

**Postgraduate/Distance Learning**  
**Assignment coversheet & feedback form**

**THIS SHEET MUST BE THE FIRST PAGE OF THE ASSIGNMENT YOU ARE SUBMITTING (DO NOT SEND AS A SEPARATE FILE)**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                            |                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>For completion by the student:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                            |                               |
| Student Name: Shuaiyu Chen                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                            |                               |
| Module code: SICH7001<br>Module title: Research Methodology for the Study of Sinology                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Student ID number: 1703712 | Educational support needs: No |
| Module tutor: Prof. Chu, Chia-Ning<br><br>Assignment due date: 23 Apr 2021 -15:00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                            |                               |
| If your module has multiple submissions please indicate which piece of work this is.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                            |                               |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> ✓    2 <sup>nd</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <sup>th</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <sup>th</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <sup>th</sup> <input type="checkbox"/>                                                                      |                            |                               |
| I confirm that this is my original work and that I have adhered to the University policy on plagiarism.<br>Signed .....Shuaiyu Chen.....<br><b>Email submission: if you are submitting this form via email, please tick this box ✓ (as a substitute for your signature) to confirm that you agree to the above declaration.</b> |                            |                               |
| <b>Assignment Mark</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                            |                               |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Marker' s Provisional mark                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                            |                               |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Marker' s/Moderator' s provisional mark                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                            |                               |
| Agreed Internal Mark:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                            |                               |
| External Examiner' s mark (if relevant)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                            |                               |
| <b>Final Mark</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                            |                               |
| <b>NB.</b> All marks are provisional until confirmed by the Final Examination Board.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                            |                               |
| <b>For completion by Marker 1 :</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                            |                               |

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| Comments:                                                                                               |       |
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| Marker' s signature:                                                                                    | Date: |
| <b>For completion by Marker 2/Moderator:</b><br>Comments:                                               |       |
|                                                                                                         |       |
| Marker' s Signature:                                                                                    | Date: |
| <b>AGREED INTERNAL MARK (where necessary):</b><br><b>Comment on process on arriving at agreed mark:</b> |       |
|                                                                                                         |       |
| <b>External Examiner' s comments (if relevant)</b>                                                      |       |
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| External Examiner' s Signature:                                                                         | Date: |
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# The Evolution of Chinese Characters about Facial Sense Organs

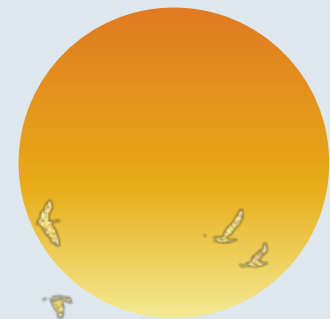
Instructor: Professor Jianing Zhu

Student: Shuaiyu Chen

Date: 21/04/2021

Location: Academy of Sinology, University of Wales

Trinity Saint David





One  
Family of Eyes

Two  
Family of Ears

Three  
Family of Nose

Four  
Family of Mouth

# Research Methodology

- Elaborate the evolution of Chinese characters about facial sense organs, according to ancient Chinese characters, *Annotations on Shuowen Jiezi*, *Phonology of Chinese Character*, and interpretations of different scholars.
- Form personal opinion, based mainly on ancient characters in oracle bone scripts, with the analysis of *Annotations on Shuowen Jiezi*, *Phonology of Chinese Character*, and other interpretations.
- Only regard *Shuowen Jiezi* or Yucai Duan's annotations as one branch of interpretation, rather than centre on them or prove them.



# Family of Eyes



Bronze Inscription

Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



「目」乙64  
合21037自自

「目」茆目  
父癸爵西周  
早期集

「目」郭.五.47

「目」睡.語11

「目」說文·目部

「目」康熙

- *Shuowen Jiezi* : Human eyes. Pictogram. Two horizontal lines represents pupil.
- Personal opinion: Analogical change. Directional change.



Bone Script   Bronze Inscription   Small Seal in Shuowen   Regular Script



「眉」明1854



「眉」小臣言  
簠西周早期



「眉」說文·  
眉部



「眉」康熙

- *Shuowen Jiezi* : Eyebrow. Follow the radical of “目”. It's similar with the shape of eyebrow, and the upper part is like the wrinkles of forehead.
- Personal opinion: Pictogram.



Bronze Inscription

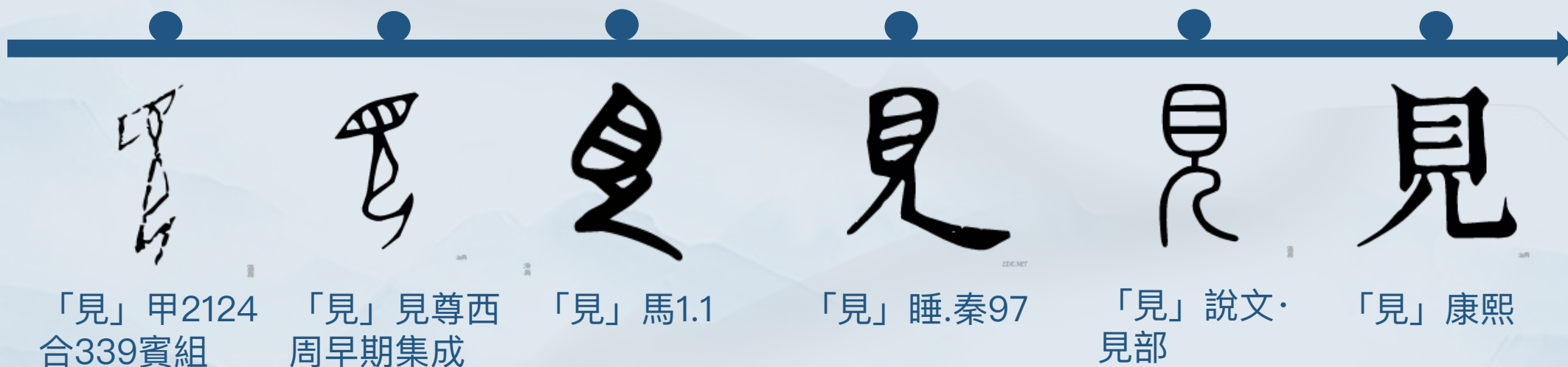
Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



- *Shuowen Jiezi* : Looking. Follow the radicals of “目” and “儿”.
- Yucai Duan’s annotations: “見” means “look”, while “視” means “see”. “見” represents a person who is using eyes to look. Associative compound.



Bronze Inscription

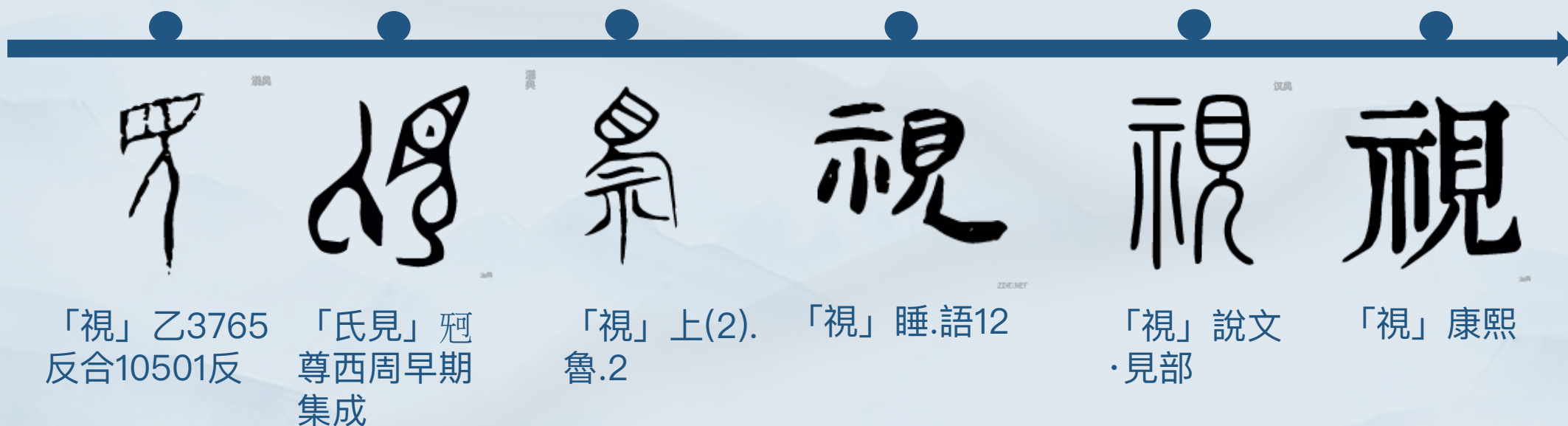
Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

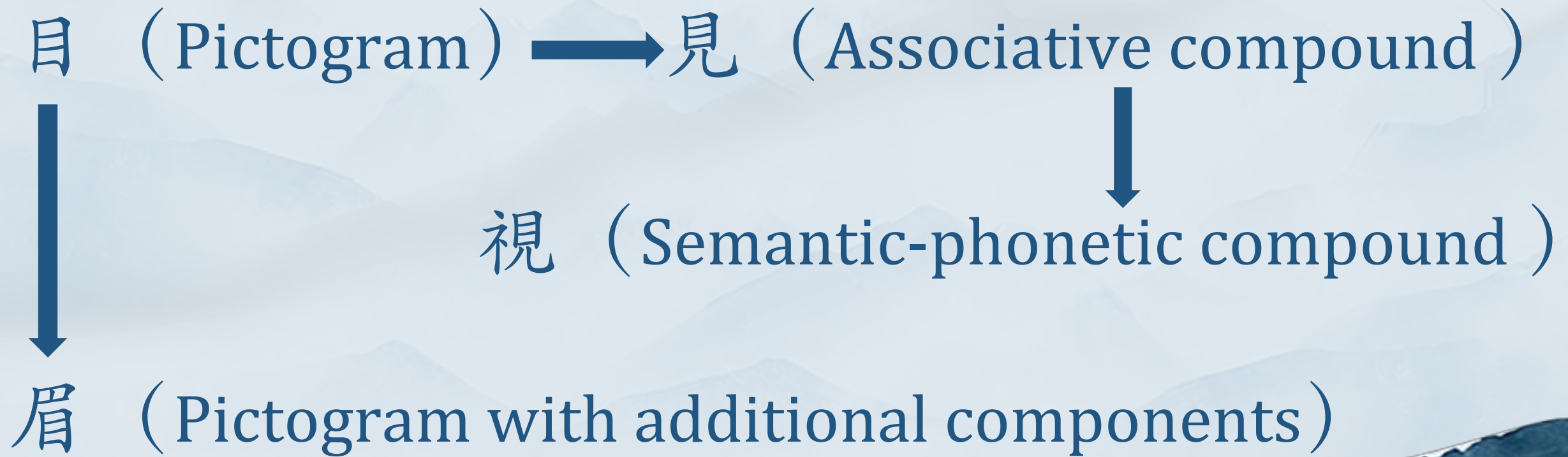
Small Seal in Shuowen



- *Shuowen Jiezi* : Seeing. Follow the radical of “見” with the sound of “示(shì)”.
- Personal opinion: Semantic-phonetic compound. **The change of different phonetic sign. Rule of metathesis.**



# The Rule of the Evolution of Chinese Characters





# Family of Ears



Bronze Inscription

Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



「耳」鐵138.2  
合13631自賓

「耳」亞耳  
且丁尊西周  
早期集

「耳」包  
2.34

「耳」睡.日  
乙255

「耳」說文·  
耳部

「耳」康熙

- *Shuowen Jiezi* : The sense organ for hearing.  
Pictogram.



Bronze Inscription

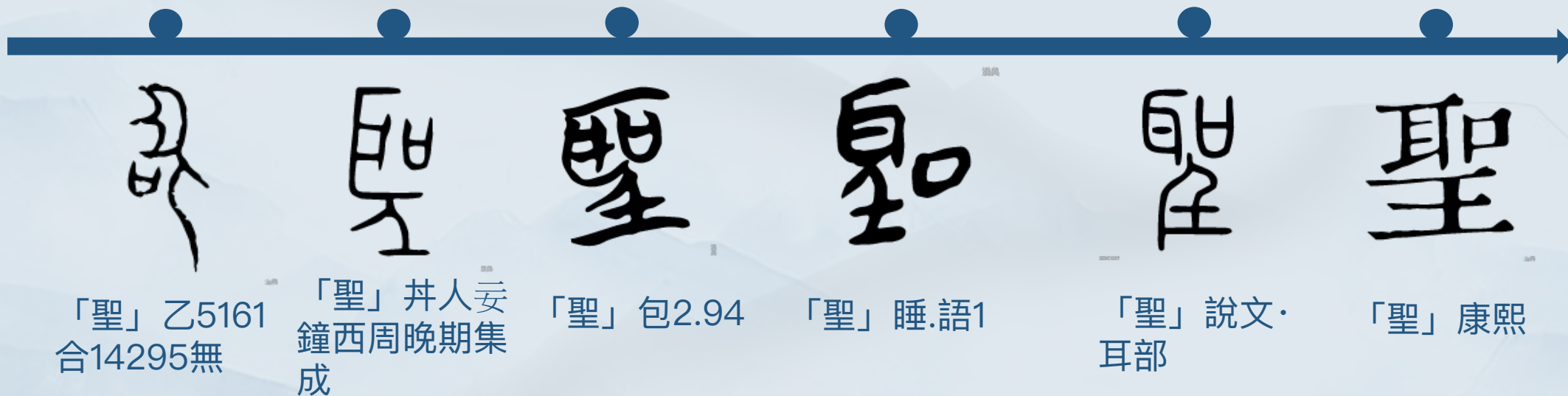
Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



- Multi-function Chinese Character Database: “聖” in oracle bone script follows the radicals of “人(person)”, “耳(ear)”, and “口(mouth)”. The shape is like a person with the emphasis of ear and mouth, indicating that the sound spoken by mouth is heard by ears. **The original meaning is listening, but later the character is borrowed to represent “saints” and “virtues”.**
- Personal opinion: Semantic-phonetic compound.  
**“亼” (tíng) is the phonetic sign.**



Bronze Inscription

Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



「聽」乙5522  
合7768賓

「聽」天子匱  
西周早期集成

「聽」睡.爲18

「聽」說文  
·耳部

「聽」康熙

- *Shuowen Jiezi* : Listening. Follow the radicals of “耳” and “德” with the sound of “壬(tíng)”.
- Personal opinion: Associative compound with phonetic sign.



Bronze Inscription

Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen

「聲」 粹1225合32926歷組

「聲」 睡.法52

「聲」 說文·  
耳部

「聲」 康熙

- Shuowen Jiezi : Sound. Follow the radical of “耳” with the sound of “𦣻(qìng)”. “𦣻” is the same with “磬” in large seal.
- Fengyang Wang: In the ancient time, the meanings of “聲” and “音” are different. “聲” has a larger range of meaning.
- Personal opinion: In bone scripts, the part in the bottom is “聖” whose sound is more similar with the sound of “聲”. Therefore, “聲” is an associative compound with the phonetic sign of “聖”.



# Paronym





# Family of Nose



Bronze Inscription

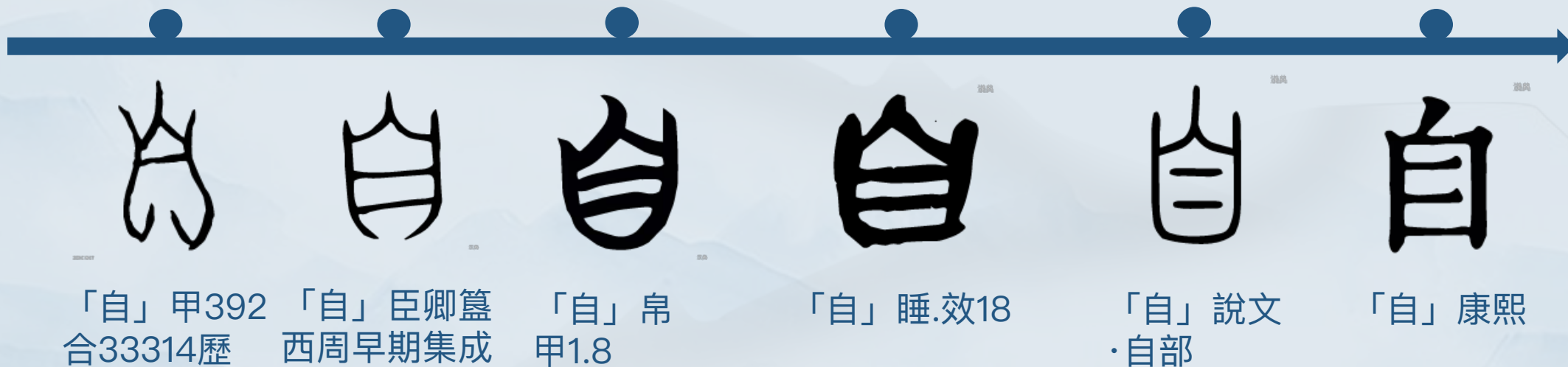
Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



- *Shuowen Jiezi*: Nose. It's like the shape of nose.
- Yucai Duan's annotations: It's said under the radical of “王” that “‘自’ is pronounced as ‘鼻’.” Many characters following the radical of “自” are associative compounds with the meaning of breathing, such as “屑 (xiè)” that means breathing laying on one's back.



Bronze Inscription

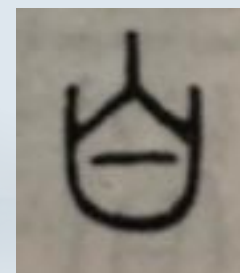
Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



「白」說文·白部 「白」康熙

- *Shuowen Jiezi*: **This is also “白”**. Abbreviation of “白”. It means that the breath comes out from nose, when one is speaking.
- Personal opinion: **“白” may pronounced as “鼻” originally**. Tonghe Dong imitates archaic Chinese sound of “鼻” as [b<sup>h</sup>juəd] and “白” as [b<sup>h</sup>uǎk]. The initial consonants of the two characters are the same. Main vowels are similar, while auslauts are all plosives. In addition, “the breath comes out from nose” can extends to the meaning of “speaking” that is one of the meanings of “白”.



Bronze Inscription

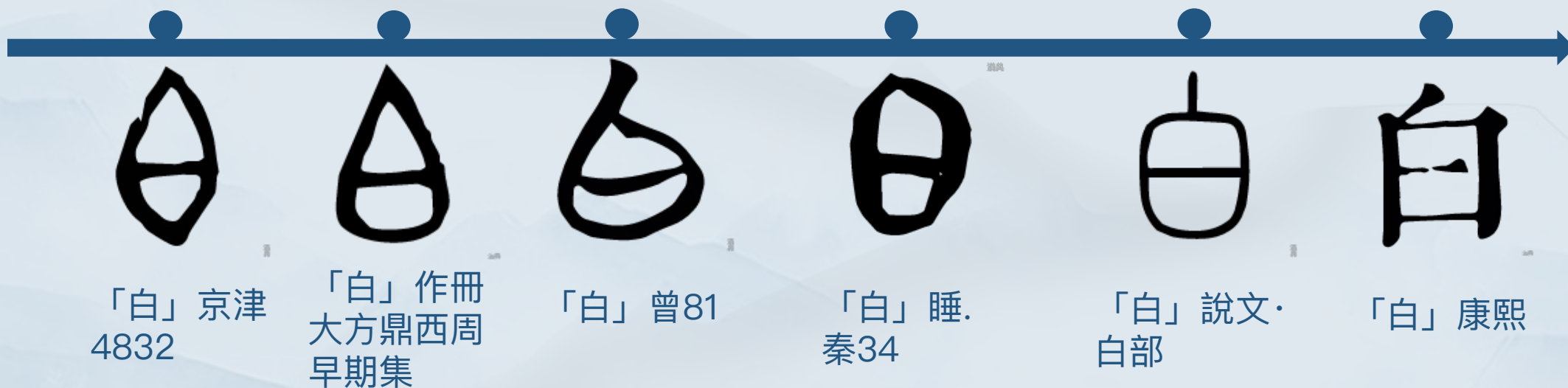
Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



- Many scholars such as Xiaosui Yao think that “白” is like the shape of a human face or head. In oracle bone script, “白” means “首領 (chieftain or leader)”, which is extended from the meaning of “head”. Xiaosui Yao further indicates that “白” is open engraved in human skulls, which can be one evidence of its original meaning of “chieftain”.
- Multi-function Database: In oracle bone script, it also means white color.
- Personal opinion: Pictogram. Extend to the meaning of white color.



Bronze Inscription

Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



「鼻」前2.19.1  
合1098賓組

「鼻」郭.五.45

「鼻」睡.法83

「鼻」說文·  
鼻部

「鼻」康熙

- Multi-function Database: “鼻” in oracle bone script follows the radical of “自” with the sound of “畀(bì)”. “自” is like the shape of nose and therefore means nose originally.
- Personal opinion: Semantic-phonetic compound.

# Family of Mouth





Bronze Inscription

Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

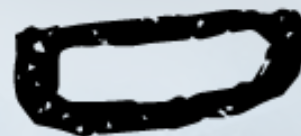
Small Seal in Shuowen



漢典



20K.NET



漢典



漢典



漢典

「口」 甲1181

「口」 亞古  
父己卣商代  
晚期集

「口」 睡.日甲82

「口」 說文·口部 「口」 康熙

- *Shuowen Jiezi*: The organ that people use to speak and eat. Pictogram.



Bronze Inscription

Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



「舌」 乙4550  
合5532賓

「舌」 舌方鼎  
商代晚期集成

「舌」 睡.日  
甲74

「舌」 說文·  
舌部

「舌」 康熙

- *Shuowen Jiezi*: The organ in mouth that can speak and taste. Follow the radicals of “干” and “口”. “干” is also a phonetic sign.
- Personal opinion: **Tongue of snacks. Pictogram.**



Bronze Inscription

Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



𠂔 𠂔

「𠂔」說文·𠂔部 「𠂔」康熙

- Xuan Xu: It's the same with “謹 (huān) ”。
- Yucai Duan's annotation: Under the radical of “言”, “謹” and “譁 (huá , same with ‘嘩’ ) ” has the same meaning (noisy).
- Personal opinion: **Associative compound by same radicals.**



Bronze Inscription

Qin Slips and Silks

Regular Script

Bone Script

Chu Bamboo Slips and Silks

Small Seal in Shuowen



汉典

「味」 郭.老丙.5

汉典

「味」 睡.日  
甲33背

「味」 說  
文·口部

「味」 康熙

- *Shuowen Jiezi*: Flavour. Follow the radical of “口” with the sound of “未”.
- Personal opinion: Semantic-phonetic compound. Rule of metathesis.

# Reference

1. Wrote by Xu, Shen, annotated by Duan, Yucai, *Annotations on Shuowen Jiezi* (Shanghai: Shanghaiguji Publisher, 1988)
2. Dong, Tonghe, *Phonology of Chinese Character* (Taipei: Wenshizhe Publisher, 1993)
3. Handian: < <https://www.zdic.net/> >[accessed 15 April 2021]
4. Multi-function Chinese Character Database:  
< <http://humanum.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/> >[accessed 15 April 2021]



**Thank you  
for listening !**