



Usefulness of Phonology

——Benefit to the Appreciation of Chinese Poetry



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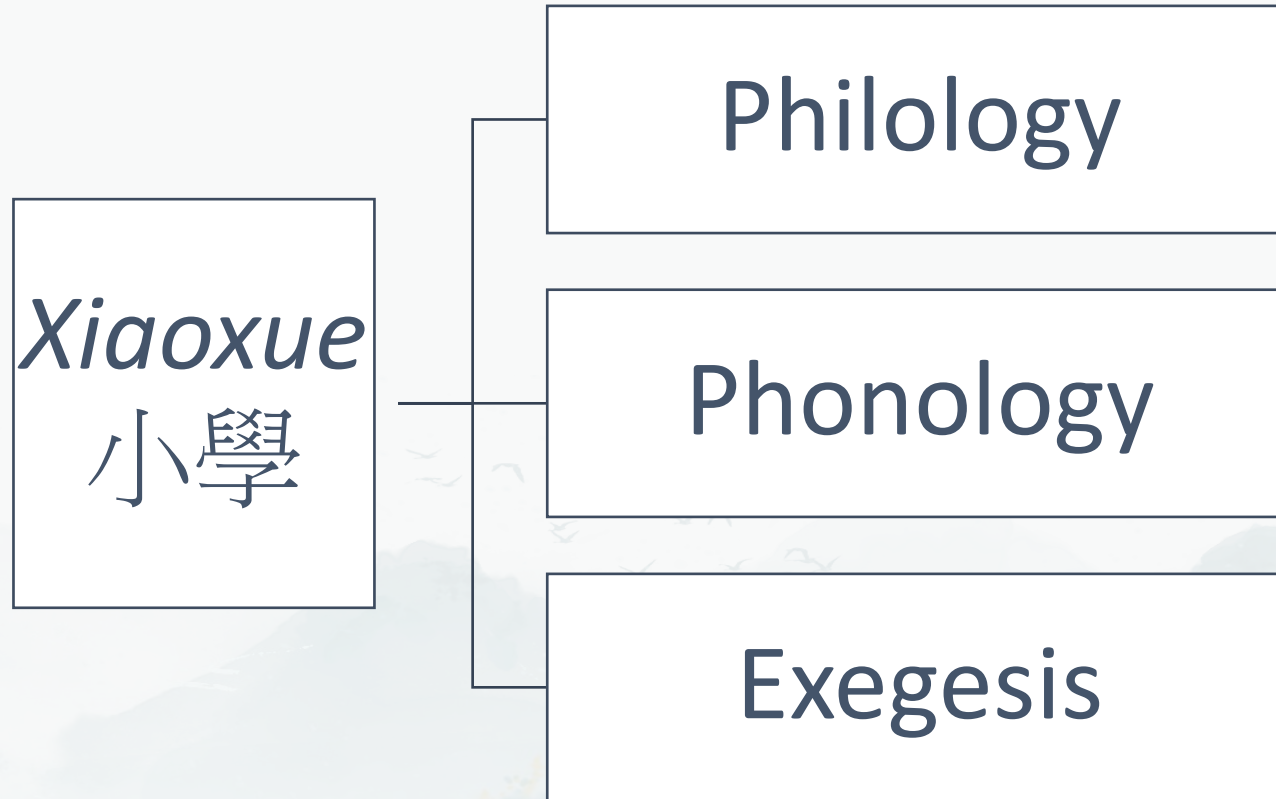
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01

Introduction

What is Phonology?



What is Phonology?

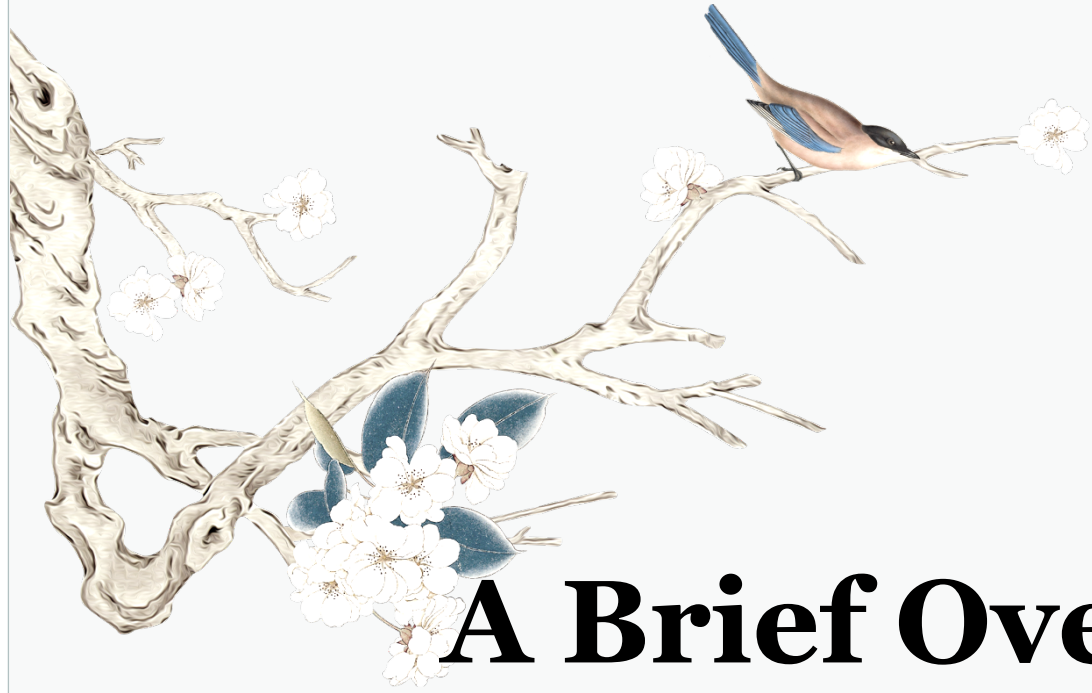
Phonology

Phonetic



Why do we need to learn Phonology?

- To read the classics.
- Better understand the modern Chinese.
- Necessary tool for the study of literature.



02

A Brief Overview of Chinese Poetry



2. A Brief Overview of Chinese Poetry

‘Poems is the expressing of people’s mind. The aspiration exists in mind, then expressing in word, which calls poetry.’

詩者，志之所之也，在心爲志，發言爲詩。

——*shi daxu* 詩大序

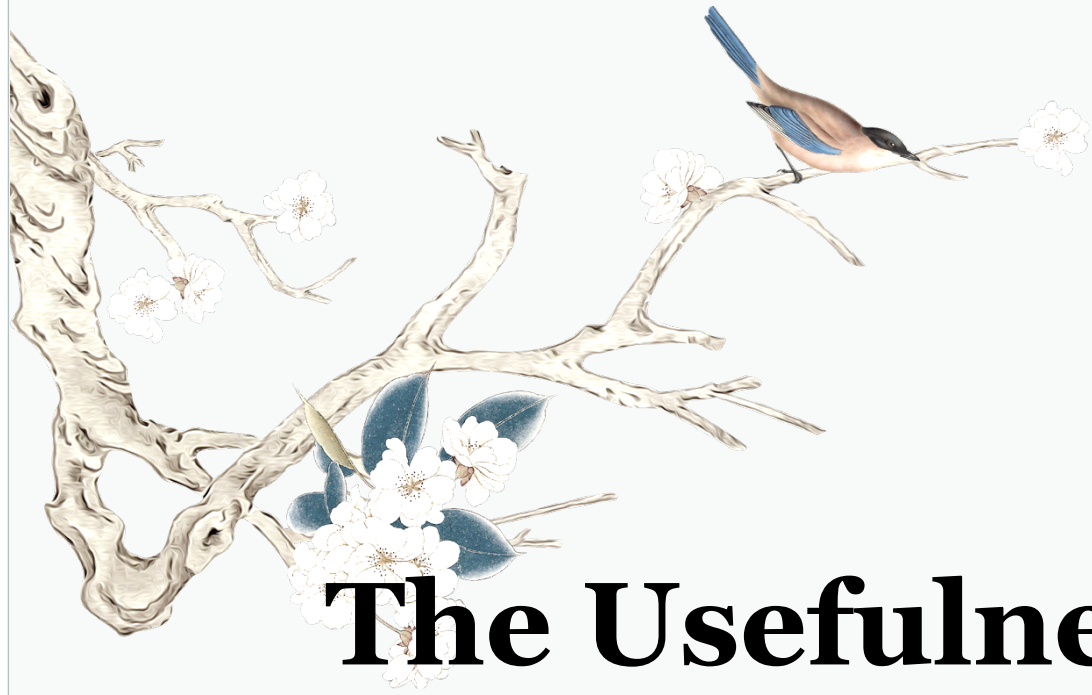
2. A Brief Overview of Chinese Poetry



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‘Different initial consonants alternate with each other, which called “harmony”. The same sound repeated in each sentence, which called “rhyme”.’
異音相從謂之和，同聲相應謂之韻。

—— *wenxin diaolong* 文心雕龍



03

The Usefulness of Phonology on Chinese Poetry

3.1 Distinguish the rules of *ping* and *ze*

<i>Ping</i> 平	<i>ping</i> 平 (even tones)
<i>shang</i> 上	<i>ze</i> 仄 (uneven tones)
<i>qu</i> 去	
<i>ru</i> 入 (the entering tone)	

3.1 Distinguish the rules of *ping* and *ze*

‘There were no birds on the mountains around, and there was not even a trace of people on the path. Only in a boat on the river was an old man, wearing a straw raincoat and a bamboo hat, fishing alone in the cold river.’

千山鳥飛絕，萬徑人蹤滅。
孤舟蓑笠翁，獨釣寒江雪。

—— *jiangxue* 江雪 of *Liu zongyuan* 柳宗元

3.1 Distinguish the rules of *ping* and *ze*

<i>Jue</i> 絕 (<i>qingxue qie</i> 情雪切)	<i>xue</i> rhyme of the entering tone 入聲「薛」韻
<i>mie</i> 滅 (<i>wanglie qie</i> 亡列切)	
<i>xue</i> 雪 (<i>xiangjue qie</i> 相絕切)	

3.2 Analysis of *ge/v* (the rules of poems)

***Ping* and *ze* alternate in this sentence,**

‘ping ping ze ze ping ping ze’

(平平仄仄平平仄)

***Ping* and *ze* are in opposition in couplets.**

‘ping ping ze ze ping ping ze, ze ze ping ping ze ze ping’

(平平仄仄平平仄，仄仄平平仄仄平)

3.2 Analysis of *ge/v* (the rules of poems)

‘The light rain is moist in the street of the capital. when I look from a distance, the grass is dimly connected, but when approached it is sparse. The most beautiful scene of the year is this early spring, it is far better than full of green poplars in the late spring.’

天街小雨潤如酥，草色遙看近卻無。
最是一年春好處，絕勝煙柳滿皇都。

——*zaochun* 早春 of Han yu 韓愈

3.2 Analysis of *ge/v* (the rules of poems)

天街小雨潤如酥，草色遙看近卻無。

(平平仄仄仄平平，仄仄平平仄仄平)

‘ping ping ze ze ze ping ping, ze ze ping ping ze ze ping’

最是一年春好處，絕勝煙柳滿皇都。

(平平仄仄平平)

jue絕 (*qingxue qie*情雪切)

‘ze ze ping ping ping ze ze, ze ping ping ze ze ping ping’

(仄仄平平平仄仄，仄平平仄仄平平).

3.3 Understanding of Rhyme



3.3 Understanding of Rhyme

‘Green hills lay on the north side of the city and moats surrounded the east. We are about to leave here; you are about to embark on journey of thousands of miles like wild goose. The white clouds floating in the sky, like you. The sun cannot bear to sink, also like our friendship. We waved goodbye and went our separate ways. Your horse seemed unable to bear to leave, hissing, adding to my sorrow of parting.’

青山橫北郭，白水繞東城。此地一為別，孤蓬萬里徵。 /-ɤŋ/
浮雲遊子意，落日故人情。揮手自茲去，蕭蕭班馬鳴。 /-ɪŋ/

Geng 庚 Rhyme

——*song youren* 送友人 of *Li bai* 李白



04 Conclusion

4. Conclusion



Phonology

ping and ze

平仄

gelv

格律

Rhyme



Thank you for listening.