ABSTRACT

Many studies have analysed noun phrases in Mandarin Chinese. However, most of these studies suffer from lack of depth.

The objective of this honours thesis is to analyse noun phrases in Mandarin Chinese from a grammatical point of view. This study consists of three parts. Firstly, it provides an analysis of the various grammatical relations that noun phrases can form with the different parts of speech (词类) and phrases (词组). Secondly, it discusses the grammatical functions of noun phrases as different sentence elements (句子成分). Finally, it analyses some of the grammatical phenomena (语法现象) that noun phrases show in sentences.

The analysis shows that in all three areas studied, there are exceptions and restrictions. The findings of this study imply that the syntactic behaviour (语法特点) of noun phrases can be complicated and thus hard to account for.