

Portfolio of HPEN7007

Language Variation and Change

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A comparison between IPA words from Gettysburg's Speech and that of Chinese English

Language variation is the change and differentiation of language throughout the process of utilization, which is embodied in various forms of variation within the language. Making a general observation^{of} in the history of language development, we could discern that language is not immutable, the development of language is a process of change, since variation is an essential character of language. Based on ~~language~~ ^{the linguistic} theory of ordered heterogeneity, Weinreich and Labov (1968) believed that language is an objective entity of orderly heterogeneity. Heterogeneity implies that language does not exist uniformly in the language system, that is to say, there is not only single language form within a language system, and ~~it's~~ ^{it is} composed of diverse forms instead. Not only English, but ~~for~~ every language, ~~it~~ has multiple sub-systems, and each sub-system could be treated as a relatively independent and unaffiliated language system. For example, people who live on ~~border~~ where two countries are adjacent, then two languages will meet each other, for those people they would obtain language system of both languages. Similarly, people from different district who live close to both districts would possess ~~a~~ system of dialects from both areas. As for them we mentioned above, who master subsystems of two language or two dialects, their language tend to consist of two "forms", that is, the pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of different languages or dialects. The language order, on the other hand, denotes that different subsystems compete with each other rather than complement each other. In different language environments and in the face of different communication objects, speakers would choose dissimilar language subsystems. The competition and interference between these subsystems promote the generation and development of language variation. The components that cause language variation are originally in a state of disorder, dissociation and randomness, and have less impact on application of language users when they employ their language system. But when a certain variation element is slowly and generally accepted by a certain group of language users within a language community, then those variation elements will alter from disorder to an ordered state, thus the change of language then begins, and the variation of language also comes into being.

The causes of language variation are not accidental, language variation is the combined effects of both internal and external factors. The internal factors of language could determine principles and forms of language variation, which is generally reflected in the aspects of pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar, etc. The external factors of language are mainly caused by social factors. The fundamental nature of language is sociality and also, it's the root of language variation. Language variation is ubiquitous, without variation there would be no evolution, progress and development of language.

In the perspective of the theory on language variation, language could not exist independently as symbol system that apart from human society, and any variation of language is challenging to be unaffected by social influence.

The theory of linguistic variation has a strong explanatory power for the formation of English language variant. If the world of English as an orderly heterogeneous system, English applied in different zones have its own localization heterogeneous factors, except for core English. Regional variants occur when these heterogeneous factors become more influential in the local community and begin to spread. Chinglish is a typical example of this, Chinese researchers have put their focus on China English for a long time, and they have obtained their understanding towards it in more depth. The notion of Chinese English was first proposed by Ge (1980), he stated that since whether in old days or nowadays of China, there is something special for China and Chinese people to express when applying English. Since then, many experts and researchers have given definitions of Chinese English, with principal ideas enumerated as the following points: 1. Chinglish is the native English used in China by native Chinese speakers; 2. Chinglish adopts standard or normative English as its common core; 3. Chinglish is employed to convey things and concepts that specific to China.

According to the view of orderly heterogeneous of language, it is inevitable that there will be interference from the mother tongue of Chinese since there are two subsystems for Chinese people, that are both Chinese language and English language exist when they employ English. It is this interference that gives rise to the language variation, namely, Chinglish. Chinglish is also a variant of Standard English, its grammar standard is based on the English grammar of the English-speaking countries, and it is good at expressing concepts and things that typical to Chinese society, such as their own economy and culture. At the same time, Chinglish is influenced by indigenous thoughts in terms of sentence structures and discourses.

In the domain of English, Chinglish could be treated as a concept for derogatory meaning, which is affected by Chinese language for its pronunciation, mode of thinking, grammar and other deviations of the non-standard English. Based on the theory of linguistic variation, we could believe that Chinglish is a language of continuum, and the trend of its development is: Pidgin English - Chinese English - a variant of Standard English. If the absence of Chinese language culture and the interference of Chinese language are the direct cause of the emergence of Chinese English, then the development and change of society is the origin of its formation. The theory of linguistic variation holds that the development of society would have impacts on language, including variation and development of language. Chinglish is the result of the combination of globalization and localization of English and also the inevitable outcome of social development. The spread and development of English in the world is accompanied by two forces: centripetal and centrifugal. The former makes English converges toward globalization, while the latter makes English mutates into localization. With the continuous increase of China's international influence and the continuous improvement of the breadth and depth of cross-regional, cross-language

and cross-cultural communication, the communication between China and the world needs to be conducted through English. Since the increasing demand for international communication and the increasing number of Chinese people applying English, an orderly English variant with Chinese characteristics has been quietly formed. Most domestic and foreign scholars hold a positive attitude towards Chinglish. Bolton (2011), a well-known world English language expert, he fully recognizes the objective existence of Chinese English variants. Kirkpatrick (2002) predicted at the beginning of this century that it was inevitable to call Chinglish a variant of English. Hong Kong scholars He Deyuan (2009) summarized the prominent features of Chinglish from four aspects, the phonetics, lexis, sentence patterns and discourse, and he found that college students of China have a certain cognition on the concept of Chinglish variant.

This paper will focus on pronunciation of American English and Chinese English, taking Gettysburg's Speech as an example to analyze the differences between IPA standard American English pronunciation and Chinglish pronunciation. By showing the video of Gettysburg's Speech to a Chinese college student who learns English as a foreign language, and then having this student to repeat it in his own English, the whole process is recorded. Thirty words are selected to compare the differences between the standard IPA American English pronunciation and the Chinese student's English pronunciation  5

Table 1 shows 30 words selected from the speech, which indicate the standard IPA American pronunciation and the pronunciation of Chinese students.

Original Words	IPA notated words of American English	IPA notated words of Chinese English
four	/fɔːr/	/foː/
continent	/'kɑːntɪnənt/	/'kɑngtɪnənt/
liberty	/'lɪbərti/	/'lɪbedi/
nation	/'neɪʃn/	/'leɪʃn/
proposition	/,prəːpə'zɪʃn/	/,prəːper'zɪʃn/
war	/wɔːr/	/woː/
whether	/'weðə/	/'wezə/
conceived	/kən'siːvd/	/kɑng'siːvd/
endure	/ɪn'dʊr/	/'ɪnjʊr/
portion	/'pɔːrʃn/	/'pɔːʃn/

gave	/geɪv/	/gaɪv/
proper	/'prɑ:pər/	/'prɑ:pə/
sense	/sens/	/sɪns/
resolve	/rɪ'zɑ:lv/	/'rɪzɒlv/
hallow	/'hæləʊ/	/'haləʊ/
far	/fɑ:r/	/fɑ:/
poor	/pɔ:r/	/pʊr/
can	/kæn/	/kən/
nor	/nɔ:r/	/nɒ:/
long	/lɔ:ŋ/	/lɑŋg/
remember	/rɪ'membər/	/rɪ'membə/
never	/'nevər/	/'nevə/
forget	/fər'get/	/fə'get/
rather	/'ræðər/	/'ræðə/
nobly	/'nɒbli/	/'nɒbli/
advanced	/əd'vænst/	/'ədvaŋgst/
for	/fɔ:r/	/fɒ:/
honored	/'ɑ:nərd/	/'ɑŋgnərd/
dead	/ded/	/deɪd/
freedom	/'fri:dəm/	/'fri:dəŋg/

Pronunciation in speech flow is restricted by features of physiological and psychological, as well as social communication, based on those variants, subtle variations would be generated. It could be roughly divided into three categories: the internal reasons based on physiology and psychology, and external reasons influenced by social communication. Therefore, we believe that phonetic variation is not subjective and arbitrary, but follows certain principles of objectivity.

1. Language variation by physiological cause

The utterance is coherent when people are speaking, each segment sound within an utterance is always accomplished at one stretch, and then the adjacent words would inevitably have influence on each other. When we speak, a certain phonetic fragment is always influenced by neighboring phonetic fragments, that is, phonetic context, and this influence could often reach a kind of over-lapping activity, ~~they describe this as~~ context-sensitivity (Clark & Yallop, 2000). From this point of view, the physiological reason of phonetic variation actually refers to the narrowness of space occupied by our phonetic organs, the proximity of the phonetic organs and the continuity of actual pronunciation, which could be better explained by assimilation, aspirated/unaspirated of language phonetic variation.

From the recording of the Chinese student, we could notice that the word four /fɔːr/, this Chinese student pronounced it as /foː/, that is the alphabet /ɔ/ and /r/ are emerged in one sound, it would take less effort for the Chinese student to pronounce. Another word liberty /'lɪbərti/, the Chinese student read it as /'libedi/, which the IPA standard American English aspirated /ti/ becomes unaspirated Chinglish /di/, Chinese students pronouncing this way is more in line with the Chinese pinyin system, which makes English pronunciation easier among Chinese people.

2. Language variation by social communication

In informal language communication, pronunciation variations would exist, such as weakening, abscission and dissimilation. These phonetic variations are not compulsory, but possible variants that would utilize by the speaker in informal situations, they are a free variant.

In this recording, the word can /kæn/ to be pronounced as /kən/, /æ/ are weakened into /ə/, to follow ^{the} aesthetic principle of pronunciation and avoid monotonous pronunciation. In Mandarin, most of the phonemes are the same as in English. The pronunciation system of Chinese is similar with that of English, including vowels and consonants, and most of the vowels and consonants are pronounced through the same way. The pinyin system invented in China is to connect with system of international phonetic. In terms of vowel pronunciation, the similarities and differences between Chinese and English pronunciation are similar to that of consonants, but there are five vowels in English which are absent from Chinese. For instance, the sound /æ/, /e/, and /ɔɪ/, in the recording, as for the word can, the Chinese student tends to pronounce it from /kæn/ to /kən/, which is also influenced by the Chinese pinyin system.

Another word honored /'ɑːnərd/ /'angnerd/, ~~alphabet~~ ^{in the case of} h is dropped when pronouncing, since in casual speech, two sounds that are linked together could be difficult to pronounce, then the h sound is not pronounced to reduce the difficulty. Chinese students pronounce the word /'ɑː/ as /'angː/, in line with Chinese pinyin system.

According to pinyin system, the majority number of consonants in English exists in Chinese pinyin system as well. But for certain English consonants such as /θ/, /ʃ/ and /ð/, for example the word whether /'weðər/ contains sound /ð/ which we couldn't encounter in Chinese pinyin system, thus /'wezə/ is pronounced by the student in the speech recording, they are not in line with Chinese pinyin, thus for words like this,

thick, thunder, etc., Chinese student may encounter obstacle in terms of pronunciation. In pinyin system, syllable of Chinese is form of monosyllable, for each Chinese character it has only one consonant with one or two vowels, except for characters their syllable end with /ng/, but /ng/ in pinyin system only serve as nasal sound rather than consonants. Consonant clusters are common phenomenon in English but not for pinyin system. Then the word whether/'weðər/ would be pronounced as /'wezə/ by Chinese student, the sound /ð/ is abandoned for /z/, since in pinyin there is the sound /z/ but not the sound /ð/.

3. Language variation by psychological cause

The communicative reasons for phonetic variation are based on occasion (formal or informal) in which people are facing, and at the same time, the psychological motivation of the speaker could be sensed, such as increasing the sense of rhythm, avoiding awkwardness, and expressing elegantly, etc. Therefore, we believe that elements of psychology and communication are inseparable, since communication is psychological, the most basic function of language is to convey information, but it is undeniable that language is also aesthetic, that is, how to express ideas efficiently, fluently and beautifully in the process of communication is the connotation of language.

4. Language variation by stress cause

What truly affects Chinese students' learning of English pronunciation is language rhythm. In my observation, students do not have a good grasp of language stress, since in the monosyllabic pronunciation system of Chinese pinyin, there is no stress within words. However, in English pronunciation, students sometimes get confused about stress. In the process of pronunciation teaching and training of a single word, there might be no especially proper instructional approach that contained example of Chinese pronunciation in it. For Chinese students they need to memorize and master individual word stress one by one. For instance, words from speech such as endure/'n'dʊr/, advanced/'ædvənst/, resolve/'rɪzəlv/, the Chinese student pronounce it as /'ɪnjʊr/, /'ædvəŋst/ and /'rɪzɒlv/ respectively with words stress altered. Therefore, when Chinese students are learning English phonics, sometimes they couldn't do a suitable segmentation according to rhythm of sentence, since every sentence in English needs to be judged based on the length of each sentence and also the actual situation of language, which contributes to some extend of confusion for Chinese students' English learning and using.

Conclusion

This essay is mainly based on the theory of orderly heterogeneity of language variation to depict world English as sociolinguistic phenomenon, to interpret the essence of Chinese English, we discuss features of Chinglish pronunciation from psychological factors, physical factors and social factors. However, to what extent Chinglish could maintain a stable variety of usage depends on the development and usage of English in China.

In any case, compared with the huge differences in words and grammar between Chinese and English, the problem of pronunciation in English would not generate too much trouble for Chinese students. If English teachers in China could pay attention to problems we mentioned above, and carry out targeted training in pronunciation teaching, then students could learn their English pronunciation with more effect.

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A Discussion on the Challenge for reaching 1 million Welsh

Speakers by 2050

1. Introduction

There are great number of languages in the world. It is estimated that half of them will die out by the end of the century ~~and none of them will exist afterwards~~ (Pu Zhongliang, 2001). The United Kingdom is composed of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. It is a multi-ethnic country. Welsh, the language of the Welsh nation, ~~it~~ has played an important role in the historical development of the United Kingdom. After English became the dominant language, the usage rate of Welsh ~~has~~ declined. From the beginning of the ^{20th} century to the first half of the century, the language competence of native Welsh schoolchildren was declining year by year, the Welsh language was in danger of gradually disappearing.

2. The History and background of Welsh Language

The Welsh language is the only language of the United Kingdom whose history has not been interrupted, for Wales has a long literary tradition that provides an important basis for the spread of Welsh language. After religious reform, the first book in Welsh was published in 1547, followed by other literary works, such as bilingual Welsh-English dictionary and the first grammar book in Welsh language. From the 18th century to the 1980s, around 20,000 ¹² books were published in Welsh.

The Welsh language has strong religious support. In 1563 an Act was passed to translate the Bible and the Book of ^{Common} Prayer of the Church of England into Welsh. The Old Testament and its revisions were translated into Welsh, and the full Welsh version of the Bible was published 33 years ahead of the ^{authorised} English version. The local language of Wales is used for missionary purposes, which makes it different from other regional languages. By 1731, informal schools were teaching people to read religious books in Welsh, both for children and adults, since Welsh people believed that saving souls was more significant than learning English. The Welsh nation was overwhelmed by Welsh language back then.

The relatively developed industry in Wales offers an important economic basis for the preservation of the Welsh language. Late 18th century, the development of giant iron factory stimulates the development of emerging cities, making the welsh language became the first regional language applied in industrial and urban background, welsh people do not have to leave home to find a job like the Irish and Scottish people, it is critical to maintain status and continuity of Welsh language. In other words, the Welsh language has remained strong since the Welsh nation could provide jobs for their people, and the economic development of the region has ensured that the Welsh language has a place in their society. These are the historical basis and reasons for its strong vitality. However, during the second industrial revolution, the population of wales are not enough to bear all the local work, a large number of English speakers came into wales, people began to use both English and welsh, English has become the

language in working place, then English has become the only language for newly established local authorities, church was the only place where Welsh was still in use. In the first half of 20th century, the Welsh language was in great danger. This situation has continued until after the second world war, when there were too many social problems to take the decline in the number of Welsh speakers and politicians' desire to restore the Welsh language into account, it is lasted until the middle and late 20th century (Department for Education and Skills, 2017a).

3. The ^{decline}Recession of Welsh language

By the 20th century, demand for coal had dwindled, in order to search a job, the Welsh people moved to England or countries such as United States. Industrialization has decimated rural population, solid foundation of Welsh language has been badly weakened. The movement of people who only spoke Welsh from one area of Wales to another, seen from the outside, cultural traditions were not altered, but it made them open to new ideas and concepts, which laid social and psychological foundations for spread of English. The Welsh language has been under attack from both inside and outside the country by influx of English-speaking immigrants from surrounding areas. People who only speak Welsh, moving to other countries or regions, regional social status of Welsh language was further weakened.

Through the phenomenon of immigration, we could discern that the spread of English is backed by the strong economy and culture of England. Without these factors, such a rapid spread of the language would have been almost impossible. The lack of instrumental value is often the primary reason why disadvantaged groups abandon their native language and turn to a more powerful language. The spread of English has led to increase in number of English speakers each year, while the percentage of Welsh speakers has been declining since 20th century.

4. The renaissance of Welsh language

With the strengthening of national consciousness, the Welsh people began to pay attention to their own language once again. As a symbol of the nation, the Welsh language started to be valued by people, and the determination of the Welsh people to preserve the Welsh language was increasingly enhanced. The Welsh language is widely spoken by the people of Lampeter, Aberystwyth, and other areas in Wales. The number of Welsh who now speak both Welsh and English is about a quarter of the population, the number is increasing. Although the number of Welsh speakers in Wales declined steadily at the start of 20th century, the number began to level off in the 1980s and 1990s without continuing a significant decline. In the 21st century, rather than declining, the number of Welsh speakers has started to rise, and the Welsh language is on the road to revival.

There are many reasons for the revival of the Welsh language. Schools are main places where the revival of the Welsh language has begun. All Welsh schools offer lessons in the Welsh language to children up to the age of 15. Although there is no specialized Celtic or Welsh language department at University of Wales, still Welsh is

offered as an elective course in modern languages for students. All students are able to study Welsh free of charge, in addition to their other main subjects.

Apart from the formal teaching of Welsh language in schools, the media has also given a lot of attention to Welsh language. There is now Welsh radio, Welsh television station, Welsh broadcasting news, drama, commentary and travel services in Welsh as well. The BBC has launched a Welsh language teaching programme for primary and secondary school pupils. The publishing of books in Welsh has also made great progress. All this provided a better environment and more opportunities for people to learn and use the Welsh language, and the number of Welsh speakers began to rise.

5. Government policy in Wales

5.1 The government takes the lead in language revival planning and vigorously implements it

The Welsh Language Act 1993 marked the beginning of a government-led revival of the Welsh Language in 1993. In 2008 a programme called Investing in Welsh was launched under the project of human resource training of Investing in People, to support businesses in developing Welsh speakers. Attracted hundreds of private organizations from across Wales. In a sense, the Welsh Language Act 1993 laid legal foundation for the revival of the Welsh language. Since then, the government has introduced "Bilingual Wales" plan to ensure that the Welsh language has the same status and function as that of English. In 2003, the Welsh Government developed the "A National Action Plan for A Bilingual Wales" to secure status of Welsh language as well.

5.2 Vigorously develop Welsh language in educational area

Education is the foundation of language use and development. In 2010, after years of preparation, the government has launched the Welsh-Medium Education Strategy, which aims to comprehensively strengthen Welsh-language Education throughout its Education system, from pre-school to higher Education.

The Welsh government not only places great emphasis on Welsh-language education in the academic education system, but also pay attention to adults using in society. In 2015, the Welsh Language Learning Centre has established in the UWTSD and 10 institutions were designated by the government to provide Welsh language courses to adults from August 2016. In early 2018, the Welsh government made successive announcements about its plans to invest £2.3 billion to develop infrastructure of modern education, immersion education of Welsh language is included. Eluned Morgan, Minister of Language and Lifelong Learning in Wales, has made it clear that the challenge of reaching the target of 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050 is huge. Education is key, but the use of the Welsh language at all levels of society is equally important. The revival of the Welsh language cannot only be confined to the classroom, the Government's plan is to provide conditions and chances for children, teenagers and adults to employ the language widely in society(Department for Welsh

Language and Lifelong Learning, 2018).

5.3 Policies of language revival need to be penetrated into daily and economic life

“Wales Language Measure 2011” is a new initiative by the Welsh government to boost the use of the Welsh Language. The principle is to create sufficient conditions to comprehensively strengthen the collaborative work of various industries and institutions in promoting the education and use of the Welsh language, and to ensure that the objective of full and official equality of the Welsh language with the English language in Wales is achieved. For government departments, they should apply both Welsh and English in all aspects of their service delivery, policy formulation, programme implementation, public relations and information storage, etc.

Soon after the new Welsh government came to power in 2012, it has launched a Welsh Language Strategy for 2012-2017 named “A Living Language: A Language for Living -- Welsh Language Strategy 2012-2017”, which sets out the new government's work on the Welsh language over the next five years, clear strategies and new targets have been set in six areas: families, young people, communities, the workplace, Welsh-language services and infrastructure.

6. Some thoughts on future development of the Welsh language

6.1 Consistency in government language planning and resource investment is a prerequisite for language revival

From the perspective of language planning, although the maintenance and revival of a language could be realized through the self-conscious of language users to a certain extent, however if there is no policy and resource support obtained from the government, such success would only has limited influence, but also hard to sustain. Therefore, in the future, the Welsh government needs to continuously enhance its policy support for teaching and use of the Welsh language.

6.2 The comprehensiveness of policy coverage and the penetration of life are the basic guarantee of language revival

A language may be sustained by school education, but its revival depends on its role and place of its users in their lives. Although through years of efforts, Welsh language has formed a system in the domain of education, and the proportion of usage rate by young people is obviously increased, the welsh language has been integrated into all aspects of life for Welsh people, but it also need to require the master of Welsh language for staff when Welsh government distribute various job positions that would have deal with citizens, so that people could freely choose either of the two languages. Similar requirements should also apply to government institutions such as health care center, schools, electric power company, natural gas company and water supply company, etc. The links between private enterprises and institutions should be strengthened, encourage enterprises and institutions to provide on-the-job welsh

language learning opportunities, to put emphasis on Welsh language learning from economic benefits, thus the promotion of Welsh is not just a hope within certain group of Welsh people, but for everyone who lives in Wales. Mastering Welsh language could have a direct impact on the quality of people's life, not just a matter of local language and cultural heritage. For example, almost all universities in Wales have a Welsh language policy when they recruit staff. It is this compulsory language policy that gradually improves the political and economic status of Welsh language in Wales and makes it truly equal to English. With this connection to economic life, there will be a greater sense of identity and reality, which will be a key factor for the future development of the Welsh language.

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Comparative analysis on gender issues in media reports of Nobel

Prize winner Tu Youyou

1. Background

Chinese scientist Tu Youyou won the annual Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in October 2015 for her discovery of artemisinin. She is the first Chinese ^{person} to win the Nobel Prize in science, as well as the first Chinese scientist to win the Nobel Prize in the domain of science, and the first Chinese scientist to win the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine, ~~which is the highest award in China's medical field so far.~~ Tu Youyou's Nobel Prize is not only an affirmation of her own and her team's scientific research achievements, but also a great affirmation and encouragement to ~~the~~ Chinese women's groups. After Tu Youyou won the award, various kinds of media rushed to interview and report her, but some reports did not focus on the significance of Tu's award for the development of Chinese women and women's contribution to society, instead, they set the agenda to focus on her private life and appearance. Some controversial reports lacked awareness of gender equality. To some extent, this weakens the positive effects that should be triggered by Tu Youyou's award of Nobel Prize. Social identity of both sexes and different understanding on gender issues are the product of social culture, meanwhile,  20 could react upon our society as well (Linden, 1990). Taking Tu Youyou's Nobel Prize as an example, this essay finds that there is a stereotyped reporting pattern of "successful women" in the media coverage of gender issues, and some reports have some degrees of sex discrimination. These reports are not beneficial to the presentation of media, but also go against the harmonious development of social culture. Through the analysis of this case, this essay hopes to discuss the current problems in the media coverage on gender issues, and put forward relevant suggestions to promote the coverage relate to gender issues.

2. Discourse analysis of media reports

Regarding ~~to the~~ quantity of reports, two news media have been selected, the China  Daily and the Phoenixnet, taking their reports on Tu Youyou from October 5th, 2015 to January 31st, 2016 as samples to analyze, a total of 338 reports were collected. In order to present media overages with gender issues more clearly, a comparative analysis is also made in media coverage on Mo Yan's award of Nobel Prize by these two media. The two news media have reported a total number of 1439 reports on Mo Yan for his winning of Nobel Prize from October 5th, 2012 to January 31st, 2013. The awards for Tu and Mo are in different fields, but both are significant for China. Compare reports on Tu and Mo from the two media we could discern that the total coverage of Mo Yan was more than twice that of Tu. The China Daily has 942 stories about Mo Yan and 187 about Tu Youyou. The Phoenixnet has 497 stories about Mo Yan and 151 about Tu Youyou. The huge difference reflects the dissimilarity in degree of recognition to two winners, in which the media's gender attitude and awareness play an non-negligible role.

Table 1 Number of news item for the two media on Tu Youyou and Mo Yan

Name of Media	China daily	PhonixNet
Number of Items on Mo Yan	942	497
Number of Items on Tu Youyou	187	151

In terms of specific content, media reports on Tu Youyou's Nobel Prize could be generally divided into the following categories: the first category is factual reports and interviews on Tu Youyou, the second category focuses on the relationship between Tu Youyou's award and traditional Chinese medicine. The third category is the controversy caused by Tu Youyou's "low profile". The fourth category is the debate about Tu Youyou's identity as scientists without doctor degree and she was not a Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences as well and her failure to win the highest award in science and technology award of China. The fifth category is about Tu Youyou's individual and collective struggle for the award. The sixth category is about Tu Youyou's private life. The seventh category is related to Tu Youyou's appearance and her clothing. The eighth category focuses on Tu Youyou's identity as a woman. We'll discuss report content that relate to issues of gender.

2.1 Reports relate to controversial issues

There are not many controversial reports over Tu Youyou's "low profile", among the 338 news articles that abstracted from selected sample, 26 related to this topic. Even though the news coverage of her low profile is limited, but it has sparked many online discussions.

Among the 338 news articles that abstracted from selected sample, 26 related to this topic. It mainly includes the controversy about the difference in people's attention drawn by Tu Youyou's award and Huang Xiaoming's (famous movie star in China) big wedding, and Tu Youyou's avoiding the VIP airport waiting channel and her leader as well. Media coverage of such controversies has triggered a deeper reflection on the difficulty for scientists, especially women scientists, captured by media spotlight. The public believes that the media should not pay less attention to female scientists and female groups whether they are low-key or not.

2.2 Reports focus on Tu Youyou's private life

There are 156 reports which involve Tu Youyou's private life (including her family members and former residence). It mainly includes reports on her family, her old residence and her daily life. Reports of her family primarily centered on her husband, portraying him as a family-oriented man who "supports quietly behind a successful wife". There are also reports that dig deep into Tu Youyou's family, covering her relatives. The media intentionally or unintentionally portrayed her husband as Tu Youyou's "life secretary", a "man behind a successful woman", and emphasized the abnormal and valuable for this point. Such a reporting pattern fell into the customary pattern type of "successful women". A comparison with the media coverage of Mo's

Nobel Prize is not difficult to notice a big difference, although the media have also reported on Mo Yan's personal life, for instance, the report "Is the Nobel Prize a Literature Prize or a Political Prize? I'm Critical" mentioned that "Last night, Mo Yan and his family made dumplings at home to celebrate. He adores dumplings best, so tonight I'm going to put beef and gourd stuffing in dumplings for him," said Wang Meidi, Mo Yan's sister-in-law. The total number of this type of report on Mo Yan is small, there is not a large number of reports on his wife and children as well, and in the factual reports on his award-winning there is almost no description we could observe onto his family and private life, it is worth thinking the difference on agenda-setting patterns for media reporting on successful people.

2.3 Reports on Tu Youyou's appearance and clothing

The media generally reported on Tu Youyou's appearance and clothing, this was reported in 128 out of 338 news items, occupied nearly half of these news items. Many media reported the fact that Tu Youyou had received the award by "offhandedly" mentioning that she was "pretty and wore twist braids" in her youth. The media are also keen to adopt pictures of Tu Youyou when she was young to illustrate their stories, reflecting a "gaze" on the external image of the female groups, with obvious gender stereotypes and discrimination. On the other hand, some of the media coverage of Mo Yan's award also focused on his costume when he gave his speech and received the award, such as mentioning that Mo Yan wore a Zhongshan suit when giving his acceptance speech and a Western-style tuxedo when attending the award ceremony. However, the media's focus was more on whether Mo Yan's Zhongshan suit represented a "national image" and whether his tuxedo was inappropriate. In other personal interviews with Mo Yan, there are very few comments on his appearance.

2.4 Reports that focus on Tu Youyou's female identity

50 of the 338 news articles focused on Tu's female identity. The position of the reports was mainly about the difficulty of Tu Youyou's achievements as a female scientist in an environment of gender inequality and the full recognition of women's abilities as no less than those of men. Among the various media outlets, the China daily has provided more comprehensive coverage from this perspective than PhonixNet and advocated for society as a whole to pay attention to and encourage women's development.

3. Brief conclusion and suggestions

The results of the quantitative analysis show that there is a high degree of homogeneity in the news coverage of Tu Youyou's Nobel Prize by the two representative media outlets, and the content of the news coverage can be broadly divided into three categories: factual coverage, coverage of women's private lives, and controversial coverage, with the pattern and bias of the coverage showing a certain degree of gender blindness and gender discrimination. Firstly, among the factual reports, the number of reports on Tu Youyou's award is much smaller than that on Mo

Yan, and the difference in the number itself is to some extent a reflection of the concept of "male preference for female", i.e., men's achievements are more likely to receive media recognition and attention. At the same time, the factual coverage of Tu Youyou is interspersed with much coverage of her appearance and family, which reflects the 'gaze' and objectification of women's appearance and private lives by society, and even the 'successful woman' Tu Youyou, who is now well past her prime, is also with no exception. Regardless of her success or youth, the female subject is always a subject to the media's gender gaze and gender scrutiny.

Secondly, in reports focusing on Tu Youyou's private life, the agenda setting model continues the traditional gender division of labor and gender concepts. News reports portrayed her husband as an image of a "good man at home" who "filled up" for his busy wife, being considerate, taking up family responsibilities, and sacrificing for the family; while Tu Youyou became an image of a "strong woman" who was dedicated to work with neglecting her family.

Finally, the coverage of Tu Youyou's Nobel Prize has been marked by many controversial reports, and behind these controversies is a questioning of women as producers of knowledge and value. The Nobel Prize, as a highly visible, prestigious and well-established world-class prize, has made extensive research into the candidates and their research when issuing award, and the award of the prize is a full recognition of the winner. The controversial reports that followed Tu Youyou's award perhaps reflected society's doubts about her abilities based on her status as a woman. These sexist reports have, to a certain extent, diverted the public's attention from the event and weakened the positive impact that Tu Youyou's award should have had.

We should launch in-depth research and effective regulation on the media, to promote gender monitoring and criticism for the media, and build a correct gender awareness. Media practitioners should implement the basic state policy of "equality between men and women" in production and dissemination of media texts, to refuse to use discriminatory news content and stop "gazing" at women's private lives (Lobo, 2017). At the same time, they should actively disseminate the contribution of women to our society, mobilize efforts to promote establishment of legislation and public policies that facilitate women's development, and to propel the establishment of harmonious media ecology and better cultural and public opinion environment.

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The metaphorical analysis of three poems

W. B. Yeats (1865-1939) was a outstanding Irish poet of the 20th century, described by Eliot as the greatest poet of our time. Yeats won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1923, and his poems were recognized by the Nobel Committee as inspiring poems that expressed the spirit of an entire country through an aesthetic way. As a healer of Irish culture and its people (Merritt, 2009), Yeats created many beautiful works in his life, which gave people a unique sense of beauty, mystery and romance. As one of the most influential poets with a strong sense of duty, Yeats wrote for national renewal of Ireland, and even for the present and future of humanity. Yeats lived in the social transition period of the western world, a period when people moved from traditional to modern (Bradley, 2011). Therefore, man and nature, life and death, ideal and reality, past and future are all essential themes of Yeats' works.

Men Improve with the Years is a short but profound poem written by Yeats in 1916, the poem mainly describes the passage of time and the passing of life. The poem as follows:

W.B. Yeats

Men Improve with the Years

I am worn out with dreams;

A weather-worn, marble triton

Among the streams;

And all day long I look

Upon this lady's beauty

As though I had found in a book

A pictured beauty,

Pleased to have filled the eyes

Or the discerning ears,

Delighted to be but wise,

For men improve with the years;

And yet, and yet

Is this my dream, or the truth?

O would that we had met

When I had my burning youth!

But I grow old among dreams,

A weather-worn, marble triton

Among the streams.

Yeats, at the age of 50, was still applying his philosophical thoughts to explore the nature of life, trying to reveal the happiness and contentment in the process of men improve with the years. It's a tragic aesthetic that confronted the fact that each of us is going to grow old and die, a Stoic process of accepting that we grow up, grow old and die. In the poem, Yeats described how people are scarred by dreams, but they move

forward and grow old with dreams as well. The true meaning of life that Yeats held is the freedom of individual life.

Yeats's tragic aestheticism is actually derived from Nietzsche's aesthetic examination of tragedy. Nietzsche regarded happiness and tragedy originated from pain as the sweetest cruelty, which had a great impact on Yeats's thought. Influenced by Nietzsche, Yeats believed that life is a tragedy, but the tragedy should be sweet and mild.

Yeats candidly admitted that "if I denied myself any of the pain, I could not believe in my own ecstasy" (Yeats, 1959:332). We would know from Yeats that heroes of Shakespeare's work generally represent their ecstasy by their own death. "When the last darkness has gathered about them, speak out of ecstasy that is one-half the self-surrender of sorrow, and one-half the last playing and mockery of the victorious sword before the defeated world" (Yeats, 1961:254). Thus, it could be seen that the tragic aesthetic of Yeats is not only about facing pain and seeking happiness from it, but also about daring to challenge power, defeating frustration, overcoming sadness and death with a transcendent attitude.

This poem consists of 18 lines, and the protagonist begins with the first sentence by using the first person, "I", followed by the capital letter "AM", which promptly conveyed to readers a message that the protagonist is already in a state of old and lonely life. Secondly, it foreboded Apollonian's depiction, echoing the verse of 13 lines: "Is this my dream, or the truth?" Third, AM represents the stillness of space and time, thus expressed the eternity of time and space.

From the second line of the poem, the dream with Apollonian begins to sublimate progressively. The author employed polysemy to obscure the meaning of words and inadvertently creates a bleak beauty in the poem, like the repeated "A weather-worn, marble triton/Among the streams" in the first and last sentences, both in content and form. Weather-worn refers to years of washing and decay, where things were worn and the people were ageing. Marble is smooth and solid, and when you feel it, you could feel its beauty as well as its power to act as a potent weapon against prolonged wind, rain and sun.

Triton is the messenger god of the sea, a merman in German myth. He had a unique conch shell, which he used as a horn to tame the waves and make them obey his commands. Thus, "a weather-worn, marble triton" actually symbolized eternal life after suffering and enduring, with countless power to manipulate everything.

Although the protagonist worn out with dreams, he is still unwavering like Marble Triton, holding on to his light in the wind and rain.

All day long, he/she looks upon a lady's beauty. Yeats was absorbed in fantasy as if this beauty were the one he had seen in the book. In this happy time, the protagonist was happy to fill his/her eyes, or the discerning ears, or delighted to be wise for men to improve with the years.

Yeats proposed that facing and overcoming misery with happiness, and having a sense of joy and gratitude, was the best way to face growing old and dying. Therefore, in the face of all the suffering, the protagonist was not upset by his aging and did not possess a dream, but neither lowly nor arrogant to self-appreciation.

25

26

"Growing old" demonstrated the elapse of life, which is irreversible. Yeats, however, did not consent this kind of passive groaning, he believed that the passive suffering should not be the theme of poem. In "I AM worn out with dreams"/"But I grow old among dreams", the protagonist selected to face the tragedy with courage, turns passivity into initiative, and lead his own life. From the title of the poem, Yeats adopted the word Improve to express the wisdom that those passing days have brought us.

"Delighted to be but Wise", the poet wrapped his loss and pain with the joy of his eyes and ears. Such joy was valuable since it was built on pain. Then the poet interrogated his soul: "And yet, and yet, /Is this my dream, or the truth?" Obviously, this was certainly not a dream. The protagonist had grown old in his dream by confronting the passing of unassisted time and the aging of his life.

In fact, tragedy is not death, but the lack of courage to face it and never passionately live for ourselves. In this poem, Yeats preferred to attain knowledge and wisdom as he grows, and even to obtain the courage to face aging and the passing of time, and to have fun with pain in life as well.

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The Ache of Marriage

The ache of marriage:

**thigh and tongue, beloved,
are heavy with it,
it throbs in the teeth**

**We look for communion
and are turned away, beloved,
each and each**

**It is leviathan and we
in its belly
looking for joy, some joy
not to be known outside it**

**two by two in the ark of
the ache of it.**

The poem was created by Denise Levertov, in the beginning of this poem she exhibited theme of the poem "the ache of marriage" by repeating title of poem. "Throbs in the teeth", teeth are one of the most pivotal parts of our body. The feeling of tooth-pain could kill a man, but we cannot live without our teeth, even though sometimes it will go bad. So does marriage, occasionally marriage will turn worse and bring pain to us but it is difficult for us to give upon our marriage.

"Tongue is heavy with it." Although it is a part of human body, it could represent the harmful words that come out of our mouth. In a marriage, the words of both parties could hurt each other. Tongue is the softest organ and could become the most tough weapon as well.

Excessive exercise, such as long-distance running, brings pain to our body, just to reflect that the marriage is a marathon, through its process we might feel pain.

In the third paragraph of the poem, in marriage we attempt to share thoughts and communicate with each other, but sometimes it does not seem to work, since in marriage the two individuals turn separate from each other.

In the fourth paragraph of the poem, the author sees marriage as a "leviathan" that will slowly and eventually consume them, both of them in its "belly", finding joy while being consumed. The author believed that people in marriage are an inseparable group of destinies. The author did not know how to apart from her unhappy marriage. Here the author utilized a powerful metaphor to express that she was unable to continue to falling apart in her marriage. They have even reduced their hopes towards their marriage and were looking only for any hints of happiness.

In the poem's final paragraph, "Two by Two" demonstrates two independent individuals who appeared to be together but in fact they had broken already.

At the end of the poem, the author returned to theme the “ache of marriage”, and once again insisted that she cannot dispense the pain of marriage. What marriage brought to her was nothing but the loss, the beloved partner who went further away and her everyday as if nothing had happened. “The ache of marriage” will go on with no cease.

William Carlos Williams

Queen-Anne's-Lace

**Her body is not so white as
anemone petals nor so smooth – nor
so remote a thing. It is a field
of the wild carrot taking
the field by force; the grass
does not raise above it.
Here is no question of whiteness,
white as can be, with a purple mole
at the center of each flower.
Each flower is a hand's span
of her whiteness. Wherever
his hand has lain there is
a tiny purple blemish. Each part
is a blossom under his touch
to which the fibres of her being
stem one by one, each to its end,
until the whole field is a
white desire, empty, a single stem,
a cluster, flower by flower,
a pious wish to whiteness gone over –
or nothing.**

Queen-Anne's-Lace by William Carlos Williams is a poem with theme of non-tradition, it overturned the conventional concept that "woman to be flower". The title of the poem was created by name of a white wildflower, to refer beautiful, vulnerable and tender figure of female.

However, the poet did not intend to directly compare female to flowers, but compared them to fields. In the author's perspective, the images of female are more like a field, which could generate and nourish life.

The poet was plainspoken about revealing his fascination with the female body and avoiding traditional images of virginity and purity, "Here is no question of whiteness/ a pious wish to whiteness gone over-or wise ", the poet thought that the female body was not as white or pure as the white wildflower, but "It is a field of the wild carrot taking the field by force." Carrot is sexually relevant here since the "force" was inspired by the "field", which the author saw as a desire to be white and pure. The Dionysian ecstasy on The field or female might be accepted, for its natural that flesh and blood the people would have emotions and desires, just that we artificially add our desires to natural things.

Queen-Anne's-Lace is a poem that disproved the routine to apply conventional metaphor of floral imagery to female characters, poets have frequently inclined to

relate women with flowers automatically. Williams began with a negation that "Her body is not so white", he then disconnected the woman's body to ornamental item of flowers and asked us to hold it as a field. Then, Williams focused on another metaphor: the field with the flowers in it. Williams had partly breached the norm, but he still followed the path that resorted poetry as vehicle to express desire. Facing fecundity, love and warmness, whiteness is not paramount anymore, "white desire" crumble into "nothing".

Portfolio of HPEN7007 Language Variation and Change

GRADEMARK REPORT

FINAL GRADE

57 / 100

GENERAL COMMENTS

Instructor

Assignment 1: Gettysburg Address

You offer a detailed account of the reasons for the well-identified variation and provided word -- and to some extent go beyond the brief of the task. Thinking about pinyin as an intermediary to explain differences is well-done. You are let down by a large number of mechanical slips in expression -- some of which are marked here but at the level of ideas this is very good.

65%

Assignment 2: 1 Million Welsh Speakers

You have a fair grasp of the history here -- make sure that all contextual information is rooted in clearly identified sources. The balance of your essay does mean that you don't give yourself much space to consider the language plan in detail and the difficulties of achieving its targets. You could also be more specific about what particular language planning methodologies you have in mind.

52

Assignment 3: Gender news

A good case study and sound overall quantitative analysis and conclusions, It would have been good to see more detailed analysis toom of individual articles and greater reference to the class materials to contextualise your own arguments.

65

Assignment 4: Metaphor

The analysis of 'Men Improve with the Years' is perceptive and supported by a range of reading, but it does not fulfil as well as it might have the main object of the assignment, which is to analyse the structure and function of metaphor in the poem. There are no references in your commentary to theory of metaphor. The discussions of the poems by Levertov and Williams are similarly perceptive and thoughtful, without using theory of metaphor in the analysis. There are significant problems with your expression in this assignment. Sometimes it is awkward and ungrammatical.

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Comment 16

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This is an adjective. What is the noun it is describing?



Comment 26

What is the significance of the triton's power for the image of the poet in the poem?