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Tone-word recognition in Mandarin Chinese

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STELLINGEN

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Tone-word Recognition in Mandarin Chinese:
Influences of lexical-level representations

by
Jinxing Yue

1. Lexical-level representations interact with sublexical representations of segments and tones during Mandarin-word recognition (Chapter 2 & 3).

2. The pattern of lexical-decision performance in real words of three lexical tones differs from that in pseudo-words with the same tones, suggesting that lexical-level representations affect the processing of tonal cues (Chapter 2).

3. Overlapping segments between prime and target word-forms in minimal tone pairs result in facilitation in the recognition of real-word targets, but inhibition in the recognition of pseudo-word targets (Chapter 3).

4. Lexical-level representations of tone words are rapidly accessed in the N1 and MMN time windows, even with very limited input (Chapter 4 & 5).

5. The long-term memory trace for a pseudo-word in Mandarin develops during passive training via a rapid-learning mechanism of the neocortex (Chapter 4).

6. Auditory N1 habituation of tonal word-forms reflects the representational distinction between real words and pseudo-words (Chapter 5).

7. A revised TRACE model (TRACE-Tone model) explains the role of lexical-level phonological representations of Mandarin words during tone-word recognition (Chapter 6).

8. "问君何能尔？心远地自偏. (Wèn jūn hé néng ěr? Xīn yuǎn dì zì piān)" (Ancient Chinese poem, "If you ask me how I am able to live in the habituations of men detachedly, the answer is that where you are does not matter when you keep your heart far from what disturbs you", Tao Yuanming, 365-427, Drinking V)

9. "Nothing in the world can take the place of Persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts." (Calvin Coolidge)