

**A Study of Semantic Differences between “X is over” and “X is up”, both of
which mean “termination / completion” of Something**

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Both “X is over” and “X is up” mean termination / completion of X. The particle “over” represents a rotational movement parallel to the horizon of the earth. The movement represented by “over” is metaphorically similar to the whole process of an event: every event has a beginning, an unfoldment and an end. The movement can be likened to a rotation in an arc on the axis parallel to the horizon represented by “over” semicircle. The movement tracing an arc to the opposite side results in end of the event and hence “over” implies termination / completion. In turn, the particle “up” has two conflicting meanings of “termination / completion”: completion after fulfillment and completion resulting from depletion. When we say “The waiter filled up my glass with beer”, my glass is filled with beer to its brim and the action of pouring beer is completed. When we say “Drink up your beer”, the drinker’s glass is emptied and the action of drinking beer is completed, which means depletion leading to completion. The meaning “termination / completion” in “X is up” has to do with both “fulfillment” and “depletion” of the content.