Abstract

The use of Onomatopoeic Words and Colour Words has been existing in the Chinese Language since the Pre-Qin period. However, not much work has been devoted to explore the rhetorical aspects of these two types of words. Thus, the Eight-Chapter academic exercise aims to examine the Onomatopoeia ( 象声词 ) and Colour Words ( 颜色词 ) in the light of modern rhetoric. Chapter One is the introduction of the two rhetorical devices. Chapter Two to Chapter Seven are the analytical part of the essay which can be divided into two halves:

First on Onomatopoeia and later on Colour Words.

Generally, Chapters Two and Five discuss the characteristics and variability of Onomatopoeia and Colour Words. Here, multi-forms of the subject are shown.

Specifically, Chapters Three and Six focus on the rhetorical roles of Onomatopoeia and Colour Words. In addition, various elements of rhetoric like Simile, Repetition, Pun, Transferred Epithet, Symbolism .... etc are being applied to enrich the complexities of the rhetorical effect.
As for illustration and elaboration, the author cites pertinent examples from Classical and Modern Chinese Literature in Chapter Four and Seven.

The exposition of Onomatopoeia and Colour Words in this essay is based on a systematic study. Following the detailed analysis, the author expresses her deeper understanding and findings of the topic by reiterating that these two categories of Chinese Lexicon are both effective and fascinating in the Chinese Language.

The academic essay concludes with a list of the main Colours derived from concrete objects, a list of Colour Scheme used by Lu Xun (1881-1936) in his *Wild Grass* and two lists of rhetorically-related Onomatopoeia and Colour Words.