

THE DISCOURSE FLEXIBILITY OF  
ZHAO YUANREN [YUEN REN CHAO]'S HOMOPHONIC TEXT

He Hengxing

*South China Normal University, Guangzhou*


ABSTRACT

Chinese American linguist Zhao Yuanren [Yuen Ren Chao] 赵元任's homophonic Chinese text entitled "Shi shi shi shi shi 施氏食狮史" (or Story of stone grotto poet eating lions) (Zhao [Chao] 1960; 1980:149) is a peculiar text that is little explored. This paper, with a discussion of this text in terms of mode of discourse, reveals how flexible a homophonic text can be, and how mode of discourse can bend a discourse in its length, syntax, style, and structure. This study enriches the linguistic power and intelligence to Zhao [Chao]'s original homophonic text and offers some implications for the research of homophonic texts and discourses.

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**He Hengxing** [hengahengxing@m.scnu.edu.cn]; School of Foreign Studies (Waiguo Yuyan Wenhua Xueyuan), South China Normal University (Huanan Shifan Daxue), Guangzhou, 510631, P.R. China;  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1435-7065>

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- ZHAO, Yuanren. See Chao, Yuen Ren 赵元任.

## 赵元任同音文的话语灵活性

何恒幸

华南师范大学, 广州

### 提要

华裔美籍语言学家赵元任题名为“施氏食狮史”的汉语同音文是鲜为人们探究的一篇奇文。本文从话语方式角度对其进行了讨论, 揭示了同音文的灵活性以及话语方式对话语的长度、句法、风格与结构的改变。本研究丰富了赵氏同音文的语言力度与智慧, 并为同音文及话语研究提供了一些启示。

### 关键词

话语 语篇 同音文 话语灵活性