allow **home fires/refrigerators** to grow **cold/too warm**. Thus prepared, **he/it** will serve a **life/longtime** of **happiness/pleasure**.

[On Serving]

Season to taste with spices, good **humor/wine** and **gaiety/sauce** preferred, but seasoning must always be used with great discretion and caution. Avoid sharpness in testing **him/it** for tenderness. Stir **him/it** gently.

Research Question

Observe the lexical difference between a pseudo-recipe (for cooking a **husband**) for metaphor and a real recipe (for cooking a **chicken**). Other lexical materials are the same. This suggests (1) and poses the question in (2):

- 1) **Metaphorical interpretation can be prepared/encoded through subtle lexical decisions/choices.**
- 2) **What is the mechanism for metaphor identification/recognition?**

The Whole Story (with Hope)

If we can successfully identify what pieces of text, or collocational/superlexical patterns, evoke situational conceptualizations --- equated with reasonably fine-grained "semantic frames" in terms of **FrameNet** (Fillmore et al. 2003---, then we can answer the question (2) above.

To avoid circularity, the association of situational meaning and lexical/syntactic patterns needs to be specified independently. In our work, this is achieved with (Parallel, Distributed) **Pattern Matching Analysis** (PMA: Kuroda 2000) and **Multidimensional Semantic Frame Analysis** (MSFA: Kuroda, et al. 2006).

"describes" relations identifies the correspondences between some kinds of (recipe) texts and the situational conceptualizations understood through superlexical patterns in them.

