

## Abstract

The present study investigated the meaning access in Chinese opaque words. Two experiments using the picture-word interference paradigm were conducted to reveal the meaning access of the whole word as well as the morphemes. In experiment 1, it was found that the time of the whole word meaning activation was different from the activation of the morphemic meaning. In experiment 2, the meaning of the morphemes were found activated at some time after the whole word. It was proposed that the meaning of an opaque word was accessed first, and only after some time the morphemic meaning would be activated. The articulatory-phonological process confounded the response latency pattern was discussed.