

## Abstract

The current experiment made an attempt to investigate how the various linguistic cues, namely phonemic, graphemic and semantic components, affect the recognition of Chinese characters. A Stroop paradigm was used in which subjects were asked to name the ink of colour of Chinese characters in five conditions. The relationship of the linguistic features of the Chinese characters and the colour name was manipulated. Results of experiment showed that the magnitude of interference and facilitation provided by these three linguistic cues in colour naming task was significantly not different. It is thus concluded that pre-lexical phonological activation exists in Chinese language processing, and semantic information, other than graphic and phonemic ones, also plays an important role in Chinese character encoding.