

## WORD FREQUENCY MODULATES THE SELECTION OF SEMANTIC ACCESS PATHWAYS OF SPOKEN WORDS IN THE SECOND LANGUAGE

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### ABSTRACT

Most second language (L2) learners comprehend words more difficult in its spoken form than the written form (Bekleyen 2009). Based on the findings of previous studies, we assumed that word frequency and language proficiency may be two critical factors in spoken word identification. To investigate how these two factors modulate L2 spoken word identification, we recruited Chinese-English bilinguals with different English proficiency levels, and manipulated words' orthographic consistency, and word frequency. Our results supported the phonological restructuring account, it suggested that only high frequency L2 spoken words can achieve phonological restructuring and rely on orthographic information to access meaning. The less frequently used word has a weak spelling-sound connection, leaving the primitive sound-meaning route the only choice. This effect may be unrelated to language proficiency, the order that orthographic and phonological information is acquired, or the language

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## 词频对第二语言口语词汇语义通达通路选择的调节作用

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### 摘要

大多数第二语言学习者理解单词的口语形式比书面形式更困难。基于以往的研究结果,我们认为词频和语言熟练度可能是口语词汇识别的两个关键因素。为了研究这两个因素是如何调节第二语言口语单词识别的,我们招募了具有不同英语熟练度的汉-英双语者为被试,并操纵了单词的正字法一致性和词频这两个因素。我们的研究结果支持语音重构理论,表明只有高频的二语口语词汇才能实现语音重构,并依赖正字法信息获取意义。而低频单词的拼写与其发音之间的联系较弱,这使得原始的音-义直接通路成为唯一的选择。这种出现的词频效应可能与语言熟练度、正字法信息和语音信息获得的顺序或语言系统无关。以上结果表明,汉-英双语者在加工二语口语时,既依赖于直接通路,也依赖于正字法中介通路。且通路的选择是由词频调节的。

### 关键词

听觉词汇 词频 正字法中介通路 语音重构 双语者