

A characterisation of living language in spoken and written Chinese language

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Abstract. This paper analyses the features of living language in spoken and written Chinese. By comparing the characteristics of spoken and written Chinese, the mechanism of generation and manifestation of activated language are explored. It is found that spoken Chinese has a strong variability, flexibility and real-time nature, which is manifested in such features as lexical diversity, grammatical simplification and omission, and phonological variation specific to spoken language. Written Chinese, on the other hand, is more standardised and stable, focusing on accuracy and normality, manifested in rigorous grammatical structure, fixed vocabulary usage and formal tone. These features of living language correspond to different language needs and communication purposes in the use of spoken and written language. Therefore, it is important to understand and master the features of modalised language in order to improve the expressive ability of spoken and written Chinese.

Keywords: Spoken Chinese; Written Chinese; Vivisection.

1. Introduction

Language is an important tool for human communication and expression, and Chinese, as one of the most spoken languages in the world, exhibits different characteristics of spoken and written language in different contexts. As a form of immediate communication, spoken language focuses on communicative effect and emotional expression, and is characterised by liveliness and flexibility. Written language, on the other hand, pays more attention to accuracy and standardisation, and is suitable for formal occasions and written communication. The purpose of this paper is to analyse the features of dynamic language in spoken and written Chinese, in order to deeply understand the rules and characteristics of the use of spoken and written Chinese. By analysing the features of living language, we can better master the expressions of spoken and written Chinese, and improve the ability to use the language and the communicative effect.

2. The Living Language Characteristics of Spoken Chinese

2.1. Vocabulary diversity and ad hoc creation

Vocabulary diversity and ad hoc creativity are important aspects of the features of living language in oral communication. In spoken language, people often need to express their thoughts, feelings and needs in immediate communication, and therefore require more flexible and varied vocabulary choices.

Firstly, lexical diversity in oral communication is reflected in the use of different words to express similar meanings. Depending on different regions, cultural backgrounds and personal preferences,

people may choose different words to express the same concept or meaning. This diversity makes oral communication more colourful^[1].

Secondly, lexical creation in oral communication is often ad hoc. People may create new words or use colloquial slang when they encounter a new situation or need to express a particular concept. These new words may be simplifications, abbreviations or combinations of existing words to meet the needs of communication. This ad hoc creation of vocabulary reflects the immediacy and creativity of oral communication.

The diversity and ad hoc creation of vocabulary make oral communication more characterised by the expression of personality and emotion. They can help people express their thoughts and feelings more accurately and directly, enhancing the effectiveness of communication and the depth of communication. However, for non-native speakers, mastering lexical diversity and ad hoc creativity in oral communication is a challenge. Therefore, through active participation in oral communication, learning authentic oral expressions and exposure to real-life contexts, the ability to understand and apply lexical diversity and ad hoc creativity can be improved, so as to better adapt to the requirements of oral communication.

2.2. Simplification and omission of grammar

Grammatical simplification and omission are important aspects of the living language features of oral communication. As oral communication focuses on fluency and immediate response, simplification and omission of grammar use often occurs.

Firstly, grammatical structures in spoken language are relatively simplified. In the pursuit of fluency and speed, complex grammatical structures are often simplified in spoken language and simple sentences or phrases are used to convey meaning. Long, complex sentences are broken down into concise expressions, reducing the use of modifiers and clauses. Such simplification improves the fluency and clarity of spoken communication^[2].

Secondly, omission is common in oral communication. Subjects, verbs or articles, etc. are often omitted in spoken language, and only key information is retained to convey meaning. For example, "Have you eaten?" can be omitted as "Have you eaten?" or "Have you eaten?" This kind of omission can convey information more quickly and reduce redundancy in communication.

Grammatical simplification and omission contribute to communicative effectiveness and fluency in oral communication. However, it may be difficult for non-native speakers to understand and apply such grammatical features. Therefore, through active participation in oral communication, exposure to authentic oral materials, imitation and practice of oral expression, one can gradually master the rules of simplification and omission of grammar and improve the expressive ability and communicative effect of oral communication. At the same time, the teaching and learning of grammar should also focus on the practical application of oral communication, cultivate learners' ability to use grammar flexibly, and improve the naturalness and accuracy of oral communication.

2.3. Phonological variation and intonation changes specific to spoken language

Phonological variation and intonation changes specific to spoken language are important aspects of the living language features in oral communication. Phonological variation and intonation change play a role in conveying emotion, emphasising emphasis and expressing will in spoken language.

Firstly, there is regional and inter-personal phonological variation in oral communication. Due to the differences in accents and speech habits in different regions, people will have certain variations in pronunciation. For example, the clarity of pronunciation, syllabic alliteration and changes in consonants are common phonological variations in spoken communication. These phonetic variations make the spoken language more local and personal^[3].

Secondly, intonation change in oral communication is an important means of expressing emotions and intentions. By varying the level of intonation, the rise and fall of pitch and the position of pauses,

people can convey different emotional attitudes, such as excitement, agitation, questions or commands. Intonation changes can also be used to emphasise a point, make a turn or express an intention. Intonation changes in oral communication make communication more lively and interesting, and enhance the effectiveness of message delivery.

Understanding and applying phonological variation and intonation changes specific to spoken language is crucial to improving oral expression. For non-native speakers, understanding and adapting to the local accent and speech habits, and mastering the correct application of phonetic variation and intonation change are key. By listening to and imitating authentic spoken language, actively participating in oral communication and interacting with native speakers, the accuracy and naturalness of phonetic variation and intonation change in oral communication can be gradually improved.

Education and training should also focus on the teaching of phonetic variation and intonation changes specific to spoken language. Through targeted training and practice, learners can be helped to master correct pronunciation skills and intonation expression, so as to improve the fluency and naturalness of oral communication. At the same time, diversified speaking materials and real-life contexts should be provided to enable learners to experience and use the unique phonetic variation and intonation changes of spoken language in practice, so as to further enhance the ability and effect of oral expression.

3. Normative and Stability Characteristics of the Written Chinese Language

3.1. Rigorous grammatical structure and usage

Rigorous grammatical structure and usage are important features in written language, which emphasises the accuracy, regularity and logic of language. Written language pays more attention to the completeness and accuracy of grammatical structure than to simplification and omission in spoken communication.

Firstly, a rigorous grammatical structure ensures that the message is conveyed clearly and accurately. Written language requires that sentences be tightly structured, that the relationship between individual components be clear, and that grammatical rules be strictly adhered to. The accuracy and consistency of sentence expression can be ensured through the accurate use of subject-verb-object structure, the correct placement of modifiers and the proper use of grammatical tenses^[4].

Secondly, rigorous grammatical usage ensures the normality and regularity of language. Written language focuses on the correct use of lexis, morphology, tone and grammatical rules to avoid grammatical errors and ambiguities. Correct subject-verb agreement, verb tense and inflection, and referential agreement of pronouns are all important aspects of rigorous grammatical usage.

Rigorous grammatical structures and usage in written language help to convey clear and precise messages and improve readers' understanding and interpretation of texts. However, mastering rigorous grammatical structures and usage can be challenging for non-native speakers. Therefore, it is necessary to build up grammatical knowledge and application skills through systematic grammar study and practice. In addition, reading good written materials, imitating and practising writing can also improve accuracy and proficiency in grammatical structures and usage.

Education and training should focus on the teaching of grammatical structures and usage. Through systematic grammar instruction, explanation of grammar rules and practice of example sentences, learners are helped to understand and apply rigorous grammar structures and usage. At the same time, writing instruction and feedback are provided to guide learners to apply rigorous grammar structure and usage to written expression and to develop grammatical awareness and grammatical accuracy.

3.2. Fixed lexical usage and idiomatic expressions

Fixed vocabulary usage and idiomatic expressions are important elements in language, and they play an important role in both spoken and written language. These fixed vocabulary usages and idiomatic expressions include idioms, idioms, slang, proverbs, etc., which have fixed meanings and usages in specific contexts.

Firstly, fixed vocabulary usage and idiomatic expressions enrich language expression. They are social and cultural deposits, carrying specific cultural connotations and values. Through the use of fixed vocabulary usage and idiomatic expressions, people can express themselves more accurately and vividly and communicate with others more effectively^[5].

Secondly, fixed vocabulary usage and idiomatic expressions enhance the expressive power and emotional colour of language. These vocabulary and expressions often carry emotional overtones and are better able to express emotional attitudes such as joy, anger, sadness, praise and criticism. For example, the use of idioms to express a shared experience or emotion can better resonate with and be understood by the listener.

Fixed vocabulary usage and idiomatic expressions play an important role in language learning and use. For non-native speakers, learning and understanding fixed vocabulary usage and idiomatic expressions require accumulation and application. Through reading, listening and interaction with native speakers, they can gradually master these fixed vocabulary usage and idiomatic expressions, and improve the authenticity and naturalness of their language expressions.

Education and training should focus on teaching fixed vocabulary usage and idiomatic expressions. Provide rich language materials, including excellent literature, spoken expressions in real contexts, etc., so that learners can be exposed to and understand fixed vocabulary usage and idiomatic expressions. At the same time, through explanation and practice, learners are helped to grasp the meaning and usage of these fixed expressions and develop the ability to express themselves in an authentic manner.

4. Conclusions

This paper analyses the features of living language in spoken and written Chinese. The features of living language include lexical diversity and ad hoc creation, grammatical simplification and omission, phonological variation and intonation change specific to the spoken language, as well as fixed lexical usage and idiomatic expressions. These features show different expressions and styles in spoken and written languages, enriching the expressive power of the Chinese language. For youth groups, mastering these living language features is crucial to improving language expression and social interaction. Through education and guidance, we can help young people use language correctly and improve their language learning, oral expression and written writing abilities, so that they can better cope with the communication needs in modern society.

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