

Mandarin Chinese Words and Parts of Speech

A Corpus-based Study

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13 T: Particles

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13 T: Particles

Interjection is a kind of postposing, which needs to be attached after sentences or phrases. It is used to modify sentences or phrases in order to present a speaker's mood.

13.1 Subcategory

Since it is found that some particles such as examples (337)–(339) could co-occur and others could not, as seen in examples (340)–(342), we have identified these two situations. Examples (337)–(339) could be further divided into three categories Ta, Tb, and Tc, based on the order of co-occurrence, while examples (340)–(342) could only be grouped into one category—Td, which stands for particles that could only be presented independently.

- (337) 哇 ! 下雨 了 啊 !
wa1 ! xia4yu3 le0 a4 !
WA ! rain LE A !
'Wow! It rains.'
- (338) 你 把 饭 吃 了 吧 !
ni3 ba3 fan4 chi1 le0 ba0 !
you BA meal eat LE BA
'Have your meal.'
- (339) 你 吃 了 没 有 嘛 ?
ni3 chi1 le0 mei2 you3 ma0 ?
you eat LE without have MA ?
'Have you eaten?'
- (340) 他 吃饱 了 吗 ?
ta1 chi1bao3 le0 ma0 ?

he eat.full LE MA ?
 'Is he full?'¹

- (341) 他 來 不 ?
 ta1 lai2 bu4 ?
 he come NEG ?
 'Is he coming?'

- (342) 他 知 否 ?
 ta1 zhi1 fou3 ?
 he know NEG ?
 'Does he know?'

13.2 Lists of Particles

- Ta 了 le0, 的 de0
 Tb 著 zhe0, 沒 mei2, 沒有 mei2you3, 而已 er2yi3, 罷 ba4, 罷了 ba4liao3, 也罷 ye3ba4, 也好 ye3hao3, 云云 yun2yun2, 爾爾 er3er3, 云爾 yun2er3, 之類 zhi1lei4, 來著 lai2zhe0, 來哉 lai2zai1
 Tc 啊 a4, 呀 ya0, 哇 wa1, 哪 na3, 呢 ne0, 啦 la1, 哩 li0, 嘛 ma0, 嘿 hei4, 啲 yo1, 咧 lie1, 嘍 lou1, 咯 lo, 吧 ba0
 Td 嗎 ma0, 否 fou3, 不 bu4, 了嗎 le0ma0, 了否 le0fou3, 而已嗎 er2yi3ma0, 啦等等 la1deng3deng3, 啦云云 la1yun2yun2, 與否 yu3fou3, 啲 bo0, 哉 zai1, 矣 yi3, 耶 ye1

Note

- 1 For the convenience of ordering modifiers, 了嗎 le0ma0, 了否 le0fou3, 而已嗎 er2yi3ma0 are listed as particle compounds.