

MASTER'S THESIS

A world apart or two sides of the same coin: exploring speaking and writing in Hong Kong

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**A WORLD APART OR
TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN :
EXPLORING SPEAKING AND WRITING IN HONG KONG**

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Abstract

Spoken-written language comparisons is a relatively new research direction but studies of the kind have contributed greatly to our understanding of language. This study attempts to explore the uncharted domain of the Chinese language in this area with the intention to acquire a better understanding of the 'Chinese' used in Hong Kong. To define the current study to a manageable scale, the research question posed is : what are the differences in the spoken and written Chinese in Hong Kong with respect to cohesive relation and the deployment of conjunctive devices? The data solicited for analysis focuses on one type of discourse - television talk-show on current affairs. Halliday and Hasan's model of cohesion has been adopted as the theoretical base for the analysis. The findings have indicated that both the spoken and written Chinese under study exploit all four types of conjunctive relation defined in the Halliday & Hasan model, namely, Additive, Adversative, Causal and Temporal. There are, however, variations as to the extent of their deployment. The analysis has also identified distinctive sets of conjunctive devices preferred in the respective code of the language.

論文摘要

口語和書面語比較是個較新的研究領域，但這方面的研究大大有助我們進一步認識語言。本研究希望在這課題上探討一個仍有待發掘的語言領域——中文，藉此加深對在香港使用的‘中文’的認識。由於可涉獵的圍範非常大，因此本研究集中討論的是：究竟在香港使用的口語和書面語在銜接關係(cohesive relation)及連接詞語(conjunctive devices)的應用上有何分別？供分析用的語言數據取自一個專門討論時事的電視節目，故此屬同一類的話語形態。分析採用Halliday and Hasan有關語篇銜接(textual cohesion)的理論模式。分析結果顯示口語和書面語同樣利用積累式(Additive)、轉拆式(Adversative)、因果式(Causal)、時序式(Temporal)等四種關係形式來表述語言成份之間的銜接關係，但程度卻有所不同；本研究亦分別從口語及書面語中識別出各自較多使用的連接詞語。

Table of Contents

1. Introduction
 - 1.1 Motivation
 - 1.2 A comparable parameter
 - 1.3 Defining the study

2. Background
 - 2.1 Literature review
 - 2.1.1 Historical development - A traditional bias
 - 2.1.2 A brief overview of past work
 - 2.2 Language situation in Hong Kong
 - 2.2.1 Definition and perception
 - 2.2.2 Linguistic differences

3. Understanding the notions
 - 3.1 Speaking and writing - process and product
 - 3.2 Cohesion
 - 3.2.1 Cohesion as a component in the linguistic system
 - 3.2.2 Three underlying premises
 - 3.2.3 Domains of cohesive relations
 - 3.3 Cohesion study on Chinese

4. Methodology
 - 4.1 Data Base
 - 4.1.1 Some methodological considerations
 - 4.1.2 Collection of data
 - 4.2 Unit of analysis
 - 4.2.1 Spoken data - intonation unit (utterance unit)
 - 4.2.2 Written data - clausal unit
 - 4.3 Framework
 - 4.3.1 Conjunction as a cohesive relation
 - 4.3.2 The four types of conjunctive relation
 - 4.3.3 Continuatives - a residual category
 - 4.4 Chinese connective items

5. Analysis of data
 - 5.1 Additive relation
 - 5.2 Adversative relation
 - 5.3 Causal relation
 - 5.4 Temporal relation
 - 5.5 Continuatives

6. Findings and Discussion
 - 6.1 Summary of findings
 - 6.2 A microscopic view of the connectives
 - 6.2.1 Additive connectives
 - 6.2.2 Causal connectives
 - 6.2.3 Adversative connectives
 - 6.2.4 Temporal connectives

7. Conclusion

Notes

Appendices

- A : Connectives items identified in the corpus classified by conjunctive relations
- B : Notes on Transcription
- C1 : Spoken Data I (extract)
- C2 : Written Data I (extract)
- D1 : Spoken Data II (extract)
- D2 : Written Data II (extract)
- E1 : Spoken Data III (extract)
- E2 : Written Data III (extract)
- F : Extract of the corresponding part of a discourse segment in the spoken and written samples of Data II

Reference