

A Language and Culture Comparative Study of Three Primary Colors in English and Chinese Idioms and Usual Expressions from the Perspective of Metaphorical Cognition

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ABSTRACT

Color terms, especially the three primary colors, bear the weight of basic meaning of color in English and Chinese idioms and usual expressions. The same color has different meanings in different languages, thus it makes Native English speakers and Native Chinese speakers who use other foreign languages puzzled. Therefore, it is necessary to make a language and culture comparative study of the meanings of three primary colors in English and Chinese idioms and usual expressions. This essay uses metaphors and cognition to make the comparative study between color idioms and usual expressions in English and Chinese. It aims at revealing the similarities and dissimilarities of metaphorical cognitive meanings of three primary colors in English and Chinese idioms and usual expressions. This essay provides a perspective for the role of cultural variation of metaphor and plays a role in overcoming the language barriers in communication.

Keywords: *three primary colors, idioms and usual expressions, metaphorical cognition.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Color features are the perception and description of human language. It is an important part of the world language. In language, this symbol symbolizes the an understanding of color words. The words of color are generally used in people's cognition and description of the world [1].

Therefore, it is necessary to inherit the colors in human language. Everything in nature, including human language, is in a state of change. The development of language cannot be separated from the development of human language. A more developed language may affect the less developed one. At the same time, it is also conducive to the development of human language in the process of development. In the process of language learning, learners' attention is becoming more and more concentrated[1]. In non-human languages, Kay and McDaniel find an interesting phenomenon, metaphor. The metaphors of color and color terms are closely related. In exploring metaphors and its working mechanisms, the color terms are very useful.

In this essay, metaphorical cognitive meanings of three primary colors in English and Chinese idioms and usual expressions will be studied. Similarities and dissimilarities of three primary colors in English and Chinese idioms and usual expressions will also be searched from the aspect of metaphorical cognition.

This essay is divided into several parts. In the first part, a brief introduction to metaphorical cognition will be shown. In the next part, first it is about similarities of metaphorical cognitive meanings of three primary colors in English and Chinese idioms and usual expressions. Secondly, it is about dissimilarities of metaphorical cognitive meanings of three primary colors in English and Chinese idioms and usual expressions. The last is about the reasons for similarities and dissimilarities of three primary colors' metaphorical cognitive meanings in English and Chinese idioms and usual expressions. The final part is the conclusion.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Color terms are as common as linguistic phenomena in many kinds of cultures and languages. It is necessary to introduce color terms, as color terms are going to be

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Feast as a Mirror of Social and Cultural Changes Frédéric Armao, Bożena Gierek, Ilze Kačāne, Tatiana Minniyakhmetova, László Mód, Marek Moroń, Ewa Nowicka, Alina Romanovska, Monika Salzbrunn, Tigran Simyan, Kiyoshi Umeya, 2020-12-23 Feasting seems to be an inseparable element of peoples especially their collective lives ____ The proposed volume consists of original unpublished texts in which their Authors search for the answers to the following questions How far have we gone astray from the primeval idea of celebrating the feast from understanding tradition in terms of the Romanian historian of religion Mircea Eliade or the French sociologist mile Durkheim Are there still any traditional in its very meaning feasts If not if they are invented Hobsbawm and Ranger 1983 1992 why are they called traditional What elements have changed and why What has had the greatest impact on celebrating feasts What are the new factors influencing the course of a feast s celebration ____ It was difficult to categorize the texts contained in this book because the subjects discussed in them very often overlap Still it was possible to recognize several accentuated aspects that served as the basis for the division of the book into three sections 1 Culture and Identity 2 Ritual and Cultural Values 3 Culture and Policy The contributors are scholars who represent various international institutions and fields of research and use different approaches and methodologies to study the subject of the feast This publication is an opportunity to bring the results of their research together in one book The volume contains chapters in which various aspects of feasts festivals and festivities perceived as a mirror of social and cultural changes in the twentieth and twenty first centuries are presented It provides a unique and rich resource in the fields of culture folklore religion anthropology sociology as well as politics and other cultural and social sciences In the future we hope to broaden the scope of our research and to include more ethnic groups and their cultures in order to see the changes they have undergone and factors that caused them ____

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