香 港 大 學

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Faculty of Arts

MAES Conference 2020

The 2nd conference of the Master of Arts in English Studies (MAES)
Presentation of students' research projects,
School of English, The University of Hong Kong

16th May, 2020

SCHOOL OF ENGLISH
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Conference Programme

Table of Contents

Programme Schedule

Time	Session
9:00 – 9:25	**Opening** Welcome speech by Professor Julia Kuehn (Head of School of English), Dr. Amanda Cheung and Dr. Haewon Hwang (MAES Programme Directors)
9:35 – 11:00	**1st session**: 6 parallel panels
11:00 – 11:10	Break
11:10 – 12:35	**2nd session**: 6 parallel panels
12:35 – 13:35	Lunch
13:40 – 15:05	**3rd session**: 6 parallel panels
15:05 – 15:15	Break
15:15 – 16:40	**4th session**: 6 parallel panels
16:40 – 16:45	Break for Panels' Final Deliberation
16:45 – 17:00	**Closing Remarks and Awards Ceremony** Presentation of the Best Capstone Performance Awards in Literature and Linguistics

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Oral Presentation of MA Capstone Projects

Time limits:
Literature sessions (panels A, B and C):
Maximum 10 minutes of presentation time followed by Q&A after all students have presented

Linguistics sessions (panels D, E and F):
Maximum 15 minutes of presentation time followed by 2-3 minutes of Q&A for each student

Guidelines on using Zoom:
1. Students are expected to have installed Zoom, and have familiarized themselves with the basic functions of Zoom. For more information on Zoom, please visit HKU's User Guide on Zoom: https://www.its.hku.hk/services/communication/conferencing/zoom

2. Students are advised to enter Zoom sessions at least 5 minutes before the start times. Procedures:

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    (b) On the Zoom login page, sign in with "SSO", and type "hku";
    (c) Login with your HKU Portal UID and PIN;
    (d) Please check and ensure that you show your full student name under "Profile" (default is your HKU email, so please change it to your full student name if necessary).

    ❖ Note: If you login with your own personal Zoom free account, instead of your HKU account, there is a meeting time limit of 40 minutes only, which cannot cover the whole duration of each presentation session.

3. At the beginning of each presentation session, the moderator will take attendance and ensure that all student presenters of that session are present.

4. Presenters are expected to show their video image during presentations. They can use the "Share Screen" function to show their presentation files.

5. Except for the presenter and moderator, other attendees are expected to mute themselves during presentations.

6. Students are not expected to record the Conference, nor chat publicly, written or orally, during presentations.

7. During Q&A sessions, attendees may use the "Raise Hand" function by pressing a quick key "Alt + Y", which will show in the participant list. After getting the moderator's approval (who can press "Alt + Y" to lower your hand), the chosen attendee may unmute himself/ herself, mention his/ her own name, and pose questions.

8. Students are encouraged to attend other students' presentation sessions as well with video on, and ask questions if possible.

Oral Presentation Schedule

Session	Panel A (Literature)	Panel B (Literature)	Panel C (Literature)	Panel D (Linguistics)	Panel E (Linguistics)	Panel F (Linguistics)
	9:00 – 9:25 Opening - Professor Julia Kuehn (Head of School) - Dr. Amanda Cheung and Dr. Haewon Hwang (MAES Programme Directors) Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/91810777356?pwd=NjhSWFJBcVFEdGtKeHo2cWlKcmJ6dz09 Meeting ID: 918 1077 7356 Password: 217138						
1) 9:35 – 11:00	**Panel A1:** **Caribbean Blues/Hybrid Subjects** **Moderator: Dr. Anjuli Gunaratne** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/94834786406?pwd=UWRLYmlBUTNmc2xmQlJCVERCKzZODz09 Meeting ID: 948 3478 6406 Password: 853390	**Panel B1:** **War, Disease, Trauma, Memory** **Moderator: Dr. Jennifer McMahon** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/96714509733 Meeting ID: 967 1450 9733 Password: 118731	**Panel C1:** **Rereading Gender in Shakespeare** **Moderator: Dr. Kristen Murray** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/6215227944?pwd=QUZrTWtDc1gvekJxVWVXQVhNdjE1Zz09 Meeting ID: 621 522 7944 Password: 812340	**Panel D1:** **Language of the Internet** **Moderator: Dr. Brian King** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/96446113425?pwd=cGEwbTBlQXgvN0FBSU1xc0dZM251dz09 Meeting ID: 964 4611 3425 Password: 874714	**Panel E1:** **The Language of Covid-19** **Moderator: Professor Janny Leung** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/95261950287?pwd=dnBtMUdRTDhVR0N6ajVsbE5IVHhOUT09 Meeting ID: 952 6195 0287 Password: 012189	**Panel F1:** **Language Learning** **Moderator: Dr. Anya Adair** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/92403184377?pwd=V1Bwc1lnNmN2by9VSVRkOXFxZkxCQT09 Meeting ID: 924 0318 4377 Password: 049187
	i) Chen Yunzhi Yuki Contesting London Spaces in the *Windrush* Generation Novels of Sam Selvon and Andrea Levy	**i) Wang Xiang Iris** Under the Tropical Sun: Disease Narratives in Joseph Conrad and John Stedman	**i) Huang Xiaolu Anastasia** Empowering the Voice: The Reconstruction of Female Discourse from Shakespeare's *Hamlet* to Updike's *Gertrude and Claudius*	**i) Au Lai Yee Sharmaine** Is Emoji a New Form of Language?	**i) Tai Ching Joseph** Metaphors of a Pandemic: Changes in the Media Representations of COVID-19 in Hong Kong and the US Across Time	**i) Gao Shenghan David** The Willingness to Communicate in English among Mainland Chinese Undergraduate Students: The Effect of University Ranking and English Major
	ii) Tang Xuan Millie Comparative Analysis of Racial Discrimination in Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* and Andrea Levy's *Small Island*	**ii) Chan Pak Him Jimmy** The Magically Real: The Narration of Traumatic War Experience in *Slaughterhouse Five* and *Going After Cacciato*	**ii) Li Man Lai Clara** Think Inside the Black Box – A Poststructuralist Analysis of Introspection and Performativity of Shakespeare's *Queen Gertrude* and *Lady Macbeth*	**ii) Leung Man Yi Lorraine** An Analysis of Communicative Function of Hashtags	**ii) Cai Qi** Critical Discourse Analysis: News Reports on Doctor Li Wenliang through Bourdieusian Sociological Lens	**ii) Hon Yen Chao Marco** Prosodic Transfer from Cantonese to English among Hong Kong Primary School ESL Learners
	iii) Wu Miaona Christina The Biological Mother in Daughter's Identity Formation in Jamaica Kincaid's *Lucy* and Jean Rhys's *Voyage in the Dark*	**iii) Lam Hong Ki Kelly** Gendered Trauma Rooted in Performativity in Rebecca West's *The Return of the Soldier* and Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*	**iii) Wong Nok Ki Katie** Within the Domestic Sphere: Feminine Power in Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and *Macbeth*	**iii) Kwok Wai Ling Gloria** Identity Formation and Linguistic Choice in Vlogging Activities	**iii) Hu Yushan** Critical Discourse Analysis on Whistleblowers' Representation in Western Media	**iii) Au Wing Ka Bonnie** The Effectiveness of Using Music to Raise Phonological Awareness
	iv) Wang Qingwen Ethnic Men's Pursuit of Western Girls in *The Lonely Londoners* and *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*	**iv) Lo Kwai Chi** Revisiting the Remains: *Brideshead Revisited* and *The Remains of the Day*	-	**iv) Wu Shan Melody** Research on Gender Difference and Communication Function of Using Internet Language in *Taobao* Style	**iv) Shen Chuling** Comparisons on News Reports in Chinese and American Mainstream Media about the Coronavirus (COVID-19): A Corpus-based Critical Discourse Analysis	**iv) Mao Yu** The Representations of Chinglish and Its Causes
	-	-	-	**v) Yin Ningxin** A Study on the Role of Internet Slang in the Representation of Sexuality of Chinese Gay Community on Social Media	**v) Allan Jolly** Pandemic Rhetoric: A Discourse Analysis of COVID-19 Speeches	**v) Yan Ruyu** Integrationist Perspective on the Bilingual Creativity in *A Concise Chinese English Dictionary for Lovers*
	11:00 – 11:10 Break					

Session	Panel A (Literature)	Panel B (Literature)	Panel C (Literature)	Panel D (Linguistics)	Panel E (Linguistics)	Panel F (Linguistics)
2) 11:10 – 12:35	**Panel A2:** **Woman Warriors/Female Subjectivities** **Moderator: Dr. Anjuli Gunaratne** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/9718990460 9?pwd=ck9EU0FZUTNnWXlBb FZxQm52MGo1dz09 Meeting ID: 971 8990 4609 Password: 113602	**Panel B2:** **Love and Alienation in Shakespeare** **Moderator: Dr. Kristen Murray** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/6215227944 ?pwd=QUZrTWtDc1gvekJxVW VXQVhNdjE1Zz09 Meeting ID: 621 522 7944 Password: 812340	**Panel C2:** **Migrations and Return Migrations** **Moderator: Professor Julia Kuehn** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/9111365380 5?pwd=RTMySEJteUtwaWhXa U04Wkl0S1owQT09 Meeting ID: 911 1365 3805 Password: 046471	**Panel D2:** **Language from Further Afield** **Moderator: Professor Adam Jaworski** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/9611468511 3?pwd=aWs1MGFpdnlwWDhw Um5VUXBraFlWUT09 Meeting ID: 961 1468 5113 Password: 675554	**Panel E2:** **Language in Guangdong** **Moderator: Professor Janny Leung** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/9622430061 7?pwd=MDk5dmdjaEg2bVdQM mpubGplbTJQQT09 Meeting ID: 962 2430 0617 Password: 979861	**Panel F2:** **Politics of English** **Moderator: Mr. Andre Theng** Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/9688011380 5?pwd=UkdNRjMzckRtRGNNL 01VNmtjbFk3QT09 Meeting ID: 968 8011 3805 Password: 335755
	i) Ngai Beverly Hiu Wai Silence beyond Gender Stereotypes in Adichie's *Purple Hibiscus* and *The Thing Around Your Neck*	**i) Ng Cheuk Lam Jasmine** Looking into Alienation in *Hamlet* and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*	**i) Yao Ziye Summer** Looking for Home: Construction of Asian Immigrants' Identity in Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake*	**i) Zhu Bike Angela** Northeast Younger Generation's Change of Language Attitude towards Their Dialect	**i) Duan Ruoyu** A Study on the Language Use in Shenzhen under the Mandarin Promotion Policy	**i) Zhang Zihan Bubble** A Comparative Study in the 2016 US Presidential Debate under Halliday's Systemic-Functional Linguistics
	ii) Li Ruiyue Leah Construction of Asian Female Identity and Deconstruction of the Lure of the West in *Madame Butterfly* and *Joss and Gold*	**ii) Lam Chun Yu Cyrus** Crossing Gender in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and *As You Like It*	**ii) Tang Zheng Jain** The Fluidity of Identity in Relation to Immigrant's Interactions with Homeland in *Brooklyn* and *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*	**ii) Kiang Carina** A Critical Discourse Analysis on the Portrayal of Japan from 1937 to 1941 by *Life* Magazine	**ii) Liang Ruining** Declining Cantonese Proficiency of Younger Generation in Guangdong: A Research on Reasons for the Phenomenon	**ii) Ho Sau Yan Ginny** A Critical Discourse Analysis of Two Covid-19 Speeches by the US and Chinese Presidents
	iii) Hau Yi Yan Food, Body, Female Self: Power and Resistance in Atwood's *The Edible Woman* and Han's *The Vegetarian*	**iii) Liu Ka Wai Alice** Women in Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and *Twelfth Night*: A Feminist Perspective	**iii) Zou Sicong Stephen** Diasporic Double Consciousness and Reconstruction of Subjectivity in Diaspora: A Comparison of Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake* and Guo Xiaolu's *A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary for Lovers*	**iii) Tse Ka Chun Logan** 'City' in City: The Transition of Linguistic Landscape in Chinatown Yokohama	**iii) Huang Jingwen Jasmine** Gender, Language Attitudes and Identity: A Comparative Study of Guangdong and Hong Kong Cantonese among Native Speakers in Guangdong Province	**iii) Wong Wai Ming Goretti** Understanding Trump's Gender Attitude: A Discourse Analysis on Trump's Tweets
	iv) Yang Yifan Jessica Postcolonial Feminism in the Subversion of the African Women to the Absolute Status of Westerners	-	**iv) Zhao Xinyu Cora** Regenerative Identity in South Asian Diasporic Novel *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and *The Namesake*	-	**iv) Zhao Qing Lucy** Language and Attitude: The View of Shenzhen New Generation on the Necessity of Cantonese Acquisition and Maintenance	**iv) Lai Shimin Skye** A Study Investigating Anti-Extradition Bill Protest Representations in News Media through the Lens of Critical Discourse Analysis: A Comparative Case of Hong Kong and Mainland China
			12:35 – 13:35 Lunch Break			

Session	Panel A (Literature)	Panel B (Literature)	Panel C (Literature)	Panel D (Linguistics)	Panel E (Linguistics)	Panel F (Linguistics)
3) 13:40 – 15:05	**Panel A3:** **Mimicry and Otherness** **Moderator: Dr. Jessica Valdez** **Zoom URL:** **https://hku.zoom.us/j/9587641194 9?pwd=a1VDeWN3anRKUVU2c zZHMDhpSVZ3UT09** **Meeting ID: 958 7641 1949** **Password: 721823**	**Panel B3:** **Remapping Postcolonial Landscapes** **Moderator: Dr. Brandon Chua** **Zoom URL:** **https://hku.zoom.us/j/9388102179 8?pwd=ZHJxeEhHaTAvMldHTz RHR2NGTklnUT09** **Meeting ID: 938 8102 1798** **Password: 895017**	**Panel C3:** **Flânerie and the City** **Moderator: Dr. Simon Ng** **Zoom URL:** **https://hku.zoom.us/j/9114109655 1?pwd=OGtXc2x3K0Y4MWhJZ 3A3MlhVYUxldz09** **Meeting ID: 911 4109 6551** **Password: 072909**	**Panel D3:** **Mediatised Representations** **Moderator: Professor Adam Jaworski** **Zoom URL:** **https://hku.zoom.us/j/9549906787 6?pwd=L3hRUEp5WnNHaEhF WmVTOFlpbkVudz09** **Meeting ID: 954 9906 7876** **Password: 062965**	**Panel E3:** **Language Choice and Code-switching** **Moderator: Dr. Daniel Weston** **Zoom URL:** **https://hku.zoom.us/j/9503703862 3?pwd=aDZUNW92Rmt5NzVM SXUrOEt5anF3QT09** **Meeting ID: 950 3703 8623** **Password: 994863**	**Panel F3:** **English/Semiotic Landscape in Hong Kong** **Moderator: Dr. Jaspal Singh** **Zoom URL:** **https://zoom.us/j/2236986254?pw d=MGducGNaMVM1YXB4T29 XaDF5Yy93dz09** **Meeting ID: 223 698 6254** **Password: 123456**
	i) Chiu Lok Yi Lois Deconstructing the Oriental Other in a Globalised World: A Comparative Study of the Representation of Otherness in Iñárritu's *Babel* and Mitchell's *Ghostwritten*	**i) Wang Jia Felicity** Orientalist Kinship between East and West: Transnational Masculine Performance in *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad and *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Mohsin Hamid	**i) Lei Bangqin** Walking as Liberation in London Streets: A Comparative Analysis of Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* and Monica Ali's *Brick Lane*	**i) Tseng Yee Ling Elaine** Representation of Asians in *Crazy Rich Asians*, an American Cinematic Production	**i) Lau Ka Ling Kalen** Study on English Usage and Code-switching Habits among Hong Kong People and their Relationships with Identity Formations	**i) Cheong Hio Mei Cathy** Hong Kong English and Linguistic Identity of Hong Kongers in an Unstable Era
	ii) Yao Amy Constructing an Authentic Post-Colonial Identity: Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and V.S. Naipaul's *The Mimic Men*	**ii) Chan Po Ying Shirley** The Fundamental Quest and the Mapping of Home in *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Moshin Hamid and *Map of the Invisible World* by Tash Aw	**ii) Leung Yan Kei Cindy** Re-constructing Female Flânerie and Space in Jean Rhys's *Good Morning, Midnight* and Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*	**ii) Li Jingyi** Meanings behind Facemasks: "Facemask" Represented in Chinese and American English Media	**ii) Hui Wing Yee Winnie** Language Choice and Code-switching by Hong Kong International School Graduates Who Are Working for Local Hong Kong Companies	**ii) Shea Chun Hon Johnny** The Relationship between Hong Kong English and National Identity in Hong Kong Citizen's Perspective
	iii) Chen Qiao Chris Two-Way Mimicry: Ambivalence of Power Relations between the East and the West in *M. Butterfly* and *Chinglish*	**iii) Zhang Junyu Amelia** Displaced Identities: A Comparative Study of *The Harmony Silk Factory* and *Map of the Invisible World*	**iii) Zhu Yun Jermaine** From Heterotopias to Paradox of Cosmopolitan Cities: Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and Rana Dasgupta's *Tokyo Cancelled*	**iii) Yang Huilin** Multimodal Discourse Analysis of Arthur's Identity Construction in the Film *Joker* (2019)	**iii) Liang Jing** Sociolinguistic Analysis on the Code-switching between Mandarin and Dialects in Mainland: A Small-Scale Study in Ezhou, Hubei Province	**iii) Cheung Sui King Carrie** Metaphor in Text and Image: A Case Study of Online Posters in 'Water Revolution' of Hong Kong
	iv) Huang Lizhu Power and Gender: The Deconstruction of the Binary View in Orientalism in *M. Butterfly* and *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*	**iv) Kwong Chun Wai Wayne** The Construction of Hongkongers as an Independent Decolonized Identity in Local Hong Kong Literature in English	**iv) Chui Yeuk Ling Chamois** Remembering the City and Its Chaos: Memory and Cities in *Invisible Cities* and *The Shadow of the Wind*	**iv) Zhao Zhirui** The Conflict Talk between Parents and Children in Modern Family based on Communication Accommodation Theory	**iv) Leung Ka Chun Michael** How Public Figures in Hong Kong Use Code-switching to Construct their Identity on TV	**iv) So Yuen Po Monique** English teachers' Speaking Teaching Strategies for Contemporary Lower Form Students
15:05 – 15:15 Break						

5

Session	Panel A (Literature)	Panel B (Literature)	Panel C (Literature)	Panel D (Linguistics)	Panel E (Linguistics)	Panel F (Linguistics)
4) 15:15 – 16:40	**Panel A4:** **Beyond the Butterfly: Reconstructing Gender, Identity and Politics** **Moderator: Dr. Brandon Chua** **Zoom URL:** https://hku.zoom.us/j/9827679654 8?pwd=WXVMSENWenZreXRj WThaN2RTWTlvdz09 **Meeting ID: 982 7679 6548** **Password: 072602**	**Panel B4:** **Globalised/Postmodern/Posthuma n Landscapes** **Moderator: Dr. Elizabeth Ho** **Zoom URL:** https://hku.zoom.us/j/9322970800 6?pwd=UkFHNTZjYmpnSlk2K2 xFR2dtZmIwQT09 **Meeting ID: 932 2970 8006** **Password: 978219**	-	**Panel D4:** **New Frontiers** **Moderator: Mr. Andre Theng** **Zoom URL:** https://hku.zoom.us/j/9944085107 8?pwd=aVhaQ24xdlFLNmFwM Uo3a0hoQzFLdz09 **Meeting ID: 994 4085 1078** **Password: 335755**	**Panel E4:** **Language, Identity and Attitudes** **Moderator: Dr. Daniel Weston** **Zoom URL:** https://hku.zoom.us/j/9727014861 1?pwd=WTM5RXBwVUViQ2RI MnRLMVZJZFZ0UT09 **Meeting ID: 972 7014 8611** **Password: 781215**	**Panel F4:** **Politeness and Intimacy** **Moderator: Dr. Jaspal Singh** **Zoom URL:** https://zoom.us/j/2236986254?pw d=MGducGNaMVM1YXB4T29 XaDF5Yy93dz09 **Meeting ID: 223 698 6254** **Password: 123456**
	i) Lei Chen Crystal Deconstruction of Gender in *M. Butterfly* and *The Woman Warrior*	**i) Jack Vincent Moreci** Blended Bodies: Hybridity and Power in Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms* and McCarthy's *All the Pretty Horses*	-	**i) Lai Pui Wai Fion** Code-mixing in Hong Kong Social Media Advertisement and Its Effect on Sales	**i) Li Yemuzi Amber** Attitudes towards Chinese-English Code-mixing in Mainland China: Why Some Code-mixings Are Negatively Regarded	**i) Lin Yitong Camille** How to Refuse: A Study on Politeness Theory between Different Generations in China
	ii) Li Tengtong Mira Beyond Hegemonic Masculinity: The Effeminate Asian Men in *M. Butterfly* and *Everything I Never Told You*	**ii) Wong Hiu Man Janice** The Search for Identity in Magical Realistic Worlds: A Study in Dasgupta and Murakami's Short Stories	-	**ii) Zhou Hui Karen** Your Moral and Personality Depend on the Language You Speak	**ii) He Yujiao Tori** Attitudes toward Code-switching among Chinese Younger Generations	**ii) Zhang Tingting Jane** Language, Intimacy and Anxiety: A Study of the Influence of the Third Language Environment in a Diglossia Society on Foreign Language Anxiety
	iii) Qu Zhuo Joe Staging Desire: Same-Sex Representation in *M. Butterfly* and *Angels in America*: A Gay Fantasia on National Theme	**iii) Song Wenxin Selina** Dasgupta and Globalisation	-	**iii) Wu Yuhan** Critical Discourse Analysis of NCP Reports on *New York Times* vs *Xinhua Net* Aided by Systemic Functional Grammar	**iii) Liu Haitao Holly** Mandarin Speakers' Attitudes towards Hong Kong as a Diglossia Society	**iii) Zhang Shizhi Seren** A Comparative Study of the Implication of 'I Love You' in the Context of Chinese and Western Culture
	iv) Shi Xiaofei Nicole Gender Fluidity in *M. Butterfly* and *The Danish Girl*	**iv) Lo Chun Lam Louis** Transhuman Intersubjectivity: Mapping Consciousness in *Tokyo Cancelled* and *Machines Like Me*	-		**iv) Zhu Yidan** The Change of Language Attitudes of Hong Kong People in the Postcolonial Era: A Small-scale Study in Hong Kong	**iv) Xie Danfeng Monica** The Adaptation of 'Sorry' in Intercultural Contexts: Indirect Speech Act or Politeness?

16:40 – 16:45 Break for Panels' Final Deliberation

16:45 – 17:00 Closing Remarks and Awards Ceremony

Zoom URL: https://hku.zoom.us/j/96782702828?pwd=YWZod1h2cHd4ZXVYRm5zNXFqTVh1dz09
Meeting ID: 967 8270 2828
Password: 217138

May 15, 2020

Part A: Literature

Chan Pak Him Jimmy
The Magically Real: The Narration of Traumatic War Experience in *Slaughterhouse Five* **and** *Going After Cacciato*

Even though stories that employ magical realism incorporate fictitious elements, these stories do not lose their mimetic quality and do what realist texts aim at doing—representing reality. *Slaughterhouse Five* and *Going After Cacciato* are war stories that recount traumatic moments and show how these moments haunt in a similar fashion to PTSD patients. Trauma studies show that a perfect recall of the traumatic moment is impossible as the person would struggle to recount the moment, yet the traumatic event would come to mind in a fragmented manner when one least expects it. Owing to this, it poses immense difficulty to write about the event with strict objectivity and traditionary story telling techniques. Thus, magical realism turns out to be a way to acknowledge and represent trauma. Walter Benjamin's idea of the storyteller is one that can preserve reality and present it as it is, and magical realism, despite its fantastical elements, is a literary genre that is capable of encapsulating trauma and letting readers to feel it so as to come closer to understanding it.

Chan Po Ying Shirley
The Fundamental Quest and the Mapping of Home in *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* **by Moshin Hamid and** *Map of the Invisible World* **by Tash Aw**

Both protagonists in *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Moshin Hamid and *Map of the Invisible World* by Tash Aw are diasporic subjects who share the fundamental quest for a sense of belonging. It is the aim of this paper to explore how this essential quest for a stable core results in a self that is fractured, but allows for the multiple conceptions of 'home'. In my research, I argue that the quest to construct a stable and unified core leads to a disunified self but brings to the forefront the multiplicity of home in relation to emotional affiliation, the nation and memories. The mapping of home is an arduous journey, but both works conclude how home does not have to be limited by geographical locations but can exist anywhere in the world. This is of paramount importance as it allows diasporic subjects to have a fuller understanding of their own identity in different contexts.

Chen Qiao Chris
Two-Way Mimicry: Ambivalence of Power Relations between the East and the West in *M. Butterfly* **and** *Chinglish*

Although mimicry is a concept that receives a great amount of focus, most scholars emphasise one-sided mimicry, that is either the natives' taking on of western culture or westerners' impersonation of natives, which is also called "reverse mimicry". However, this paper, extending Homi Bhabha's notion of colonial mimicry, will analyze "two-way mimicry" in David Henry Hwang's plays, *M. Butterfly* (1989) and *Chinglish* (2012), which refers to both easterners' mimicry of the West and westerners' impersonation of the East. Focusing on the protagonists' performance of identities through mimicking

another culture in the two plays, I will argue that two-way mimicry in *M. Butterfly* and *Chinglish* manifests fluidity of national identities and causes ambivalence in power relations between the East and the West. Hwang highlights the performance of identities in the two plays, and protagonists lose their fixed identities as a westerner or an easterner, thus demonstrating the ambivalent and unstable East/West relationship and deconstructing the binary oppositions between the East and the West.

Chen Yunzhi Yuki

Contesting London Spaces in the *Windrush* Generation Novels of Sam Selvon and Andrea Levy

This essay explores the ways in which the Caribbean immigrants in Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* (1956) and Andrea Levy's *Small Island* (2004) negotiate London spaces. Although the novels were created half a century apart, they both engage with the period of mass migration from Britain's colonies to the metropole following the end of the Second World War, and feature the *Windrush* generation imaginatively reinventing the city through their subversive and creative strategies. The protagonists in the texts, as the Caribbean immigrants in London, are initially stranded in a liminal space: confronting Britain's coldness, hostility, and rejection of black immigrants in its racist postwar climate, they are neither allowed nor able to traverse the invisible cultural and social threshold to embrace their citizenship in this city. However, according to Homi Bhabha who focuses positively on the potential of the city, it is the place in which diasporic subjects can seize the possibilities of their liminality, and 'new social movements of the people are played out' (1994). Tracing the divergent trajectories of the migrant figures' 'movements' away from a state of limbo and displacement towards carving out spaces of their own in the host nation, I argue that in *The Lonely Londoners*, Selvon's immigrants redefine social spaces as hybrid locations by renaming, remapping and recreating them whilst in *Small Island*, Levy's immigrants transform their domestic space into a refuge that provides dignity, privacy and autonomy by improving their living condition and asserting dominance of the space.

Chiu Lok Yi Lois

Deconstructing the Oriental Other in a Globalised World: A Comparative Study of the Representation of Otherness in Iñárritu's *Babel* and Mitchell's *Ghostwritten*

Edward Said's *Orientalism* (1978) and its Occident-Orient binary oppositions are highly prominent in academic studies concerning imperialism and post-colonialism. Previous research mostly drew on Said's Orientalist theories for elucidating the power dynamics between the East and West, but few have expanded the discussion on 'otherness' in the modern globalised context. To shed light on the culturally stereotypical representation of 'other' in contemporary East-West contacts, this paper adopts Said's vision of the 'Western Self and Oriental Other' as the theoretical framework for analysing two hyperlinked works, namely Alejandro Gonzales Iñárritu's film *Babel* (2006) and David Mitchell's novel *Ghostwritten* (1999), which demonstrate intercultural encounters under the effect of globalisation. By discussing the prevailing national prejudices employed by the West against the East in the two chosen works, this paper argues that both *Babel* and *Ghostwritten* largely adhere to the Orientalist stereotypes for depicting the cultural 'other' in narratives, but simultaneously, the film

director and author also attempt to reverse the conventional Orientalist gaze from the West by adopting cinematographic or literary narrative strategies for countering Western subjectivity in the 21ˢᵗ century globalised world.

Chui Yeuk Ling Chamois
Remembering the City and Its Chaos: Memory and Cities in *Invisible Cities* and *The Shadow of the Wind*
As more and more people choose to live in cities, the urban metropolis has become an important setting in narratives, and sometimes even defines how stories can be told. Italo Calvino's *Invisible Cities* and Carlos Ruiz Zafon's *The Shadow of the Wind* are both set in imaginary versions of the city they describe, and through the stories told by characters, they show how history, an important part of a city's narrative, can be told and retold by endless individuals such that no definitive account can be picked out. Instead, by singling out the overlapping and often contradictory ideas on which people have based their city, these authors show how citizens manage to sift through the chaos generated by such contradictions, and argue that it is these infinite strands that help city-dwellers everywhere collectively construct the city's narrative, and by extension, their identities within it. This project will therefore look at how time and narrative are portrayed as parts of the city and will specifically look at how memory and imagination combine to create layered and sometimes subjective histories that ultimately contribute to a chaotic yet richly detailed world.

Hau Yi Yan
Food, Body, Female Self: Power and Resistance in Atwood's *The Edible Woman* and Han's *The Vegetarian*
This essay explores the subtle implication of food, body and their relationship within Foucault's idea of power and resistance in contemporary women's fiction. Refusing the intake of food is the main theme in Margaret Atwood's *The Edible Woman* (1969) and Han Kang's *The Vegetarian* (2007). Through a close analysis of their texts, I will illustrate how the female protagonists struggle to maintain their autonomy and even attempt to build their female self by refusing food in order to manifest their power over their bodies and to reject the social norm of femininity. Multiple metaphors associated with food will be elaborated, further pointing out its linkage with the role of femininity, power and symbolic cannibalism. I will also compare their strategies of resistance and explore the idea of freedom, as applied in their endings which are determined by their different strategies and attitudes. My essay argues that both texts show the strategies of resistance against the patriarchal representation of femininity encoded in food and body; while Atwood's female protagonist regains her power by imitating the male pattern of behaviour, Han's female protagonist moves further in that she rejects the whole patriarchal society violently by starving to death and frees her mind from the corporal body.

Huang Lizhu

Power and Gender: The Deconstruction of the Binary View in Orientalism in *M. Butterfly* and *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous*

Although research into the deconstruction of Orientalism abounds in cross-cultural studies, Orientalism is a still loaded term, one in which "the discourse of power, ideological fictions, mind-forged manacles are all too easily made, applied and guarded". (Said, 1979) While nationality and culture may be increasingly decoupled today and feminism gains ground with increasing momentum in terms of geography and gender, institutionalized stereotypes still prevail across transnational demarcations. Both *M. Butterfly* (Hwang, 1989) and *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* (Vuong, 2019) unravel stories that challenge the Orientalist view that the East embodies the powerless female and the West epitomizes a powerful male, and both works establish new power structures. In *M. Butterfly*, Hwang recreates an essentially powerless Orientalist, namely Gallimard, who is rendered so by Orientalist surroundings, which destabilize his "masculinity" to subvert conventional hegemony. Meanwhile, in *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous,* Vuong builds a powerful Oriental, Little Dog, who moves forward in the collective trauma caused by conventional power structures, develops individual power in femininity, gives prominence to rapport between individuals from the two sides and emphasizes "planetary humanism" (Gilroy, 2000). Ultimately, Vuong establishes a new power order where overwhelming nature rules over problematized human unity.

Huang Xiaolu Anastasia

Empowering the Voice: The Reconstruction of Female Discourse from Shakespeare's *Hamlet* to Updike's *Gertrude and Claudius*

Among the deconstruction of classic works in recent years, Updike's *Gertrude and Claudius* is undoubtedly an impressive one. Updike completed the antecedent to Shakespeare's play *Hamlet*. Noticeably, this new prequel of *Hamlet*, from the mindset of female, takes Queen Gertrude as the narrative center and airs Gertrude's psychological states to break the confinement of female discourse in Shakespeare's plays. Based on Foucault's theory of power and discourse, this paper attempts to analyze how Updike manifests women's endeavors to assert, preserve and construct their discourse, breaking the *aphasia* and even challenging the voice of male authority by elucidating the interactions between Queen Gertrude and other crucial male roles in the text in order to navigate readers in-depth to scrutinize the changes of women's social status in a different era.

Kwong Chun Wai Wayne

The Construction of Hongkongers as an Independent Decolonized Identity in Local Hong Kong Literature in English

This study examines the genre of Hong Kong literature in English and in particular analyzes narratives by Xu Xi and Louise Ho, namely the former's short story collection *Insignificance: Hong Kong Stories* and latter's poetry collection *Incense Tree*. The study engages with the construction of the identity of the Hongkonger in those narratives through the lens of postcolonial theories by Walter Mignolo and Homi Bhabha. By examining the representation of the identity of the Hongkonger in the narratives,

the study identifies several unique traits of the narratives, being the coexistence of acceptance and refusal of cultures of its forebears, especially Chinese culture, the emphasis of representations of a voice local of Hong Kong and a unique discourse and worldview heavily structured around and influenced by the political environment of Hong Kong. This study argues that the above traits reflect how the identity of the Hongkonger in the narratives, while absorbing influences from cultures that historically influences Hong Kong, also develops independently and distinctively, constructing itself as a unique decolonized entity in the process.

Lam Chun Yu Cyrus
Crossing Gender in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and *As You Like It*
Gender identity has been predominately aligned with one's biological sex with traditional social construction of masculinity and femininity. In recent decades, there have been debates over such a historically binary concept, suggesting gender could be contemplated in a rather fluid manner. This dissertation conducts a study of how contemporary theories such as gender performativity, the role of socialisation in gender, and queer cultures have revived our understanding of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and *As You Like It* within a new scope. Through an analysis of the texts and also a number of stage productions in the twenty-first century, I investigate how crossdressing is implemented in different ways in the plays. I argue that Shakespeare develops scenes of potential gender fluidity and reveals gender is performative through crossdressing, and that he develops homoerotic tension among the characters under the complex layers of gender onstage. This hints at different forms of love and reveals the struggle between the fantasy and reality in the state of love. Yet, I argue that this paradoxically consolidates the parameter of heteronormative orders. Though more terms have been invented in the contemporary world to naturalize the identity and/or relationships violating the stereotypical social norms, this contrarily enlarges the distance between heteronormativity and non-heteronormativity.

Lam Hong Ki Kelly
Gendered Trauma Rooted in Performativity in Rebecca West's *The Return of The Soldier* and Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*
Post-World War I novels mainly revolve around the soldiers' war experience and traumatic suffering, while women are placed at the periphery of such accounts. This paper explores women's adjacent involvement in the war in the accounts of male war trauma in Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway* (1925) and Rebecca West's *The Returned of the Soldier* (1918). Expanding on Cathy Caruth's traumatic framework, both novels similarly convey veterans' traumatic sufferings through external connections: the narration and reaction of other women. Exposing and witnessing their husbands' suffering, the wives are also intrinsically connected to their loved one's trauma, as psychologist terms this process as 'secondary traumatization'. Some may simplify this kind of indirect traumatization as the consequence of men's relinquishing manhood. Yet, the process of secondary traumatization is problematized by Judith Butler's concept of gender performativity within the context of the spousal relationship. Therefore, this essay will argue that the traumatic experiences are gendered and that the

husband's trauma depicted is inevitably transferred to the wife who suffers secondary traumatization. This secondary traumatization is rooted in the relentless pressure to perform gender according to societal expectations and failings.

Lei Bangqin

Walking as Liberation in London Streets: A Comparative Analysis of Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* and Monica Ali's *Brick Lane*

Immigrants from former British colonies often settle down in restricted areas of London, separating them from the white Londoners. These areas are enclosed with invisible boundaries, which make people from two sides have no idea of each other. Despite the temporal differences and gender differences, both Caribbean immigrants in Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* and Bangladeshi immigrants in Monica Ali's *Brick Lane* confront the same situation. Living in "racialized ghettos", they bring their own cultures and customs, creating their communities like at home. However, when they cross the invisible boundaries, they begin to notice cultural differences and re-examine themselves. Their free walking in the streets, intersecting or overlapping with existing paths and routes, rewrites the texture of the city. Thus, instead of the notion of resistance existing in many postcolonial novels, this paper argues that, while walking in the streets, the characters in both works can find liberation by re-appropriating London's landscape through interactions with the city. Their walking movements function as their negotiations with the cityscape, and their interactions construct their private stories within the city. In *The Lonely Londoners*, "the boys" obtain liberty as metropolitan citizens. Though their walking experiences are both positive and negative, they believe London is "the center of the world" and enjoy the feeling of walking among its landmarks. In *Brick Lane*, Nazneen emancipates herself from traditional patriarchal society through walking. When she walks freely in the streets of London, she observes and imitates the pace of English women, from whom she sees the confidence and elegance of feminine bodies and realizes her longing for liberty. Through walking as negotiation, characters in both works are able to establish new relationships with the city, forming their personal histories and exclusive memories with the landscape, from which they set free their hearts and find liberation.

Lei Chen Crystal

Deconstruction of Gender in *M. Butterfly* and *The Woman Warrior*

As the structure of gender is a binary relation, this essay aims to find out how the binary opposition between masculinity and femininity in stereotypes has been deconstructed in Asian American cross-cultural contexts and the significance of this deconstruction. With the themes of both gender and cross-cultural communication, David Henry Hwang's *M. Butterfly* (1988) and Maxine Hong Kingston's *The Woman Warrior* (1976) are taken as primary texts. The groundbreaking notion of gender and gender identity (Butler 1999), the concept of masculinity (Connell 1995) and femininity as well as their constructed relationship (Schippers 2007), and another research on gender in Asian American background (Wu 2015) provide solid theoretical bases for analyzing how the two primary texts realize the deconstruction distinctively. This essay will argue that by creating specific male characters and

female characters respectively, Hwang and Kingston normalize and rationalize the possibility of coexistence of masculinity and femininity. Based on the deconstruction of gender, in Asian American cross-cultural contexts, they enable orientalism to become gendered and manage to subvert this gendered orientalism further. The connection between gender and orientalism enriches the concept of gender and contributes to breaking the stereotypes of gender and stereotypes of western and eastern cultures.

Leung Yan Kei Cindy

Re-constructing Female Flânerie and Space in Jean Rhys's *Good Morning, Midnight* and Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*

This paper explores the modern urban spaces in Rhys's *Good Morning, Midnight* (1939) and Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway* (1996). It emphasizes the city's roaming and urban experience through the public and private space of cities of the female walking figure, the *flâneuse,* whom theorists have labeled as an invisible figure and the object of a male gaze. Drawing on the walking activities of the female *flâneuses* within these selected texts, they display that women have to negotiate the tension between their status as the subject and the object of the *flâneur*'s gaze. My argument is that the *flâneuses* in Rhys and Woolf's selected novels challenge the modern urban spaces as dynamic and gendered and provide alternative forms of gendered subjectivity. While Rhys depicts the entrapment of *flâneuses,* Woolf envisions the possibility of resisting female objectification.

Li Man Lai Clara

Think Inside the Black Box – A Poststructuralist Analysis of Introspection and Performativity of Shakespeare's *Queen Gertrude* and *Lady Macbeth*

Is *Queen Gertrude*'s swift remarriage completely due to the yearning for lust? Is *Lady Macbeth* merely a fiend-like wife?　Being aware that Shakespeare's female aristocratic characters are not as simplistic as they outwardly perform and described by other male characters, this essay is going to investigate and analyze their introspection and discourses using a poststructuralist approach, as only through deconstructing the pre-existing conventions could these female characters be analysed and evaluated without the influence of the tainted male gaze. Amongst an array of controversial female characters within Shakespearean tragedies, the reserved and controlled *Queen Gertrude* and the outspoken and manipulative *Lady Macbeth* are selected to illustrate the distinctive ways these female aristocratic figures react when they are facing dilemmas and experiencing "cognitive dissonance" (Festinger, 93).Through investigating their introspection and reconstructing their expressions, this essay aims to shed light on understanding and re-evaluating the significant influence of these Shakespearean female characters on the contemporary audience.

Li Ruiyue Leah

Construction of Asian Female Identity and Deconstruction of the Lure of the West in *Madame Butterfly* and *Joss and Gold*

Triggered by the Eastward trajectory of two American males, this paper aims to explore the experience of Asian females in their interracial relationships so as to examine how their problematized selfhood is constructed as the lure of the West is deconstructed. In the first section, this paper will look into Cho-Cho-San from *Madame Butterfly* (1898), a Japanese geisha married to an American who brings her emotional diaspora as well as the lure of the West, and discuss the oversimplified endings of two existing versions of *Madame Butterfly*. The second section is concerned with Li An from *Joss and Gold* (2001), who is a married Chinese Malaysian immigrant. This paper will identify the push and pull that she is subject to under the cultural and political circumstances in order to illustrate how the choices she makes during her interaction with an American male helps to consolidate her hybrid presence and put an end to the lure of the West. In addition, this paper will also consider the cultural heritage of the two authors and suggest that the two texts should be read in different lenses so as to be comprehended from a more inclusive perspective. In the last section, this paper will focus on the articulation of the endings presented in the two novels so as to identify an improved attitude towards the singularity of Asian females' portraits, which contributes to further discussion of postcolonial literature studies as a whole.

Li Tengtong Mira

Beyond Hegemonic Masculinity: The Effeminate Asian Men in *M. Butterfly* and *Everything I Never Told You*

Asian men are rendered less masculine due to western assumptions about the East, which become a source of pain for Asian men. However, such "emasculation" has positive aspects. This essay will try to prove that the effemination of Asian men to a certain extent liberates Asian from the flawed norm of hegemonic masculinity. Hegemony masculinity emphasizes the domination of women, as well as hostilities to women and homosexual people. However, such "emasculation" debunks these stereotypical views and provides a "a more humane, less oppressive means of being man" (Connell, 2005). Firstly, hegemonic masculinity emphasizes the domination of women, but Asian men's dominant position over women is challenged by their effeminacy. In *M. Butterfly*, facing western power, Asian men are degraded to "women ", which confirms the idea that gender is shaped by power. It shows a possibility of the reverse of traditional gender roles that men play the dominant while women the subordinate. In *Everything I Never Told You*, in an international family, men' s superiority over women is balanced by the husband's "effeminate" Asian identity. In this way, the gender inequality brought by hegemonic masculinity is alleviated. Secondly, hegemonic masculinity denies the feminine aspects inside men, but the effeminization of Asian men accommodates their non-masculine personalities. In *M. Butterfly*, by playing the role of an oriental girl, Song's sentimentalism is legitimated. In *Everything I Never Told You*, the Asian boy Nath is rendered as nerdy and bookish, which accommodates his addiction to science. Thirdly, hegemonic masculinity holds a hostile view on heterosexual people, and it shows a fixed view about the sexual orient. Effeminization enables Asian

heterosexual men express their covert desire. Moreover, the ambiguity of sexuality is therefore manifested. In *M. Butterfly*, by playing "Butterfly", Song's special hobby of transvestism is legitimated. In *Everything I Never Told You*, the anxiety about masculinity brought by Asian identity urges the Asian male character to stress his heterosexual aspects, which confronts with his covert homosexual desire. Generally, characters in *Everything I Never Told You* are more unwilling to be effeminized than in *M. Butterfly*. Because the former needs to assimilate into American mainstream society, but the effemination aggravates the degree of marginalization. However, in *M. Butterfly*, the need of being assimilated is absent because the main character lives in China. In conclusion, despite that effemination is kind of a humiliation for Asian men, it is not entirely negative. It manifests the possibility of constructing masculinity outside the framework of hegemonic masculinity, and it also promotes gender equality.

Liu Ka Wai Alice
Women in Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and *Twelfth Night*: A Feminist Perspective
Early modern England was a time of instability in various aspects, from social and economic, to religious and cultural. Gender relationships were no exception, in which the superior status of men was questioned, and the social conditions of women improved. The complex shifting gender relations have drawn much scholarly interest with regards to Shakespeare's representations of women in his plays and how they are interpreted. Some literary critics argue that women in Shakespeare's tragedies are characterized as passive and controlled by men. Others claim that Shakespeare creates comic female figures who challenge gender norms. This research examines the representations of female characters in the fictive societies of Denmark and Illyria in Shakespeare's *Hamlet* (c. 1604-5) and *Twelfth Night* (c. 1602) respectively, through a focus on the contrasting culture of gender and sexuality. Drawing upon feminist criticism and historical context of Shakespeare's time, I argue that the plays reflect varying extent of influence of patriarchy and heteronormativity on women with regards to their performance of gender identity. Ophelia and Gertrude are destroyed by the rigid gender roles in Denmark. Being a daughter, Ophelia conforms to the feminine ideals of obedience and chastity, but ends up in madness and tragic death. Queen Gertrude is torn by her position of pleasing Hamlet and Claudius. On the other hand, Viola and Olivia are less restricted by their gender roles in Illyria where the gender relationship is more equal. While Viola disrupts the sexual difference between male and female in her male disguise as Cesairo, Lady Olivia actively pursues her love for Cesario. Nevertheless, their fate suggests that female characters in both plays enjoy limited agency. Although women in *Twelfth Night* have more room to play with gender identities than women in *Hamlet*, Viola and Olivia have to bear cost of transgressing gender boundaries. The plays demonstrate the divided attitude of Shakespeare in his treatment of female characters. This essay illuminates feminist discussions, and generic difference of tragedy and comedy with regard to Shakespeare's portrayal of female characters in these two plays.

Lo Chun Lam Louis

Transhuman Intersubjectivity: Mapping Consciousness in *Tokyo Cancelled* and *Machines Like Me*

This essay explores the ambivalent representations of subjectivity in transhuman narratives presented in the selected stories of Rana Dasgupta's *Tokyo Cancelled* (2006) and Ian McEwan's *Machines Like Me* (2019). The notion of subjectivity has been widely debated as sites of psychoanalytical, feminist and postcolonial conflict. Through the postmodern realities perpetuating cybernetic modifications and artificial intelligence enhanced by technoculture, the relationship between humans and technology becomes problematic, as it undermines the unified notion of the modern subject and identity in the continuity of a sense of universal ideals and rationality of human nature. The transhuman narrative thus reveals such radical assaults on subjectivity, disrupting the mind-body relationship of fictional characters who possess transhuman characteristics. This essay seeks to exemplify Donna Haraway's "cyborg imagery" in which it escapes from the hierarchical dominations bounded by the dualist traditions manifested in the subject-object, mind-body and man-machine relationships. Specifically, I examine in depth how "*The Doll*" from *Tokyo Cancelled* and *Machines Like Me* exhibit the ambivalent subjectivity and the multi-layered desires through multi-embodiments of the transhuman subjects. In order to unveil the radical effects of technology, I also demonstrate how technoscience challenges and weakens the roles of memory and narrative knowledge in the blurred boundaries between human and artificial worlds in "*The Memory Editor*" and "*The House of the Frankfurt Mapmaker*" of *Tokyo Cancelled* and *Machines Like Me*. I further challenge the over-positive view of Haraway's cyborg imagery by revealing the traumatic and dehumanizing experiences of transhuman characters that hint at the vulnerability of human rationality, succumbing to their artificial counterparts patterned by profound logic of reasons and suggest ways in which the conscious subject seeks to be cognitively mapped on the problematic man-machine spectrum under the radical influence of technoscience.

Lo Kwai Chi

Revisiting the Remains: *Brideshead Revisited* and *The Remains of the Day*

The self-narrative of nostalgia is motivated by the desire to overcome the pain and loss experienced by the narrators. The past has to be reconstructed in a way so that loss and pain can be overcome. Such a self-narrative, thus, is a reconstruction project which allows the narrator, by manipulating his narrative, to rearrange the fragmented and even conflicting parts of memory so that the narrative of the past can be made coherent and logical to the narrator. By doing so, the narrative identity of narrator can be justified and the pain and loss can be reconciled and inhibited in that imaginative past reconstruction. Focussing on the narrative accounts of Captain Charles Ryder in *Brideshead Revisited* and Butler Stevens in *The Remains of the Day,* I would argue that the two character-narrators, by manipulating their narratives, try to overcome, as well as 'accommodate' their sense of loss as a double-outsider. An important part of this narrative effort is to recreate a version of the past where they can locate their disoriented identities.

Moreci, Jack Vincent

Blended Bodies: Hybridity and Power in Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms* and McCarthy's *All the Pretty Horses*

This essay attempts to connect two extremely influential yet socio-historically disparate American texts – Ernest Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms* and Cormac McCarthy's *All the Pretty Horses* – in an American literary tradition that illuminates American discourse on cultural hybridity. Hybridity is an important topic in post-colonial studies; however, it is usually analyzed in terms of western hegemony, so that scholarship tends to focus on the ways that American culture is being imposed on others in a worldwide process of Americanization. Using current hybridity scholarship, this essay will analyze the Hemingway and McCarthy texts in order to invert this paradigm, illuminating a less prevalent conception of American hybridity, which emphasizes cultural adaptation as a means of empowerment of individual Americans in foreign lands. This essay contends that there is an American literary tradition in which hybridity is conceived of as a self-imposed process of cultural hybridization whereby American characters directly inscribe foreign cultures onto their own physical bodies. This is done so that Americans may better exploit the opportunities that present themselves in foreign contexts. It will then analyze the consequences that these bodily transformations have on the characters in both texts. Finally, it will conclude with a brief discussion of the significance that this study has for notions of hybridity in post-colonial discourse.

Ng Cheuk Lam Jasmine

Looking into Alienation in *Hamlet* and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*

The topic of alienation has long been one of the centres of discussion in literary works. Alienation is feeling of 'estrangement' as stated by Ingelhart, which creates a gap between one's values and beliefs with the other people in the community. This paper looks into alienation in *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* by Tom Stoppard. In *Hamlet*, the prince's tragedies are highly related to alienation and madness. Hamlet is a tragic hero, and he is trapped in his own revenge play which he does not want to be in. Shakespeare highlights the destructive behavior that alienation could lead to, for example, the death of the whole royal family in the end of the story. On the contrary, Stoppard chooses to focus on two minor characters in *Hamlet* - Rosencrantz and Guildenstern - as the main characters of the story. This shows that Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are absurdist heroes; they are comic but they are trapped in someone else's play. Furthermore, *Hamlet* displays some hints of metatheatre whilst *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* shows a high dose of metatheatre.

Ngai Beverly Hiu Wai

Silence beyond Gender Stereotypes in Adichie's *Purple Hibiscus* and *The Thing Around Your Neck*

Within postcolonial discourse, silence is necessarily discussed in tandem with disempowerment and conceptualized in a way that polarizes the powerless "silenced" and the oppressive "silencer". Especially pertaining to marginalized women, this dynamic is even further solidified with the added gender convention that inextricably ties female silence with submission and subordination. In this paper, I will explore how Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Purple Hibiscus* and *The Thing Around Your Neck* respond to these ideas of silence in consideration of the patriarchal system that is set as the backdrop in many of her stories. As a launching point, this project will begin by drawing from one of the major postcolonial and feminist theorist Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak. Her essay "Can the Subaltern Speak?" makes the point that women in the subaltern are systematically silenced in a way that renders them in a powerless position and are thus never able to speak. While it is important to note that Adichie's characters may not be considered "subaltern" as they are generally of higher social mobility, the application of Spivak's idea of silence into Adichie's works, clarifies the paralysing quality of silence as experienced by marginalized women under patriarchal and colonial value systems. Yet, further expanding upon the notion of silence, Adichie's work also demonstrate silence operating outside of such lens, considering multiple roles of silence. Examining these uses of silence in *Purple Hibiscus* and *The Thing Around your Neck*, I ultimately argue that Adichie challenges the monolithic idea of silence as a static condition of forced pacification and transforms it into a disruptive state of action to resist and undermine patriarchal control.

Qu Zhuo Joe

Staging Desire: Same-Sex Representation in *M. Butterfly* and *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Theme*

Queer dramas portraying homoerotic desire start to flourish after the gay liberation movement in the 1970s against the backdrop of American culture. Both texts premiered around the late 1980s, as the first-string contemporary queer dramas: *M. Butterfly* was written by American playwright David Henry Hwang and *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Theme* by another American playwright Tony Kushner. The two plays mark the shift in traditional homoerotic drama and articulate same-sex desire in a dramatic form publicly and critically. In response to the canon of western plays, this paper focuses on the literary and dramatic qualities of the texts including the theatrical representation of same-sex desire and various engagements with homosexuality as a part of characterization. By doing so, this paper examines how homoerotic desire is staged and dealt with under the context of the late 80s and early 90s American culture and then sheds a light on gay self-representation within a minority culture by referring to Social Identity Theory. In conclusion, this paper argues that *M. Butterfly* and *Angels in America* overturn the homonormativity in traditional theater, which was used to maintain the stereotypical binary opposition of sexuality, and homosexual identity can be threatened or celebrated in dealings with other identities in certain contexts of politics and culture.

Shi Xiaofei Nicole

Gender Fluidity in *M. Butterfly* and *The Danish Girl*

Gender is a critical topic in both David Henry Hwang's *M. Butterfly* and David Ebershoff's *The Danish Girl*. Scholars have interpreted Hwang's protagonist Gallimard and Ebershoff's protagonist Einar in terms of chauvinism and feminism. In this essay, however, a different perspective will be studied: the gender fluidity within Gallimard and Einar. My essay addresses the question of how gender fluidity is generated and what changes or consequences will be brought about by gender fluidity in both *M. Butterfly* and *The Danish Girl*. In this essay, I would like to argue that gender fluidity is a concrete manifestation of cultural construction upon gender, and the resulting gender diversity may give rise to subversions of identity. My study is informed by related gender topics by Judith Butler, Matthew Jackson, Diane Ehrensaft, Kobena Mercer, MS Kimmel and MA Messner. This essay will be mainly divided into three parts: in the first part, I would like to present that both Rene Gallimard and Einar Wegener possess female gender and what gender they are inclined to have; in the second part, I will elaborate how Gallimard and Einar become gender fluid and how they flow their gender; in the third part, I will proceed to show what consequences gender fluidity has brought to Gallimard and Einar. In so doing, I will propose that gender fluidity can be exploited as a tool to help individuals fit in different social roles.

Song Wenxin Selina

Dasgupta and Globalisation

This paper explores how dreams and realities negotiate futurity in a globalized setting by examining selected works of Rana Dasgupta, *Solo* and *Tokyo Cancelled*. In the first part, I argue that stories in *Tokyo Cancelled* tackle with futurity in the phase of neoliberalism setting. The diptych form of narration in which the chapters' titles in the first movement in *Solo*, "Magnesium" "Carbon" "Radium" "Barium" "Uranium" as the reflection of periodic table sequence shows the world-ecological system in its historical approach. *Tokyo Cancelled* describes stories in the present and future while *Solo* also describes ranging from the past to the future. In part one, the realities of velocity are also discovered due to the application of "parameters" in *Tokyo Cancelled* and experiements *in Solo*.

Tang Xuan Millie

Comparative Analysis of Racial Discrimination in Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* and Andrea Levy's *Small Island*

Even though some critical literary works have been written to analyze construction, reconstruction, and deconstruction of black people's identities in Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* and Andrea Levy's *Small Island* separately or with comparison to other literary texts, no critics have written on racial discrimination comparatively on these two texts. This issue is of paramount importance since both Andrea Levy and Sam Selvon share a Caribbean background and both migrated to England. Their texts share the same question of racial discrimination in mid-twentieth century Britain towards Caribbean migrants. However, in *Small Island*, one British character, Queenie, treats all the black people nicely and warmly, which is different with *The Lonely Londoners*. This essay aims to answer

how Galahad and Bart in *The Lonely Londoners* and Hortense and Gilbert in *Small Island* are treated by people in London similarly and differently, and how these similarities indicate a degree of racial discrimination and also a degree of humanity. This essay argues that whereas both novels strikingly manifest discrimination in job employment and the concept of racial discrimination deeply rooted even in children's minds, Queenie brings about the shiniest past of humanity and illuminates the brightest light of care and consideration for her black companions. The conclusion of this essay is that although racial discrimination is a fact existing in the world, there is still warmness, generosity, and humanity burgeoning in people's hearts.

Tang Zheng Jain
The Fluidity of Identity in Relation to Immigrant's Interactions with Homeland in *Brooklyn* and *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*
According to Hall, "narrative controlling" has been largely registered as a phenomenon rather than a cause and consequence that lead to the walking away of the immigrants. This paper specifically draws a connection between the fluidity of identity and the application of "narrative controlling", trying to dig out how narrative controlling is formulated through immigrant's interactions with their homeland. Identification of such moments helps build an overview and reflection on immigrant's ever-changing relation to the societies. By taking in a social investigation on Irish immigrants conducted by Clary-Lemon and observation of identity transformation by Raghinaru, this dissertation explains the relations among the individual, the homeland and the host country by taking a close look into their repressed need to communicate and its psychological impact on their mental well-being.

Wang Jia Felicity
Orientalist Kinship between East and West: Transnational Masculine Performance in *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad and *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* by Mohsin Hamid
Biological kin relations has long been regarded as a way to justify racial differences (Lawler 63). However, interracial kin-type relations formed through shared feelings, communities and experiences to some extent blur the essentialist interracial boundaries and thus provides an alternative to orientalist binary oppositions. In this sense, this essay aims for a new perspective to see how non-biological kin relations between immigrants and his/her interracial "kins" are in fact deeply shaped by binary oppositions and dominating-dominated power dynamics between west and east, by examining the kinship literary representations in Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* (1899) and Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* (2007). This essay argues that the west-east kinship representations in both texts providing an apparent alternative to monolithic epistemology of west-east binary oppositions actually reaffirm it. On the basis of Edward Said's postcolonial criticism on orientalist imaginations, the research explores the orientalist nature of the kinships of shared origin and common experiences between European colonizer Marlow and his black helmsman and that between Pakistani employee Changez and his American superior Jim, as well as the epitome of dominating-dominated/west-east power dynamics in the romantic kinship between Kurtz and his mistress and that between Changez and Erica. Moreover, the research gives an in-depth

comparison of how   both   protagonists   tackle   their   identity   crisis by masculine performance: Changez rebuilds his Pakistani-American identity by replying to American ideas about Muslims; while Marlow perpetuates his identity as a European civilizing colonizer by maintaining the lie of Africa-Europe kinship.

Wang Qingwen

Ethnic Men's Pursuit of Western Girls in *The Lonely Londoners* and *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*

Set on two opposite sides of the Atlantic Ocean, Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* are both geographically and culturally distinct from each other at first glance. Yet upon closer examination, a striking similarity can be perceived—both deal with the psychological dilemma that ethnic male immigrants encounter in their integration into the dominant culture. What draws these two novels even closer is that both utilize the subject of romantic relationships to blatantly highlight such dilemmas. Here, romance is more like a battlefield for the minority men: through possessing the girls from the dominant culture, they can combat the societal marginalization imposed upon them and further demonstrate that they have equal status as local citizens from the metropolitan cities. Western girls have also become a rare chance for them to cross both racial and class divides in these two novels, and thus these ethnic men can be ushered into the insider's world.

Wang Xiang Iris

Under the Tropical Sun: Disease Narratives in Joseph Conrad and John Stedman

The phantom of disease haunts not only the epidemiological history of Europe but also its literary representations. The sustained and cohesive representations of illness in literature have received extensive attention from critics like Susan Sontag and Sander Gilman who investigate the role of illness in conceptualizing differences between self and other. Disease narratives, in the writing of colonial history, are suggested to be an othering device that helps to demarcate Europe's colonial other in terms of an essential racial and cultural difference organized around binaries of order, safety, and hygiene. This prevalent perspective, however, is fraughted by its inclination to oversimplify the process   of   framing and   imagining diseases. In the   context   of   colonial   encounters, Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* and John Stedman's *Narrative of a Five Years' Expedition against the Revolted Negros of Surinam* yield two valuable accounts that both record biological and metaphorical images of disease as a way to represent the construction of a European identity. Engaging with the two texts, this essay argues that disease narratives construct not only medicalized otherness that distinguishes the alleged sick colonized from the healthy colonist but more complex iterations of identities beyond the static, hierarchical boundaries of race. In the stories, Conrad and Stedman through   their   depictions   of   European   protagonists'   explorations   in   tropical   colonies discuss the determined geographical distribution of diseases where the tropics falls into a diseased and unruly place that need to be cured and the assumed susceptibility of different ethnic groups. By writing the   complicated   process   of   pathogenic   exchanges,   the   texts   reveal the   contradictions

of these unexamined perceptions, which dismantle the seemingly established equation between the white and the healthy and challenges the colonial order dominated by the whites who justify their conquest in the name of protecting themselves from potential infection and cultural contamination. Through this comparative study, the essay contends that Conrad with his elaborate description of the pathological nature of Europe and the physiological as well as biological changes of the protagonists make a more fundamental breach of fixed racial boundaries and reveal how identities might shift and change in the negotiations of environmental, cultural and social factors.

Wong Hiu Man Janice
The Search for Identity in Magical Realistic Worlds: A Study in Dasgupta and Murakami's Short Stories
This essay explores how magical realism is manifested in Dasgupta's *Tokyo Cancelled* and Murakami's *Men Without Women*. Both authors set their stories in an increasingly consumeristic and capitalistic world, where characters gradually become assimilated into vast cosmopolitan cities, eventually losing their identity. Stretcher's paper on Murakami and magical realism states that in face of the big system, the two choices presented to young Japanese are 'either become part of the system, or become isolated, forbidden to participate in the affluent society that surrounds you.' By examining the two primary texts, this essay argues that magical realism is used by both authors as a mechanism to allow characters to reconcile their identity, and this act is crucial in a homogenized world as it provides a mean to restore individuality.

Wong Nok Ki Katie
Within the Domestic Sphere: Feminine Power in Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and *Macbeth*
Written around 1600 by William Shakespeare, both *Hamlet* and *Macbeth* are major tragedies with similar royal settings in Europe. Under patriarchal structure, women are often submissive, marginalised and powerless. Yet, in these two plays, the two main female characters, Gertrude and Lady Macbeth, are influential and significant. On one hand, they exert their feminine power within the domestic sphere and in an indirect way, for example, through female identities (like Queen, wife and mother), private conversation and prayers. On the other hand, they try to 'defeminize' themselves in order to fulfil their self-instinct and desires. Hence, the use of feminine power of these two female characters is the primary focus of my current study. Moreover, I argue that through the restricted and limited use of power of women, a change in gender dynamics take place. Eventually, what happens in these plays alters the gender relationship during that period and even fosters the potential of female advancement.

Wu Miaona Christina

The Biological Mother in Daughter's Identity Formation in Jamaica Kincaid's *Lucy* and Jean Rhys's *Voyage in the Dark*

In *Lucy* and *Voyage in the Dark,* Lucy's and Anna's diasporic identity formation is influenced by their mother-daughter relationship in multiple complex ways. The juxtaposition of these two *bildungsromans* evokes the problematic aspect in Simone Alexander's theory that equates the role of the surrogate mother and the role of biological mother in conditioning the daughter's relationship with the motherland. The biological mother figure is endowed with abstract meanings in the two texts. In *Lucy*, the blood mother symbolizes Caribbean patriarchal history and motherland culture. By rejecting and returning to the blood mother, Lucy achieves a diasporic identity. However, in *Voyage,* due to the loss of the biological mother as an anchor to the white Creole group, Anna is deprived of a sense of belonging and is kept wondering without a concrete identity. The success and failure of identity formation in the case of Anna and Lucy because of the presence and absence of the blood mother complimentarily demonstrate the unique role of the biological mother in the identity formation process.

Yang Yifan Jessica

Postcolonial Feminism in the Subversion of the African Women to the Absolute Status of Westerners

Today, there are many comprehensive studies on Western feminism and postcolonialism related to the "other", but only a few studies combine postcolonial feminism and multi-dimensional suppression suffered by African women. Moreover, not many studies have demonstrated that African women can rescind the absolute power of the West from the postcolonial feminist perspective. The term postcolonial feminism, which became prevalent in the late twentieth century, advocates the marginal culture and focuses on the plight of women living in third-world countries from a multi-dimensional perspective. Postcolonial feminism not only helps to reshape historical narratives of African women from various perspectives, including Western feminism, colonialism, and patriarchy, but it also reexamines the despotism of the West. By exploring *Disgrace* (1999) by J. M. Coetzee and "The Headstrong Historian" (2010) by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, this study focuses on the novel and the short story authored in the late twentieth century and early twenty-first century to redefine the existence and history of African women from a postcolonial feminism perspective. This study will take *Disgrace* and "The Headstrong Historian" as examples to argue that African women possess and are bestowed an independent status to fight for their subjectivity in postcolonial works, thus subverting the stereotypes of African women posited by the West. Moreover, this analysis is based on the following three aspects conducted in this study. First, African women gained freedom with identities that Western feminists are opposed to accepting. Secondly, the discursive construction of African women in both works challenges the nexus between themselves and the colonists. Third, African women's oppositional gaze empowers them to eradicate the status of "the observed" and subvert the male gaze in a patriarchal society.

Yao Amy

Constructing an Authentic Post-Colonial Identity: Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and V.S. Naipaul's *The Mimic Men*

The subject of identity is a widely discussed issue within postcolonial studies due to the impact of colonial forces in framing and disrupting cultural identities. As postcolonialism is often characterised by displacement, diaspora and relocation, citizens from colonised countries seek a coherent identity within the framework of hybridity and the influence of the dominant imperial power. My research paper addresses the ways in which Hamid and Naipaul explore the impact of colonialism on individual ambivalence and the loss of identity within the novels *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and *The Mimic Men*. Bhabha's concept of mimicry is supported and extended in both of these texts; and this paper will discuss the significance of such a phenomenon in the construction of identity within a postcolonial context. The emergence of hybrid identities in diasporic environments also sparks the question of whether the colonised can form an authentic and coherent identity while surrounded by a dominant imperial power. Observing the role of hybridity and mimicry in constructing post-colonial identities, I will argue that behaviours resulting from mimicry are a performative act and thus such a form of identity construction or identity shift is inauthentic.

Yao Ziye Summer

Looking for Home: Construction of Asian Immigrants' Identity in Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake*

Mohsin Hamid and Jhumpa Lahiri are prominent immigrant writers in the contemporary period. Both of them depict Asian immigrants as the 'other' and their characters search for home and identity in order to survive in a multicultural society. Furthermore, the change in their identity presents the complexity of immigrant identity. My paper will argue that the construction of Asian immigrants' identity evolves from a singular identity to a hybrid identity; while Changez as the first-generation immigrant realizes his sense of identity by returning to his home culture in Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, Gogol as the second-generation immigrant constructs his dual identities through hybridization in Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake*. Through the analysis of the change of immigrant identity from singularity to hybridization, it can be concluded that diversified and changing immigrant identity prompts immigrants to look for their home and identity with an inclusive and open attitude.

Zhang Junyu Amelia

Displaced Identities: A Comparative Study of *The Harmony Silk Factory* and *Map of the Invisible World*

This paper will examine how some displaced protagonists find and construct their identities individually in postcolonial Asian societies. Focusing on the Malaysian author, Tash Aw and his two novels, *The Harmony Silk Factory* (2005) and *Map of the Invisible World* (2009), I argue that the characters' displacement in both texts challenges the notion of identity and belonging, destabilizing cultural essentialism in postcolonial discourse. In the two novels which are set in multi-ethnic countries,

the main characters are alienated from the dominant culture to varying degrees and search for their identities constantly but fail to find their positions in the multi-ethnic countries. By interpreting the displacement and alienation in the two texts, this paper will investigate what role "race" plays in constructing "collective identity", and how it provokes confusion on "collectivism," resulting in alienation for the marginalized group.

Zhao Xinyu Cora

Regenerative Identity in South Asian Diasporic Novels: *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and *The Namesake*

My paper focuses on the concept of in-between "hybridity" embodied by the two protagonists Gogol and Changez in the South Asian diasporic novels *The Namesake* and *The Reluctant Fundamentalist.* I argue that under diaspora, the disintegration of personal identity results from the inconsistency between past and present, internal and external culture. The immigrants' western-centered assimilation with rejection of their original identity and imitation towards local culture in fact projects their deep-rooted native identity. This is not realized until the illusion of homogeneity is broken by cultural collisions that contribute to a positively regenerative identity.

Zhu Yun Jermaine

From Heterotopias to Paradox of Cosmopolitan Cities: Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and Rana Dasgupta's *Tokyo Cancelled*

Different as Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and Rana Dasgupta's *Tokyo Cancelled* might appear, this essay argues that both texts tackle the theme of border-crossing, a key issue in the era of globalization, to present the complexity and the paradox of the supposedly borderless space of cosmopolitan cities. Cosmopolises such as New York and Frankfurt, once dreamed of as ideal destinations, instead degenerate into places of mounting tensions and contradictions in which transnational characters fail in seeking a cosmopolitan identity. To explore the possibility of a spatial representation of the gap between ideals and reality, the concept of "heterotopia" from Michel Foucault is introduced in the following analysis. Therein Changez as both narrator and protagonist of *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* sets an overall uncertain and uneasy mood in the space where cosmopolitan ideals were and are on the brink of collapse in the past and present. In a more experimental narrative, Pavel and Deniz of *Tokyo Cancelled* are involved in rather strange, fantastic and intriguing stories. When they try to step into an unfamiliar but alluring world of assumed diversity, civility and sophistication, their efforts amount to nothing more than an indicator of the on-going paradox: an unresolved tension between the beautiful vision for cosmopolitan cities and the overwhelming feeling of incommunicability, incomprehension and inequality.

Zou Sicong Stephen

Diasporic Double Consciousness and Reconstruction of Subjectivity in Diaspora: A Comparison of Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake* and Guo Xiaolu's *A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary for Lovers*

By considering varied definitions of diaspora and its functions through different texts, this paper examines two female characters 'life experiences of their diasporic lives, analysing their varied responses to both the western world and their eastern homeland, from which diaspora presents its intricate essence of double consciousness, conflicts and struggles. Themes of invisibility, presence, destruction and reconstruction of subjectivity appear in Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake* and Guo Xiaolu's *A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary for Lovers*. Ashima, a female character in *The Namesake*, an atypical protagonist compared with her children and husband, shows a permanent dislocation throughout her life. By viewing her story, readers can see many negative, marginalized and isolated situations both in diaspora and in the return to her homeland. However, Ashima still responds to her diasporic situation in her own way, though not ideally. In contrast, Miss Zhuang, the female protagonist in *A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary for Lovers*, has more intricacies in a transnational and transcultural world. In her case, diaspora presents relatively positive and multidimensional angles to be considered. Her subjectivity in diaspora subverts Eurocentrism and questions the stereotypes of non-western culture, as well as myths of nationalism.

Part B: Linguistics

Au Lai Yee Sharmaine
Is Emoji a New Form of Language?

Emoji is a set of symbols, from grinning face to man gesturing no, that represents all those facial expressions and physical indicators. With particular meanings assigned to these symbols, it enables Emoji to be a paralinguistic cue in digital communication. Some research papers suggest that Emoji does not only carry emotional function, it also forms an independent language with semantic and substitutive functions. With that in mind, people start to implicate Emoji with a more important role by amplifying its function as a "language".

Therefore, this study investigates the possibility of Emoji becoming a new form of language or an Esperanto, and hence to explore its function either as a common language or a paralinguistic cue. A group of age 18 or above who are actively using emojis in their text messages are invited to participate in this research. Their attitudes and understanding of Emoji will be examined through a set of questionnaires and their personal experiences with Emoji are also being studied through a semi-structured interview.

The result indicates that Emoji is significant to their daily conversation as a tool to express their emotions. But interestingly, the result also reveals that some of the interviewers are able to decode the meanings behind those emoji accurately, therefore the possibility of Emoji becoming a "language" to communicate is positive.

Au Wing Ka Bonnie
The Effectiveness of Using Music to Raise Phonological Awareness

It is observed that Hong Kong secondary school students have poor phonological awareness of English, while Cantonese is their first language and English is their second language. Although most of them have spent several years in learning English, they still cannot pronounce some consonants correctly. The common mispronounced consonant clusters include "scr", "cr", "afr", "gr" and the common mispronounced final consonants include "s", "ce", "ed", "d", "t". Music may be an effective way to raise their phonological awareness. I have invited one class of my students to do the experiment with me and I have picked a song for them. They are divided into two groups that one group is taught about the pronunciation of the consonants explicitly, while another group will learn by listening to the song. After that, they do a test that requires them to read 10 words from the lyrics. The aim of the experiment is to see which group of students can reach a high accuracy in pronunciation of the words, so as to compare the effectiveness of these two ways in learning English sounds.

Cai Qi

Critical Discourse Analysis: News Reports on Doctor Li Wenliang through Bourdieusian Sociological Lens

In the beginning of 2020, the outbreak of novel coronavirus pneumonia (i.e. the *Covid-19*) has aroused worldwide awareness and especially draws concern of the major countries. One of the issues that has been an internationally trending topic is the death of a Chinese doctor, Li Wenliang, a pioneer in the anti-virus campaign but was once wrongly accused by the local government. This essay will focus on the case of Dr. Li and how the mainstream media organizations in China, US and UK cover this event. Applying Pierre Bourdieu's sociological theory and using CDA (critical discourse analysis) as the main theoretical framework, this research analyzes relevant news reports on the websites of People's Daily, BBC and CNN, and explores how these presses employ language as a discursive instrument to mirror the ideology and political interests in their countries. Broadly, this essay tries to demonstrate the correlation between linguistic complexity and social practice, and stresses their impacts on politics.

Cheong Hio Mei Cathy

Hong Kong English and Linguistic Identity of Hong Kongers in an Unstable Era

This paper examines the attitude towards Hong Kong English and its role in carrying the linguistic identity of Hong Kongers under the influence of the Hong Kong protests against the proposed legislation of the 2019 extradition bill. Two groups of Hong Kongers with and without overseas living experiences are chosen in this study. A questionnaire survey and semi-structured interviews are used to compare their reception on Hong Kong English and views on language use. This study sheds light on the evolution of Hong Kong English by examining its interpretation based on the personal experiences of the participants influenced by different sociological factors. The preliminary result shows that even though the majority of the two groups disagree that they speak or use Hong Kong English more often during this uncertain period, they tend to support Hong Kong English as a marker of identity with a distinct pattern shown between the young and middle to old generation.

Cheung Sui King Carrie

Metaphor in Text and Image: A Case Study of Online Posters in 'Water Revolution' of Hong Kong

Starting from June 2019, we have witnessed an unprecedented pro-democratic social movement, the 'Water Revolution' in the history of Hong Kong. The heat of the protest is building up while the ideas of revolution are bombing everywhere in Hong Kong with tons of posters sharing on social media platforms from Lennon Wall. Nevertheless, these substantial texts and images are very little specifically addressed and analyzed. By investigating 85 posters collected from social media, this study aims to examine how metaphorical texts and images in posters play a crucial role as discursive strategies and disseminate the pro-democratic discourse in Hong Kong. The study also critically uncovers the ideologies among the young generation of Hong Kong. The hypothesis result of this study shall demonstrate the ideologies in Hong Kong as a unique fusion of Western and Eastern beliefs which perhaps further contributes the conceptualization of young generation in Hong Kong who are

experiencing and creating an unprecedented social movement in the era of social media.

Duan Ruoyu

A Study on the Language Use in Shenzhen under the Mandarin Promotion Policy

In 1982, Constitution of PRC officially announced the promotion of nationwide use of Mandarin (Putonghua) and Shenzhen became one of the key areas to implement the policy in 1990s. A number of researches studied the influence of language policy. With the changes of language policy and society, the language situation in Shenzhen has changed too. Some researchers have researched on the linguistic features of Cantonese and code switching in Shenzhen, but few has investigated the changes of language use in Shenzhen. Tracking the residents in Shenzhen who were born between 1960s to 2010s, this study finds out the language use changes under the Mandarin Policy and Shenzhen people's attitudes towards these languages. The paper argues that language policy is not the only factor that contributes to language use, and other social factors, for example, family and working environment, play an indispensable role in language use. According to the survey, the proportion of speaking Cantonese in people aged between 30 years old to 60 years old is much higher than that in young adolescents who were born after 2000, who can only speak Mandarin and barely speak Cantonese at all. The majority of respondents aged above 30 think that speaking Cantonese makes them more like Shenzhen people and Shenzhen people should learn and speak Cantonese while young people aged below 20 respond a weak link between Cantonese and Shenzhen identity, instead, they think speaking Mandarin can represent Shenzhen more nowadays. Faced with the declining use of Cantonese and the gradual dying out of this dialect, this essay also calls on the protection and promotion of Cantonese.

Gao Shenghan David

The Willingness to Communicate in English among Mainland Chinese Undergraduate Students: The Effect of University Ranking and English Major

Since the reform and opening-up policy has been enacted in 1978, Mainland China has paid much more attention to its English education, due to the increasing need to communicate with the world through the medium of English. Improving students' English-speaking ability becomes an essential component in this process. However, some researchers have found that a considerable amount of college students are far from being able to speak English communicatively, and most of them argue the students who do not study English as their major in universities are more reluctant to speak English. This study looks at the "willingness to communicate" (WTC) in English among Mainland Chinese college students, since WTC is acknowledged as a key element for learning a second language better, and explores whether "study an English major" and "university ranking" are related to WTC in English. A questionnaire survey including McCroskey's WTC scale was used to measure WTC in English among 4 groups of Mainland Chinese college senior students in 2 different universities, and an interview was used to explore the reasons behind the results of questionnaire survey.

The result indicates that the English major students are generally more willing to speak English than those non-English major students; and for comparing English major students of 2 different universities, those in the university with a higher ranking are found to be more willing to speak English. Moreover,

the research found that nearly all of the students are facing language learning anxieties. The paper argues that teachers need to be more aware of pressures students may feel when they speak English. Based on the problems identified, the paper further suggests that a reform of changing the traditional class mode to more student-centered class for English education is needed in Mainland Chinese colleges, and teachers may try to let their students trust in them in order to help their students build confidence when they practice their oral English, so that the students can be more willing to speak English.

He Yujiao Tori
Attitudes toward Code-switching among Chinese Younger Generations
The past decade has witnessed the gradual development of Code-switching in mainland China. Some scholars have conducted researches on the acceptance and influencing factors of Code-switching among college students, but few scholars have been able to compare the listeners' attitudes toward Code-switching users distinguished by various language backgrounds. Therefore, this research discusses Code-switching from a new perspective, focusing on comparing people's different attitudes toward Code-switching users of different backgrounds. Since most code-switching users are relatively young, this study is conducted for Chinese young people aged 18 to 30. A questionnaire survey is applied to collect data. In the questionnaire, code-switching users with four language backgrounds are being set: users with unknown English levels, users with already known good English level, users whose mother tongue is foreign languages, and users who are accustomed to mixing Chinese with languages other than English. Respondents need to choose the corresponding attitudes toward Code-switching according to the settings.

This study indicates that the attitudes of Chinese younger generations toward Code-switching change according to the different language backgrounds of users: when they know the user's English is relatively good, the acceptance is better than when the user's English background is not known at all; the acceptance of users whose native language is not Chinese is higher than the former two settings; the acceptance of Chinese mixed with languages other than English is higher than the first setting but lower than the other two settings. The result shows that Code-switching users' different language backgrounds have a certain impact on the acceptance of code-switching.

Ho Sau Yan Ginny
A Critical Discourse Analysis of Two Covid-19 Speeches by the US and Chinese Presidents
Leaders of countries always will deliver speeches when their countries are facing crises. Such speeches are categorized as political speech and the preliminary aim is to solicit support from the audience. This study applies critical discourse analysis to analyze two speeches relating to Coronavirus disease 2019 by US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping to examine their discourse practices. The study finds that both speeches demonstrate typical features of political discourse. The objectives of the speeches are rather similar including trying to consolidate power through similar and different discursive strategies such as the use of inclusive and exclusive pronouns, positive self- (and negative other-) presentation, naming strategy, negative other- presentation as well as rhetorical devices.

Different discourse practices are noteworthy. The paper reveals that different social practices in terms of the political system and social structure influence discourse practices.

Hon Yen Chao Marco
Prosodic Transfer from Cantonese to English among Hong Kong Primary School ESL Learners
Previous studies have demonstrated that Cantonese may interfere with the English interlanguage among Hong Kong ESL (English-as-a-Second-Language) learners on syntactic and phonological levels. Few have examined the effect of linguistic transfer on suprasegmental level. The current study focuses on the effect of linguistic transfer from Cantonese to English on suprasegmental level among P.2 and P.6 Hong Kong primary school students who learn English as a second language. Their production of both Chinese and English speech will be compared on prosodic level using Praat. Specific "target" words within each of the Cantonese and the English sentences will be compared to examine if Cantonese intonation interferes with English pitch contours measured in F0 (fundamental frequency).
It is expected that Cantonese intonation patterns will have an effect on English pitch contours among both groups. The extent of prosodic interference is expected to have a more pronounced effect on P.2 students than P.6, given that the P.2 group is still developing tone perception, whereas the P.6 group has better tone perception comparatively.

Hu Yushan
Critical Discourse Analysis on Whistleblowers' Representation in Western Media
If we see whistleblowers from the scope of Critical Discourse Analysis, they are social actors who challenge specific social cognitions and social practices. However, revolutionary change requires more than a self-sacrificing hero. It needs a vocal mass of people expressing collective interest to generate legitimacy, especially in a democratic setting. Upholding the discursive power to attract the collective attention, news agencies also shape the public opinions on those who blow the whistle and what was blown. This study conducts a case study on the representations of three whistleblowers, including Edward Snowden, Julian Assange and Dr Li Wenliang in BBC news, a major western news agency. Applying Halliday's System Functional Linguistics as an analytical tool, this research explores how representations are structured and framed in the news to generate legitimacy of their political stance and penetrate ideologies that are long rooted in western news discourse. In other words, what kind of persuasive moves or discursive strategies are adopted to form or reinforce existing consensus in discourse? The study concludes with a discussion of how those representations of whistleblowers differ due to unwritten political ideology contrast.

Huang Jingwen Jasmine

Gender, Language Attitudes and Identity: A Comparative Study of Guangdong and Hong Kong Cantonese among Native Speakers in Guangdong Province

Guangdong and Hong Kong Cantonese are the most typical varieties in Cantonese-speaking regions and both have their own characteristics. The Guangdong vernacular incorporates other smaller dialects in the Pearl River delta and has been gradually challenged since the promotion of the national language. Hong Kong Cantonese, on the other hand, is characterized by the integration with English but maintains its status of regional lingua franca by evolving toward orthoepy and developing written forms. The differences have given birth to the uniqueness and at the same time widened the gap in between. To the natives in these two places, the vernacular is a marker of their identities distinguishing them from the others. In order to investigate the attitude toward two varieties and explore possible gender differences on identity issues, a questionnaire was conducted among 62 native speakers of Guangdong Cantonese due to their familiarity with the other typical variety benefiting from Hong Kong's cultural export in the last century. Informed of the quantitative results, 6 respondents were invited to a one-to-one interview to solicit the underlying reasons for their attitudinal judgements. During the research, gender was regarded as the salient variable because it is the most basic demographic factor and its differences on language preference have been well studied. Preliminary results indicated that both gender groups considered two varieties as the most representative symbols of linguistic and cultural identities to their people. However, female respondents had a more skeptical attitude toward the Hong Kong Cantonese and failed to recognize their shared identity. They preferred the regional identities to differentiate from others while male respondents chose a more generalized identity no matter when people speak Guangdong or Hong Kong Cantonese.

Hui Wing Yee Winnie

Language Choice and Code-switching by Hong Kong International School Graduates Who Are Working for Local Hong Kong Companies

The study of code-switching has been expanding from the area of grammatical constraints to a broader discipline of 'psycholinguistic, acquisitional and pragmatic methodologies' (Weston, 2016). Yet, there is comparatively little sociolinguistic work on bilingualism that study and compare the complicated relationships between 'language choice and code-switching among subgroups of the same community' (Li, 1995). This study aims to explore the dilemma of language choice and code-switching patterns faced by a specific group of the bilingual community in Hong Kong - Hong Kong international school graduates who are now in their mid-twenties working for local Hong Kong companies. These graduates are raised locally in Hong Kong by Chinese parents who code-switch between Cantonese and English, and this has led to a cultural identity problem. This paper illustrates the ideas of Bucholtz and Hall (2005) - 'how the interplay of language, identity and ideology inform the linguistic practices, social networks, and self (re)positioning of these social participants.' Particularly, this paper investigates the code-switching patterns as well as language choice used by these international school graduates when they carry out daily conversations with their local colleagues, and how their local colleagues respond to such conversations. Data such as ethnographic interviews and observation is included in the paper.

Jolly, Allan

Pandemic Rhetoric: A Discourse Analysis of COVID-19 Speeches

This study aims to understand the strategies of leaders in portraying Covid-19 to the public. The analysis is grounded in discourse analysis. The selected speeches of world leaders and their language choices, mainly persuasive strategies and conceptualizations, are assessed. The collected data was analyzed and compared to identify the leaders' aims represented in their speeches on Covid-19. This study investigates how the leaders try to justify their actions and lead their nations by utilizing various discourse structures in their speeches. Based on the findings, it is found that leaders employ various strategies to create impetus and solidarity. Since immediate, clear, and detailed language framing can affect the confidence and decision-making of societies during outbreaks, it is necessary to study the choices made as different intra and international perspectives of Covid-19 are created, leading to various effects on the survival of local and worldwide populations.

Kiang Carina

A Critical Discourse Analysis on the Portrayal of Japan from 1937 to 1941 by *Life* Magazine

The project will trace the portrayals of the Japanese by the American *Life* magazine, from Japan's invasion of China in 1937 to the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. This is the period when the American attitude towards the Japanese flips completely. This study aims to examine how discourse is able to manipulate public opinion, and the ways that information becomes controlled by the media. As the general public receives information from influential media such as *Life* magazine, the discourses have a great impact on the thoughts of the readers, thus this issue is worth delving. This study hopes to utilize the Discourse Historical Approach (DHA) and study how discourses changes alongside the historical development and politics. Articles from the *Life* magazine during major historical events would be selected and studied and they would be aligned with historical facts. Linguistic features and discursive strategies in the DHA will be closely examined.

Kwok Wai Ling Gloria

Identity Formation and Linguistic Choice in Vlogging Activities

My study aims at finding out the link between identity and language choice in vlogging activities, specifically, what contributes to the formation of the vlogger's identity and how such an identity shapes the vlogger's language choice. Researching into the role 'self-identity' (the way he sees himself, as governed by his ego and his values and beliefs) and 'social identity' (the way he is seen by others, as guided by the way he presents himself and how people interpret it) play on language choice is examined by qualitative and quantitative analyses of the language use of vloggers and commenters. Findings show that both self-identity and social identity contribute to the vlogger's language choice. The clearer the self-concept and the greater the number of compliments from viewers, the stronger the vlogger's self-identity and social identity. The identity constructed becomes the vlogger's symbolic capital which will accumulate over time upon the recognition he receives from the group (Bourdieu, 1991: 128 & 230). Such symbolic capital is an asset and is revenue bearing. Out of viewership and tangible and intangible benefits consideration, vloggers will build rapport with the audience by politeness strategies

or arousing viewers' curiosity and debate through conversational implicature.

Lai Pui Wai Fion

Code-mixing in Hong Kong Social Media Advertisement and Its Effect on Sales

Social media, especially Facebook, has become a very popular channel for companies to promote their brands or products. There were 5.5 million Facebook users in Hong Kong in March 2020, which accounted for 73.3% of its entire population (https://napoleoncat.com/stats/facebook-users-in-hong_kong/2020/03). Social media advertisements is the trendy promotion channel for companies. Unlike printed advertisements, social media advertisements often imitate social media users' ordinary blog entries but hide sales messages. In these advertisements, code-mixing can be found heavily in written form. In fact, writers have enough time to look for a suitable word in social media. Why do social media users still mix codes in this computer-mediated communications? Understanding language habits of social media advertisements is vital for both marketers and academics. Marketers want to know how to attract customers via social media platforms. Academics categorize social media as computer-mediated communications (Thurlow & Tomic, 2004) and are interested in understanding whether social media lead to different language behaviour. There were some similar researches on code-mixing of social media language, but few researches focus on Cantonese and English. Therefore, this research aims to analyse the code-mixing phenomena in Hong Kong digital advertisements on social media. An additional goal of this research is to see whether employing this code-mixing results in benefits to sales in commercial industries.

Lai Shimin Skye

A Study Investigating Anti-Extradition Bill Protest Representations in News Media through the Lens of Critical Discourse Analysis: A Comparative Case of Hong Kong and Mainland China

News matters in that it shapes the reality and the ideology of the masses in a subtle way. It caught the attention of many researchers who later have conducted research concerning how news coverage is constructing different realities and how it is accountable for diversified viewpoints in societies. However, limited studies have revealed the representations of a recent HK protest — Anti-Extradition Bill Protest (AEBP) in news media which has resulted in an unprecedented disparity between societies. This paper, responding to the reason behind such division and the need for a more constructive cross-cultural communication, examines how AEBP is represented by looking at the descriptions of protesters, government and police officers in news coverage in both Hong Kong (HK) and mainland China (mainland). Protest scripts covering large-scale demonstrations from June 2019 to January 2020 of *RTHK, SCMP, HKFP, Xinhua Net, Global Times* and *China Daily* will be harvested and analyzed by applying a corpus-assisted CDA. The analysis suggests that, due to political sensitiveness and limited accessibility, AEBP is pictured unitarily as an unlawful 'riot' which compromises social stability and economic prosperity of HK by mainland news. By comparison, AEBP is more likely to have more complicated representations in HK news articles where AEBP receives positive or negative coverage depending on the political interests of the press.

Lau Ka Ling Kalen

Study on English Usage and Code-switching Habits among Hong Kong People and their Relationships with Identity Formations

Identity formation has long been a well researched topic across many linguists. In this paper, we are going to analyze the correlations between identity formation and English usage, plus code-switching habits among Hong Kong people. Questionnaires and interviews have been conducted for a thorough understanding on Hong Kong People's code-switching (Cantonese and English) habits, self-rated English proficiency level, and their impacts on individual, national and global identity formation. Potential influence on relationships with family, friends and at workplace are also investigated. Results has shown that Hong Kong people who have rated their English level better than 50% of their fellow citizens, have lower self-rating for their English proficiency when comparing with fellow global citizens, which may imply that, contrary to the common notion that Hong Kong people are confidence of their capability, they do not have enough certainty in their competitiveness in English when placed on the global stage. Although 75% of respondents have expressed that their English proficiency level have little or no impact on their relationship with friends and family, more than 50% of them agreed that English proficiency has positive impact on their identity formation (how they perceive themselves), and 45% have replied that it does have contributed to more positive self-image and higher self-esteem. Further study on how identity formation has evolved through English education will help to explore the question why the study has generated the above results.

Leung Ka Chun Michael

How Public Figures in Hong Kong Use Code-switching to Construct their Identity on TV

There is a tendency that people in Hong Kong give utterances in English within a sentence while communicating in Cantonese. Many public figures switch their code frequently when they speak in public. It is intriguing to discover differences of their code-switching behavior among the general public. A research in Indonesia in 2015 found that code-switching among celebrities in Indonesia were usually insertions and alternations, while there was not any congruent lexicalization found. A research conducted in 2016 also revealed that celebrities in Arabic countries switch their code on TV to show their self-identity and cultural identity. Inspired by these researches, this study explores how celebrities in Hong Kong perform code-switching and the possible purpose of their language choice by analyzing episodes of TV news documentaries at Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), a reliable public media organization.

The research indicates that public figures in Hong Kong remain speaking English verbs when they switch codes. In addition, they often switch their code using different nouns in English to empathize the importance of certain concepts and terms. They use code-switching not only to show qualities like education background and knowledge, but also to consolidate the credibility of their speech. The way that people of higher social economic status switch the code is sometimes different from the general public.

Leung Man Yi Lorraine

An Analysis of Communicative Function of Hashtags

The uprising usage of Computer-Mediated Communication (CMC) has unprecedentedly evolved language for befitting the use of social networking. The symbol hash (#) which contains a distinct role of communication in social media is beyond the search function originally employed. The paper investigates how hashtags implicate communicative function in understanding posts. It would further examine the relation of using hashtags and its inference of social identification in the virtual world. An online survey would be enclosed to evidence perceptions on people's understanding of social networking posts and the motivation of engaging the use of the hashtag. The research shows that hashtag projects indication of decoding implicit messages and shift of focus based on the contextual assumptions of associated background. Hence, hashtag enacts as a social interaction tool to be engaged as an in-group identity.

Li Jingyi

Meanings behind Facemasks: "Facemask" Represented in Chinese and American English Media

The first few months of 2020 were filled with anxieties and panic over the global spread of COVID-19. In Mainland China, facemasks played an essential role in fighting against the coronavirus. However, the attitudes towards wearing masks are divergently interpreted in western societies. This dissertation aims to explore the meanings behind facemasks from a social semiotics perspective by examining the multifaceted representations of the same semiotic resource in Chinese and American media discourse. A corpus-based critical discourse analysis illustrates how and why the two sides view "facemasks" differently due to the distinctions in sociocultural contexts and the social structures.

The research indicates that Chinese media use additional meanings (such as a sign of solidarity and responsibility) to emphasise the positive role of facemasks in combatting the epidemic. In contrast, American media mainly convey negative evaluations on mass masking and warn people against panic buying. However, only a few articles mention the differences between the two sides to reduce the intercultural miscommunication that has already led to discrimination and racial assaults against Asian people in western societies.

Li Yemuzi Amber

Attitudes towards Chinese-English Code-Mixing in Mainland China: Why Some Code-Mixings Are Negatively Regarded

In mainland China, previous studies have shown that Chinese-English code-mixing is gaining popularity while very limited researches focus on the public attitudes towards Chinese-English code-mixing. This paper therefore investigates the general perception of Chinese-English code-mixing in mainland China, specifically whether code-mixing is favored or not. By conducting online questionnaires which mainly examine the English proficiency of the respondents, their code-mixing usages and their attitudes towards code-mixing in mainland China, this paper aims to find out whether different types of code-mixings would lead to different attitudes of respondents, moreover, whether there would be a certain code-mixing type which is particularly liked or disliked. This paper illustrates

the idea of Bhatia and Ritchie (2012) - 'four factors determining language choice and mixing on the part of bilinguals'. Furthermore, this paper contends to analyze the topic by considering the aspects of individual and the social level in terms of psychology, history, education and politics.

Liang Jing
Sociolinguistic Analysis on the Code-switching between Mandarin and Dialects in Mainland: A Small-Scale Study in Ezhou, Hubei Province
Code-switching between Mandarin and dialects is a prominent linguistic phenomenon in Mainland China now for the implementation of the Mandarin Policy in the whole China. Even in the less developed city like Ezhou, Hubei Province, residents speak in Mandarin more than the past. Therefore, the phenomenon appears in Ezhou more frequently in recent years. Some researches show a low degree of acceptance for code-switching in the minority areas like Tibet and Xinjiang. Nevertheless, the situation in central China lacks of study currently. This study explores the phenomenon of code-switching between Mandarin and dialects in Ezhou, Hubei province from the perspective of sociolinguistics. On the basis of the questionnaire survey, this paper analyzes the attitudes and the motivations of the phenomenon. The results indicate that nearly half of Ezhou residents do not mind code-switching and the numbers of people who show high or low acceptance are similar in the rest half. Furthermore, their attitudes and motivations of code-switching are affected by age, gender, occupation and educational background.

Liang Ruining
Declining Cantonese Proficiency of Younger Generation in Guangdong: A Research on Reasons for the Phenomenon
With the policy to promote Mandarin in China, a phenomenon has been observed that Cantonese proficiency level of the younger generation in Guangdong is declining. Given the great importance attached to dialect protection, many researchers have done studies on the status quo and protection of dialects in many regions. However, researches on Cantonese in Guangdong are not enough. This study looks into the Cantonese proficiency level of Guangdong residents, reasons for the phenomenon and relationship between the language policy and this phenomenon, since the first step to protect a dialect is to thoroughly understand its current situation. Through analyzing data from questionnaires, the Cantonese proficiency level of the older and younger generation is compared, and the main reasons are analyzed.

This research indicates that Cantonese proficiency level of the younger generation is certainly lower than that of the older generation, which is mainly influenced by objective factors, including the worse environment to learn Cantonese and the reduced usage of it, even though the younger generation subjectively acknowledges the sense of identity as well as culture value brought by Cantonese, its important status and the necessity to protect it.

Lin Yitong Camille

How to Refuse: A Study on Politeness Theory between Different Generations in China

Feng (2002) states that due to the reform and One-Child Policy which started from the late 1970s in China, families each have only one child and these children differ from the older generation in many aspects, such as beliefs and value systems. The young generation's view about politeness has considerably deviated from the traditional norm. Little research has been conducted to explore how generations differ in the views of politeness. This essay aims to discuss how these two generations differ in refusing people in terms of politeness theory. Discourse Completion Tests questionnaire is employed to test how they refuse co-participants' requests, invitations and suggestions in different daily situations. The result suggests that compared with the old, relatively more young people are willing to maintain their personal opinions and be individualistic. The old tend to use acceptable excuses to avoid confrontation so as to protect positive face.

Liu Haitao Holly

Mandarin Speakers' Attitudes towards Hong Kong as a Diglossia Society

Hong Kong has become a Cantonese - Mandarin diglossia society after the handover in 1997. A plethora of research (such as Snow 2010; Brewer 1999; Tong 2013) focalizes the impact on the local people, primarily indicating the preservation of Cantonese especially in colloquial is to maintain their self-identity dichotomous from mainland Chinese. People from mainland China, their attitudes, however, are less studied though they account for a large proportion. This study contrives to show mandarin speakers' attitudes toward Hong Kong as a diglossia society and the consequent identity issues as well as further influences on social mobility. Aside from literature reviews on diglossia theory, this study applies to a combined quantitative and qualitative research methodology, conducting a questionnaire with 57 informants along with 4 semi-structured interviews. The findings demonstrate Mandarin speakers' positive attitude towards Hong Kong as a diglossia society as it connotes cultural diversities and inclusiveness. Nevertheless, concurrently they consent the fact that from a personal level it adversely impacts their decision-making to stay in Hong Kong due to their own incompetence in Cantonese. As with the majority of studies, the study is subject to limitations. Given the limited participants and uneven demographic distribution, social variables like age and gender fail to show a significant correlation in our outcomes. Besides, it is reductive to neglect the influence of English on this bilingual phenomenon.

Mao Yu

The Representations of Chinglish and Its Causes

The purpose of this dissertation is to investigate Chinese English learners' representations of expressions, reasons for use, and attitudes towards Chinglish. Chinglish is an interlanguage system in which Chinese learners of English combine the two languages for communication. Questionnaires were distributed to 113 participants and six interviews were conducted to collect information on the background, recognition, attitudes, reasons and manifestations of Chinglish, and were analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. We found that Chinese learners of English tend to use the Chinglish

interlanguage system when they lack the vocabulary or knowledge of grammatical rules to communicate fully in English. We believe that these results can be explained by Language Transfer, the Comprehensible Input Hypothesis, as well as some other theories and hypotheses. English teachers often encounter Chinglish expressions when dealing with Chinese students' English writing. Thus, this research helps us understand the motivations and representations of Chinglish produced by Chinese learners.

Shea Chun Hon Johnny

The Relationship between Hong Kong English and National Identity in Hong Kong Citizen's Perspective

Mingled with traditional Chinese culture and ex-colonial British influences, Hong Kong has established as a metropolitan of prosperity and affluence. Although English continues as an official language in Hong Kong after the handover of sovereignty in 1997, some people regard Hong Kong English as a distinct English variety like British English or American English while some people disagree with such an opinion. It is believed that this correlates much to how the people speaking English regard their own national identity, as suggested by Hall (2013), the languages we use are interwoven with our own identity (p. 34).

To examine the relationship between the English the respondents speak and their national identity, questionnaires and audio-taped interviews are employed to collect data from the interviewees for analysis. The result will be mapped and it is believed that respondents who think their national identity is Hong Kong will have a higher chance in using Hong Kong English than the other counterparts, showing the inalienable relationship between language and identity.

Shen Chuling

Comparisons on News Reports in Chinese and American Mainstream Media about the Coronavirus (COVID-19): A Corpus-based Critical Discourse Analysis

The new mutated coronavirus (COVID-19) began in Wuhan since December 2019 has turned out to have a worldwide effect and has caused great loss in economy and changes in people's lives. Social media from all over the world, especially China and the US, have posted numerous news reports relating to the COVID-19 and many of them present different attitudes of the same event, which make it meaningful to analyze the objectiveness of news reports and the reasons behind. By using the word collocation and concordance functions of the corpus linguistic software WordSmith 6.0, this article exploits the synergy of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Corpus Linguistics in a self-built corpus of news reports from Chinese and American mainstream media published between December 2019 and March 2020, and finds that news reports can be subjective and different attitudes in news reports is closely related to political ideological differences.

So Yuen Po Monique

English Teachers' Speaking Teaching Strategies for Contemporary Lower Form Students

With deep knowledge on globalization and world Englishes views learnt in MAES programme, I am interested in understanding secondary school English teachers' views and attitude on teaching speaking to contemporary lower form students. There is a hypothesis that infusion of global English views can enhance effect of speaking learning when meeting the needs and interest of the students, and taking English as a lingua franca not only can allow non-native speakers to release the burden of turning themselves to be Englishmen or Americans, but also allow them to communicate in English spontaneously. Teacher respondents of this study who teach English to lower form students have disputed this hypothesis by responding to the questionnaire and explaining their own views at semi-structured interviews. A report is written on related findings and implications on English learning and teaching are explored.

Tai Ching Joseph

Metaphors of a Pandemic: Changes in the Media Representations of COVID-19 in Hong Kong and the US Across Time

This study uses a corpus approach to investigate how COVID-19 was represented with conceptual metaphors at different times by news outlets in different geographical areas, including Fox News, the New York Times (NYT), and the South China Morning Post (SCMP). Using Chiang and Duann's (2007) study on SARS as basis, the number of web page headlines from 31 Dec 2019 to 19 Mar 2020 on COVID-19 was recorded, and then the proportion of the headlines using selected metaphors was determined. Throughout the recorded time period, SCMP had the highest percentage of *killer* metaphors in its headlines while Fox News had the lowest percentage of *killer* and *war* metaphors. On Mar 10, coinciding with the start of a rapid increase in US COVID-19 cases, NYT started to increase its use of *killer* metaphors to a level similar to SCMP's while Fox News unexpectedly started to decrease its use of *killer* metaphors. This paper argues the outlets' political concerns and their changing proximity to an outbreak are factors influencing their use of metaphors for COVID-19. Similarities and differences with the representation of SARS will be discussed.

Tse Ka Chun Logan

'City' in City: The Transition of Linguistic Landscape in Chinatown Yokohama

Near the coastal area of Yokohama lies an area widely known as the Chinatown. When tourists walk into the street of Chinatown Yokohama, billboards that are written in traditional Chinese, simplified Chinese and Japanese suggest that this place is indeed the largest Chinatown in Far East countries, the well-known Chinatown Yokohama. As a historical enclave of immigrants during the last century, it was used to be few of the Chinatowns that located in a hostile country during the Second World War and survived till now.

As suggested by Leeman and Modan (2009), previous linguistic landscape research mainly concerned with local language planning and policy, hence ignored with the complex social and political histories that have helped to shape and form the built environment. Furthermore, Jazeel (2016) argued that most

recent accounts of linguistic landscape's study still focused on the Western front and the bilingual linguistic landscape demonstrated in those areas. (As stated in Anderson, 2018) Hence, it creates a research gap in the field of multilinguistic landscape.

In this research, Chinatown Yokohama will be studied with its transition in a quantitative manner, as examples will be discussed in the linear progression of linguistic landscape development throughout the historical and spatial transition Chinatown Yokohama. As I would argue that Chinatown nowadays has transformed from an ethnically-defined space to a commodified tourist destination. And the language used in the town was also changed from a median of communication became part of the construction of commodified urban space.

Tseng Yee Ling Elaine

Representation of Asians in *Crazy Rich Asians*, an American Cinematic Production

With a growing presence of Asian actors in mainstream American motion pictures, cinematic images of Asians are shaped and constantly reinforced around the globe. However, are these on-screen representations of Asians and incorporation of English varieties in American movies a step forward in racial understanding and linguistic equality? By conducting semi-structured interviews, this study explores how Asian viewers perceive the American representations of Asians and the linguistic choice in *Crazy Rich Asians*, the first Hollywood-produced film in 25 years featuring a majority-Asian cast, as well as the viewers' cultural identity and language attitudes.

Drawing on Charles Taylor's theory of recognition and the results from the interviews, the paper argues that the screen identities of Asians portrayed in the movie and the cinematic decisions including linguistic choice are made out of stereotypical ideologies towards Asia and an imperialistic view of English language.

Wong Wai Ming Goretti

Understanding Trump's Gender Attitude: A Discourse Analysis on Trump's Tweets

Language is not merely a natural vehicle for communication, it can also be exploited as a tool to construct and maintain power. This paper examines Donald Trump's attitude towards male and female by uncovering the gender stereotypes that are embodied in his insulting discursive expressions. A corpus of negative Tweets posted by Trump against both sexes since he declared his candidacy in 2015 for President of the United States is analysed based on James Robert Martin and Peter R.R. White's Appraisal Theory (2005) and Fairclough's tripartite model of Critical Discourse Analysis (1989). The language employed in the selected Tweets is analysed on the lexical and semantic levels to reveal the attitudinal pattern displayed by Trump when judging and criticizing both sexes in a public discourse. This study sheds light on Trump's sexist ideology and how his language may perpetuate biases of his audience in the United States.

Wu Shan Melody

Research on Gender Difference and Communication Function of Using Internet Language in *Taobao* **Style**

As a popular internet language, the emergence and development of Taobao style reflects the needs of society and culture (Yang, 2014). It began showing up in the online communication of the largest online shopping website Taobao in China, then spreading to various other social media in communication, and is signified by use of terms such as "qin～ (亲～, which means 'dear' in English)", modal particles such as "o ~ (哦 ~)", in friendly and colloquial emotion and female tenderness (Lu, 2013). Research has shown that the usage of internet language Taobao style conforms to the "cooperative principle" (Grice 1967) and "politeness principle" (Leech, 1983) in conversation. Based on the review of the literature on Taobao style, online questionnaire and interview are conducted for research, which aims to study Taobao style from the perspective of sociolinguistics, to discuss its communication function, gender difference in usage, its effect on face-face communication and explain its popularity and future development trend. The research result shows that Taobao style is used by females more popularly, effectively conducive to interpersonal communication and also greatly affecting real-life face-face communication of young people. The research contributes to recognizing the close relationship between language development and social changes as well as summarizing popular language characteristics conducive to interpersonal communication.

Wu Yuhan

Critical Discourse Analysis of NCP Reports on *New York Times* **vs** *Xinhua Net* **Aided by Systemic Functional Grammar**

The outbreak of Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia (NCP) has received global attention and western media follow a series of reports with certain bias and prejudice, opposite of the stance of Chinese articles. News is by no means natural and transparent media, but manipulative ideologies under the shell of language. Reporters tends to stand for the interests of some dominant group and wield a power-covering power. Critical Discourse Analysis has been proved to be a strong tool to examine the ideology and inequality in social discourses, underpinned by the traditional research method Systematic Functional Grammar (SFG) by Halliday. This study aims to compare the ideological differences between New York Times and Xinhua net concerned with NCP-related reports, aided by four systems of SFG, classification, transitivity, modality and transformation. The essay indicates that the deliberate and negative linguistic manipulation in western news reflects its biased and malicious judgements on Chinese remedial efforts on fighting the disease while Chinese news manages to soberly state truth to the world and encourage its people to weather the storm.

Xie Danfeng Monica

The Adaptation of 'Sorry' in Intercultural Contexts: Indirect Speech Act or Politeness?

Saying sorry has no longer been merely a way to express apology or politeness, the word 'sorry' appears to be a signal showing implied meanings such as surprise or worry especially in the intercultural context. This study aims to find out the different types of saying sorry in the intercultural context, taking non-native English speakers who going abroad as examples and try to explain their sorry utterance phenomena referring to the speech act theory and politeness strategies. Questionnaire and semi-structured interviews are used to get speakers' usage pattern of sorry in various sorry utterance situations, focusing on differences like the relation between speaker and listener, the hidden intention and other factors in the real context. The study indicates that in the intercultural context, the updated sorry utterance phenomena for non-native student English speakers should be put into multilingual language context consideration. There is a connection between the sorry utterance changes, English speaking situation and intercultural living context. It draws attention to indirect words speech acts in daily life and confirms the importance of intercultural and multilingual factors in today's global language context.

Yan Ruyu

Integrationist Perspective on the Bilingual Creativity in *A Concise Chinese English Dictionary for Lovers*

Within the researches about bilingualism, writers as bilinguals and their testimonies about bilingual experience have been noticed by theorists. (George Steiner, 1975; Alice Kaplan, 1994; Aneta Pavlenko, 1998; Steven Kellman, 2009) The interrelationship between bilingual creativity and their literary writings complicates the understanding of bilingualism. However, the studies have been influenced by the notion of bilingual creativity which assumes that the creative output of writers results from competence in two or more languages. Thus, some of the bilingual writers are identified as competent in non-native language while others are ignored in the discussion about bilingual creativity as they show improper or incompetent use of the non-native language. One of the incompetent writings is Xiaolu Guo's *A Concise Chinese English Dictionary for Lovers*, which provides a second language learning narrative.

Introducing Harris's proposition of the integrationist perspective, which regards language as a creative meaning-making process, this paper explores the unique form of the second language learning narrative by Guo. The application of integrationism unveils that the second language learner's creativity unfolds as a constant process, instead of as a result that fits the need of the competence-oriented discussions. This paper also shows that the creative process offered by this personal communication biography nurtures agency. The result of this study introduces an inclusive view towards incompetent writers and texts, in terms of the understanding of creativity, and demonstrates that the integrationist perspective is helpful to unveil the complex integration completed by bilingual individuals.

Yang Huilin

Multimodal Discourse Analysis of Arthur's Identity Construction in the Film *Joker* (2019)

Multimodal Discourse Analysis is a comprehensive approach to analyzing how different modalities are employed to express the same meaning. Many scholars have dedicated themselves to conducting Multimodal Discourse Analysis on different discourses. However, Multimodal Analysis of the film is less conducted and the analysis of the film is too broad without a focus. Integrating different modalities together, film is a systematic combination of language, music and color. Relating film to Multimodal Discourse Analysis, this paper explicates the relationship between the verbal modalities and visual modalities by focusing on the construction of Arthur's self-identity in the film Joker in 2019.

This paper believes that verbal modalities and visual modalities respectively and collectively contribute to the demonstration of the protagonist Arthur's self-identity. Drawing on Halliday's Systemic Functional Grammar and Visual Grammar proposed by Kress and Van Leeuwen, this paper examines how verbal modalities and visual modalities convey messages to the audience. This paper makes contributions to the application of Multimodal Analysis to filmic discourses and the research scope of the film.

Yin Ningxin

A Study on the Role of Internet Slang in the Representation of Sexuality of Chinese Gay Community on Social Media

This essay presents the internet slang used on Chinese social media, weibo and explores its relationship between the construction of the identity and sexuality of Chinese gay community. Previous studies have indicated that language used among gay community functions as an anti language, which constructs group solidarity and creates an alternative identity for the users to safeguard their own interests. However, with the emerge of social media, the anti language that is traditionally unknown to outsiders is now more and more exposed to all social media users. A questionnaire survey and semi-structured interviews are conducted to explore the usage of the certain internet slang, Weibo users' understanding and attitudes towards it. The study indicates that the internet slang used on Weibo still helps construct an alternative identity of the Chinese gay community although it is not only understood by them. They use it to imply their sexuality and create a sense of in-group mockery against discrimination and prejudice from mainstream society.

Zhang Shizhi Seren

A Comparative Study of the Implication of 'I Love You' in the Context of Chinese and Western Culture

Culture has a crucial impact on verbal emotional expression, which consists of meanings of language and conceptions of emotions, in particular, the latter varies through the change of cultural context. While few researchers separated the impact of culture with language, this study investigates the effect of culture to implications of "I Love You" when the emotion is expressed through the same language. Two groups of Chinese-English bilinguals, members who live in Hong Kong (Chinese culture as a mainstream) and Western countries were selected for a comparative study. Questionnaires were used

to acquire participants' personal background, their sense of belonging to Chinese culture and their verbal declaration of love. The research indicates that while the orientation culture: Chinese culture, has a significant impact on individuals' love expression, the Western culture, which participants moved to, also plays a significant role, and the degree of which largely depends on one's socialization in the culture.

Zhang Tingting Jane

Language, Intimacy and Anxiety: A Study of the Influence of the Third Language Environment in a Diglossia Society on Foreign Language Anxiety

Foreign language anxiety (FLA) is considered to be a situation-specific negative emotion and reaction to the use or learning of a second or foreign language. Research from the 1970s showed that FLA hindered foreign language acquisition to some extent. In recent years, the focus of FLA research has shifted from foreign language classroom anxiety to a wider range of research objects. More social and psychological factors, interactive occasions, people with different identities are included in the scope of the research in this field. Some studies target bilinguals or multilinguals, finding the different manifestations of FLA in L1 and L2. But few study has involved the influence of L3 on the FLA of L2. The present study focuses on the influence of L3 environment in diglossia society on the FLA of learners of English as a foreign language (EFL). Taken EFL learners in Hong Kong as research subjects, this study attempts to explore the effects of Cantonese environment in Hong Kong on the FLA of the subjects under the premise that the subjects have different intimacy with Cantonese (Cantonese proficiency and favorability with Cantonese). The research results are: (1) the level of FLA generally dropped after the subjects came to Hong Kong, especially when using English in public; (2) there are significant differences in FLA among different academic backgrounds, language proficiency and bilingual and multilingual speakers on some occasions; (3) there is no significant difference in the language anxiety of English between people of difference Cantonese intimacy in Cantonese environment of Hong Kong.

Zhang Zihan Bubble

A Comparative Study in the 2016 US Presidential Debate under Halliday's Systemic-Functional Linguistics

When people speak or write, they produce text. According to Halliday, text is a rich, many-faceted phenomenon that 'means' in many different ways. Only by seeing it as an artefact can we unveil its meaning-making process and then construe it within a specific context. Political rhetoric provides a typical specimen for this kind of analysis through which it is clear to see how a speaker selects and applies grammar features to reach his/her intended target audience, to set a configured image of self and eventually to disseminate a politically ideological discourse. To gain a better insight into the adoption of grammatical devices by politicians to attain this denotic power, this paper under the guidelines of Halliday's Functional grammar compares the frequency and functions of the selective grammatics — the model of grammar used by two major candidates during the 2016 United States first presidential debate. The finding indicates that Trump's rhetoric contributes more to his unrestricted

and willing power through the strong grammatics while Hillary tends to use more persuasive ones to construct a mild and composed silhouette.

Zhao Qing Lucy

Language and Attitude: The View of Shenzhen New Generation on the Necessity of Cantonese Acquisition and Maintenance

The Cantonese dialect, originated from Guangdong Province, is one of the ten major Chinese dialects with a large and stable population of speakers. However, a significant shrinkage of its speaking population has been witnessed in Shenzhen during the last decades that fewer new generation are proficient in Cantonese probably due to the considerable upsurge of the immigrants who maintain the language preference of Mandarin. With the aim of recognizing what contributes to the declination on Cantonese proficiency and exploring the varying views of the indigenous and the immigrants, this survey draws on an exploratory research carried out with 142 native Shenzhen residents and 89 Shenzhen immigrants who reflect on Cantonese proficiency, frequency of language use and how language attitudes infiltrate their Cantonese proficiency as well as recognition of regional identity. Despite differences in Cantonese proficiency and recognition on Guangdong identity, the informants of both the indigenous and the immigrants equally attributed their Cantonese incompetence to less-frequency in use due to lack of a social language environment. The article concludes that greater attention should be paid on the Cantonese acquisition and maintenance among Shenzhen new generation so as to arise their awareness on integrating and building up the recognition of Guangdong identity.

Zhao Zhirui

The Conflict Talk between Parents and Children in Modern Family based on Communication Accommodation Theory

As individuals are likely to have conflicts in their interactions when they have disagreements, the conflict talk is a very common linguistic phenomenon in our daily life. In a family, several relationships are intertwined together and the intimacy among family members intensifies the frequency and the complexity of their conflict talk, which have largely attracted linguists' attention. This research aims to explore ways and reasons that parents and children accommodate and non-accommodate to each other in the conflict talk based on Communication Accommodation Theory (CAT) which is raised and developed by Giles, Powesland, Coupland and other linguists last century. Related linguistic data will be collected from an American family sitcom Modern Family and the qualitative analysis will be adopted in this research.

This research will illustrate three patterns that parents and children would adopt in conflict talk – mutually non-accommodation, asymmetry of accommodation and non-accommodation, and mutually accommodation. Communication non-accommodation strategies are used in conflict talks mainly because of the need of constructing self-identity and bad relationship with other interlocutors, while parents and children use communication accommodation strategies mainly because of having achieved their goals, the need of saving faces and promoting family harmony.

Zhou Hui Karen

Your Moral and Personality Depend on the Language You Speak

Numerous bilinguals or multilinguals have encountered the similar experience that they become another person when they speak foreign languages. Many previous research has indicated the possibility that bilinguals and multilinguals show different personalities when speaking languages. However, there are fewer research targeting on Chinese-English bilinguals. Based on the language habits of Chinese-English bilinguals, this paper explores how the personality of Chinese-English bilinguals is influenced by the language they speak and attempts to discover potential reasons. Both qualitative and quantitative study have been applied. In experiment 1, participants were invited to finish two versions of Big Five Inventory Test in English and Chinese respectively. In experiment 2, those who showed huge and no differences in these two tests were invited to take part in interviews. Their interviews were analyzed to discover what kind of Chinese-English bilinguals are susceptible to the language they use. Through two experiments, it could be demonstrated that English, as a foreign language, does have an effect on the personality of bilinguals. The extent of effect is closely related to the proficiency of English and command of the cultures of English speaking countries.

Zhu Bike Angela

Northeast Younger Generation's Change of Language Attitude towards Their Dialect

After the implement of the Mandarin policy, Mandarin has taken a dominant place in everyone's language use and learning in mainland China. The status of Mandarin affects the development of many dialects in China and the northeast dialect is one of those. Because of the pronunciation and morphology of the northeast dialect, many people think the northeast dialect is funny and rustic. Due to the restricted development and people's attitude towards the northeast dialect, the language attitude and language identity of many northeast youngsters have changed. The language attitude towards the northeast dialect turns to be negative. However, since the northeast dialect is not paid much attention to, there are few researches about the language attitude of the northeast people, which caused that the northeast people's language attitude towards the dialect is not clear. This study aims to explore the change of the language attitude towards the northeast dialect among the young generation in the northeast. Also, being the result of language attitude's change, there are also some changes in their language identity and behavior. Reasons for the change will also be presented. A questionnaire survey and semi-structured interviews were conducted to analyze the northeast participant's language use, language attitude and language identity.

The research indicates that in this Mandarin-dominated era, northeast youngsters still hold the view that the northeast dialect is pleasant to hear. They think it sounds friendly and cordial and the dialect can bring them a sense of belonging even though the status and social influence aren't high. The language attitude of those who have left the northeast for a long time tend to hold a more negative attitude than those who have not left the northeast for a long time since they are affected by the attitude of those who are not from the northeast. The experiences of being discriminated and deliberately speaking Mandarin prevent them from speaking the dialect at their will.

Zhu Yidan

The Change of Language Attitudes of Hong Kong People in the Postcolonial Era: A Small-scale Study in Hong Kong

A particular sort of language is preferred, while the other might be relatively neglected when there are more than one language employed in the community. After the returning of the sovereignty of Hong Kong from Britain to China, Mandarin has been officially introduced into the sociolinguistic setting of Hong Kong through the policy of Biliteracy and Trilingualism. Nevertheless, Mandarin was remarkably rated lower than Cantonese and English in terms of instrumental inclination by Hong Kong people, not to mention the integrative aspect, as was indicated by previous researches. However, things have become more complicated as movements happening in Hong Kong more frequently in recent years. More specifically, Hong Kong people have undergone immense changes in various senses after the anti-extradition movement in 2019. Accordingly, based on a sociocultural model which put forward the concept of 'instrumental orientation' and 'integrative orientation', this paper aims to examine the changes of Hong Kong people's language attitudes toward Mandarin, Cantonese and English through observing participants' reactions to a series of statements, which can be evaluated to some degree. A questionnaire survey was conducted to acquire Hong Kongers' perceptions of their cultural identity, language proficiency and language attitudes.

The results indicate that the respondents displayed the most positive integrative inclination to Cantonese and English was rendered as the language of strongest instrumental value to Hong Kongers. As regards integrative and instrumental inclination, although Mandarin was rated lowest among these three language varieties, the recognition of the instrumental value of Mandarin was surprisingly close to that of Cantonese, as was revealed from the statistical analysis of the questionnaire. Consequently, there was growing evidence that more attention was drawn to Mandarin and the status of Mandarin was repositioned in some respects, but largely out of pragmatic and realistic consideration.

Panel Moderators and Facilitators

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