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The Morphology of Chinese

This innovative study dispels the common belief that Chinese 'doesn't have words' but instead 'has characters'. Jerome Packard's book provides a comprehensive discussion of the linguistic and cognitive nature of Chinese words. It shows that Chinese, far from being 'morphologically impoverished', has a different morphological system because it selects different 'settings' on parameters shared by all languages. The analysis of Chinese word formation therefore enhances our understanding of word universals. Packard describes the intimate relationship between words and their components, including how the identities of Chinese morphemes are word-driven, and offers new insights into the evolution of morphemes based on Chinese data. Models are offered for how Chinese words are stored in the mental lexicon and processed in natural speech, showing that much of what native speakers know about words occurs innately in the form of a hard-wired, specifically linguistic 'program' in the brain.

Jerome L. Packard is Professor of Chinese in the Departments of East Asian Languages and Cultures and of Linguistics at the University of Illinois. He has also taught Chinese and Linguistics at Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania, and has been a Fulbright Research Scholar in China. He is the author of two previous books: *A Linguistic Analysis of Aphasic Chinese Speech* (1993) and *New Approaches to Chinese Word Formation: Morphology, phonology and the lexicon in modern and ancient Chinese* (1997).

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构词法

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Dedicated to the memory of
Nicholas C. Bodman, Jim McCawley and Ron Walton

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All past experience has taught that . . . we must be prepared for new facts, of an entirely different character from those of our former experience . . . that in reality new orders of experience do exist, and that we may expect to meet them continually.

PERCY BRIDGMAN (1927)

Is it really any wonder that the price of significant scientific advance is a commitment that runs the risk of being wrong?

THOMAS KUHN (1962)

For what it's worth, it was worth all the while.

BILLIE JOE ARMSTRONG (1997)

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Abbreviations

AAM	Augmented Addressed Morphology
Adj	adjective
Adv	adverb
AFF	affix
ASP	aspect marker
Aux	auxiliary
BA	direct object marker *ba*
CL	classifier
Conj	conjunction
DE	modification marker *de*
EXTENT	marker of extent
FLH	Full Listing Hypothesis
LE	aspect marker *le*
LIH	Lexical Integrity Hypothesis
Mod	marker of modification
N	noun
NOM	nominalizing suffix
NUM	number
O	object
PL	plural
PSC	Phrase Structure Condition
SEN	sentential
SV	stative verb
V	verb
VRB	verbalizing suffix

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