

**The grammar of Chinese characters:
Productive knowledge of formal patterns in an orthographic system**
James Myers
Routledge 2019



ERRATA

2020/8/4

These are all (known!) mistakes in the first printing, which are (hopefully!) getting fixed in the reprints, including the paperback. Page numbers refer to the original hardcover printing and PDF-based e-book (e.g. Amazon Kindle). In addition to these errors, the original VitalSource eBook sold on the Routledge website used a single font for all Chinese examples, making chapter 4 particularly confusing, but this problem has supposedly already been fixed. If you find any more errors, of any sort and in any version of the book, please let me know and I'll add them here, even if I am unable to make changes in the book itself.

| Error type | Location | Wrong | Right | Note |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Reference | p. viii | Chen <i>et al.</i> (1996) | Chen, Y.P. <i>et al.</i> (1996) | The original abbreviated citation referred to two different references |
| | p. 166 | Chen <i>et al.</i> (1996) | Chen, Y.P. <i>et al.</i> (1996) | |
| | p. 176 | Chen <i>et al.</i> (1996) | Chen, Y.P. <i>et al.</i> (1996) | |
| | p. 43 | Chen <i>et al.</i> 1996 | Chen, K.J. <i>et al.</i> 1996 | |
| | p. 123 | Chen <i>et al.</i> 1996 | Chen, K.J. <i>et al.</i> 1996 | |
| | p. 181 | Chen <i>et al.</i> 1996 | Chen, K.J. <i>et al.</i> 1996 | |
| Cross-reference | p. 3 | Sections 2.2 and 4.3.1.1 | Sections 2.2 and 4.3.1 | |
| Cross-reference | p. 17 | Section 1.3.1.4 | Section 1.3.1.3 | |
| Factual | p. 23 | Aronoff, Berg, and Heyer 2016 | Aronoff 1994a; Aronoff, Berg, and Heyer 2016 | I false implied stuff about Aronoff (1994a) that's not actually in there |
| | p. 24 | (see Aronoff 1994a for related ideas) | | |

| Error type | Location | Wrong | Right | Note |
|-----------------|---------------------|--|---|---|
| Reference | p. 23 | Sampson 1985 | Sampson 2015 | I only learned about the updated edition after my book went to press |
| | p. 24 | Sampson 1985 | Sampson 2015 | |
| | p. 81 | Sampson 1985 | Sampson 2015 | |
| | p. 118 | Sampson, G., 1985, <i>Writing systems</i> , Stanford University Press, Stanford. | Sampson, G. 2015, <i>Writing systems</i> (second edition), Equinox Publishing, Sheffield, UK. | |
| Factual | p. 26 | [t ^h ap] | /tap/ | |
| Reference | p. 26 | (see also Albrow 1972; Venezky 1967) | (see also Albrow 1972; Evertz 2018; Venezky 1967) | This book is an important predecessor to mine, but I only learned of it after my book went to press |
| | p. 37 | | Evertz, M. 2018, <i>Visual prosody: The graphematic foot in English and German</i> . Walter de Gruyter, Berlin. | |
| Typographical | p. 30 | undo focus | undue focus | |
| Factual | p. 33 | experiments on reading, | experiments on reading and writing, | |
| Reference | p. 34 | Blevins, J.P., 2004 | Blevins, J., 2004 | “J.P. Blevins” in following reference is a different person |
| Reference | p. 42 | PalmerWilcox | See the end of the errata list... | |
| Factual | p. 45, (5a) | mother | female | |
| Typographical | p. 48 | free word; | free word, | Earlier list in same paragraph uses commas |
| | | <i>card</i>); | <i>card</i>), | |
| | | rich semantics; | rich semantics, | |
| | <i>houseboat</i>); | <i>houseboat</i>), | | |
| Typographical | p. 55, (24) | 榭 <i>chēn</i> | 榭 <i>Chēn</i> | Proper noun |
| Typographical | p. 63 | (with minor caveats in (39d)) | | |
| Typographical | p. 85, Table 3.5 | Leftward 丁 Rightward 良 | Leftward 丁 Rightward 良 | |
| Cross-reference | p. 95 | (see Section 3.4.6) | (see Section 3.4.4) | |

| Error type | Location | Wrong | Right | Note |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---|---|--|
| Typographical | p. 102 | The productivity of the rest fall | The productivity of the rest falls | |
| Typographical | p. 106 | the factors that favoring | the factors favoring | |
| Factual | p. 111 | Western convention | convention | Westerners actually vary |
| Factual | p. 127, (10b) | 9.23 < 11 | 9.23 < 10 | |
| Typographical | p. 133, Table 4.4, last row |  |  | All images in the e-version are blurry, but this example is particularly bad. They are clear in the print version. |
| Factual | p. 153, (91) | (cf. 圖書館 <i>túshūguǎn</i> 'library') | (cf. 圖書館 <i>túshūguǎn</i> 'library', 書 <i>shū</i> 'book') | |
| Typographical | p. 158 | <i>Wikitionary</i> | <i>Wiktionary</i> | |
| Reference | p. 162 | Tan <i>et al.</i> (2005) | Tan, Spinks, <i>et al.</i> (2005) | Same first author but different publications |
| | p. 165 | Tan <i>et al.</i> 2005 | Tan, Laird, <i>et al.</i> 2005 | |

| Error type | Location | Wrong | Right | Note |
|-------------------|-----------------|--|---|-------------|
| Reference | p. 163 | Xu and Liu (2018) | Xu, Liu, and Joshi (2019) | |
| | p. 201 | Xu, Z.A. and Liu, D.P., 2018, “The influence of sensory-motor components of handwriting on Chinese character recognition in second- and fourth-grade Chinese children”, <i>Talk presented at The 17th International Conference on the Processing of East Asian Languages and the 9th Conference on Language, Discourse, and Cognition, Taipei.</i> | Xu, Z., Liu, D. and Joshi, R. M., 2019, “The influence of sensory-motor components of handwriting on Chinese character learning in second- and fourth-grade Chinese children”, <i>Journal of Educational Psychology</i> . Advance online publication. https://doi.org/10.1037/edu0000443 | |

| Error type | Location | Wrong | Right | Note |
|-----------------------------|----------|--|--|--|
| Typographical and reference | p. 168 | Wang <i>et al.</i> forthcoming) | Wang <i>et al.</i> (2020) | |
| Reference | p. 173 | Wang <i>et al.</i> (forthcoming) | Wang <i>et al.</i> (2020) | |
| | p. 176 | Wang <i>et al.</i> (forthcoming) | Wang <i>et al.</i> (2020) | |
| | p. 201 | Wang, R., Huang, S., Zhou, Y. and Cai, Z.G., Forthcoming, “Chinese character handwriting: A large-scale behavioral study and a database”, <i>Behavior Research Methods</i> . | Wang, R., Huang, S., Zhou, Y. and Cai, Z.G., 2020, “Chinese character handwriting: A large-scale behavioral study and a database”, <i>Behavior Research Methods</i> , 52, pp. 82–96. | |
| Typographical | p. 170 | responses were faster with higher combinability, regardless of constituent position | responses were faster with higher combinability regardless of constituent position | Should be restrictive modifier, not adjunct |
| Typographical | p. 175 | 结构对称汉字 | 结构对称汉字 | Wrong font for “using” rather than “showing” Chinese |
| | | 叠体字 | 叠体字 | |
| Typographical | p. 176 | this skill that turns out | this skill turns out | |
| Cross-reference | p. 180 | Table 5.12 (dotting) | Table 5.11 (dotting) | |
| Factual | p. 181 | I also included | We also included | |
| Reference | p. 205 | Wiebusch (1995) ascribes | Wiebusch (1995) and others ascribe | |
| Factual & typographical | p. 212 | (1) a 畢 | (1) a 畢 | The study summarized here assumes that 畢 does not contain 田, which is false in the original font |
| Typographical | p. 225 | <i>Teading</i> | <i>Reading</i> | |

p. 42: The following references for chapter 1 mysteriously disappeared somewhere between copyediting and typesetting.

- Palmer, T., 2015, *The practice of Chinese typography*, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, North Charleston, SC.
- Patel, A.D., 2012, “Language, music, and the brain: A resource-sharing framework”, in P. Rebuschat, M. Rohrmeier, J. Hawkins and I. Cross, eds., *Language and music as cognitive systems*, pp. 204–223, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Perfetti, C.A., Cao, F. and Booth, J., 2013, “Specialization and universals in the development of reading skill: How Chinese research informs a universal science of reading”, *Scientific Studies of Reading*, 17(1), pp. 5–21.
- Perfetti, C.A., Liu, Y. and Tan, L.H., 2005, “The lexical constituency model: Some implications of research on Chinese for general theories of reading”, *Psychological Review*, 112(1), pp. 43–59.
- Perfetti, C.A. and Tan, L.H., 2013, “Write to read: The brain’s universal reading and writing network”, *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 17(2), pp. 56–57.
- Perfors, A., Ransom, K. and Navarro, D., 2014, “People ignore token frequency when deciding how widely to generalize”, *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 36, pp. 2759–2764.
- Phillips, C. and Wagers, M., 2007, “Relating structure and time in linguistics and psycholinguistics”, in M.G. Gaskell, ed., *Handbook of psycholinguistics*, pp. 739–756, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Pickering, M.J. and Garrod, S., 2013, “An integrated theory of language production and comprehension”, *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 36(4), pp. 329–347.
- Pierrehumbert, J., 2002, “Word-specific phonetics”, in C. Gussenhoven and N. Warner, eds., *Laboratory phonology 7*, pp. 101–139, Mouton de Gruyter, Berlin.
- Pinker, S., 1994, *The language instinct*, HarperCollins, New York.
- Pinker, S., 1997, *How the mind works*, Norton, New York.
- Pinker, S. and Ullman, M.T., 2002, “The past and future of the past tense”, *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, 6(11), pp. 456–463.
- Primus, B., 2010, “Strukturelle Grundlagen des deutschen Schriftsystems” [Structural foundations of the German writing system], in U. Bredel, A. Müller and G. Hinney, eds., *Schriftsystem und Schrifterwerb: linguistisch – didaktisch – empirisch* [Writing system and writing acquisition: Linguistic-didactic-empirical], pp. 9–45, Niemeyer, Tübingen.
- Qiu, X., 2000, *Chinese writing*, compiled and translated from Chinese by G.L. Mattos and J. Norman, The Society for the Study of Early China and The Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley.
- Rankin, B.K., 1965, *A linguistic study of the formation of Chinese characters*, Ph.D. thesis, University of Pennsylvania.
- Rankin, B.K. and Tan, J.L., 1970, *Component combination and frame-embedding in Chinese character grammars*, vol. 492, US National Bureau of Standards, Gaithersburg, MD.
- Rastle, K., 2007, “Visual word recognition”, in M.G. Gaskell, ed., *The Oxford handbook of psycholinguistics*, pp. 71–87, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- Rey, G., 2014, “The possibility of a naturalistic Cartesianism regarding intuitions and introspection”, in M.C. Haug, ed., *Philosophical methodology: The armchair or the laboratory?*, pp. 243–267, Routledge, Abingdon.
- Sampson, G. 2015, *Writing systems* (second edition), Equinox Publishing, Sheffield, UK.
- Sampson, G., 2007, “Grammar without grammaticality”, *Corpus Linguistics and Linguistic Theory*, 3(1), pp. 1–32.

- Sampson, G. and Chen, Z., 2013, “The reality of compound ideographs”, *Journal of Chinese Linguistics*, 41(2), pp. 255–272.
- Sandler, W., 2008, “The syllable in sign language: Considering the other natural language modality”, in *The syllable in speech production*, pp. 379–408, Lawrence Erlbaum, New York.
- Sandler, W., Aronoff, M., Meir, I. and Padden, C., 2011, “The gradual emergence of phonological form in a new language”, *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*, 29(2), pp. 503–543.
- Sandler, W. and Lillo-Martin, D., 2006, *Sign language and linguistic universals*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Schembri, A., Fenlon, J., Rentelis, R., Reynolds, S. and Cormier, K., 2013, “Building the British Sign Language corpus”, *Language Documentation and Conservation*, 7, pp. 136–154.
- Senghas, A., Kita, S. and Özyürek, A., 2004, “Children creating core properties of language: Evidence from an emerging sign language in Nicaragua”, *Science*, 305(5691), pp. 1779–1782.
- Simone, R. ed., 1995, *Iconicity in language*, John Benjamins, Amsterdam.
- Simons, F., 2011, “Proto-Sinaitic: Progenitor of the alphabet”, *Rosetta*, 9, pp. 16–40.
- Singleton, J.L. and Newport, E.L., 2004, “When learners surpass their models: The acquisition of American Sign Language from inconsistent input”, *Cognitive Psychology*, 49(4), pp. 370–407.
- Sproat, R., 2000, *A computational theory of writing systems*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Stalph, J., 1989, *Grundlagen einer Grammatik der sinojapanischen Schrift* [Foundations of a grammar of the Sino-Japanese script], Harrasowitz Verlag, Wiesbaden.
- Stefanowitsch, A., 2006, “Negative evidence and the raw frequency fallacy”, *Corpus Linguistics and Linguistic Theory*, 2(1), pp. 61–77.
- Steinberg, D.D., 1986, “Language without sound”, *GENGO KENKYU (Journal of the Linguistic Society of Japan)*, 89, pp. 1–20.
- Stokoe, W.C., 1991, “Semantic phonology”, *Sign Language Studies*, 71(1), pp. 107–114.
- Stokoe, W.C., Casterline, D. and Croneberg, C., 1965, *A dictionary of American Sign Language on linguistic principles*, Linstok Press, Silver Spring, MD.
- Su, I.F. and Law, S.P., 2017, “Character recognition and phonological access, neurolinguistic studies”, in R. Sybesma, W. Behr, Y. Gu, Z. Handel, C.T.J. Huang and J. Myers, eds., *Encyclopedia of Chinese language and linguistics*, vol. 1, pp. 362–364, Brill, Leiden.
- Su, P. [苏培成], 2001, 现代汉字学纲要 [Outline of modern Chinese character study]. Peking University Press, Beijing.
- Su, T., 2013, *Chinese handwriting recognition: An algorithmic perspective*, Springer, Heidelberg.
- Tao, L. and Healy, A.F., 2016, “Psycholinguistics: Reading Chinese”, in S.W. Chan, ed., *The Routledge encyclopedia of the Chinese language*, pp. 685–705, Routledge, Abingdon.
- Taub, S.F., 2001, *Language from the body: Iconicity and metaphor in American Sign Language*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Temperley, D., 2001, *The cognition of basic musical structures*, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA.
- Teulings, H.L., Thomassen, A.J.W.M. and van Galen, G.P., 1986, “Invariants in handwriting: The information contained in a motor program”, in H.S.R. Kao, G.P. van Galen and R. Hoosain, eds., *Graphonomics: Contemporary research in handwriting*, pp. 305–315, Amsterdam: North-Holland.

- Thompson, R.L., Vinson, D.P. and Vigliocco, G., 2010, “The link between form and meaning in British sign language: Effects of iconicity for phonological decisions”, *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, 36(4), pp. 1017–1027.
- Tsai, P.Y. [蔡邦佑] and Tai, H.Y. [戴浩一], 2018, 漢字文化圈現行常用漢字字形比較 [A systematic comparison of commonly used Chinese]. 第八屆「漢字與漢字教育」國際研討會論文集 [Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Han Characters Education and Research], pp. 331–379.
- Tsay, J., Tai, J.H.Y. and Chen, Y., 2017, *Taiwan Sign Language online dictionary*, 3rd ed, <http://tsl.ccu.edu.tw/web/>, accessed 11/17/2018.
- Tseng, Y., 1993, *A history of Chinese calligraphy*, Chinese University Press, Hong Kong.
- Unger, J.M., 2014, “Empirical evidence and the typology of writing systems: A response to Handel”, *Scripta*, 6, pp. 75–95.
- Unger, J.M., 2016, “Avoiding circularity: A response to Handel”, *Scripta*, 8, pp. 87–100.
- Van der Werf, S. and Hendriks, P., 2004, “A constraint-based approach to grouping in language and music”, *Proceedings of the Conference on Interdisciplinary Musicology (CIM04)*, Graz University, Graz.
- Venezky, R.L., 1967, “English orthography: Its graphical structure and its relation to sound”, *Reading Research Quarterly*, 2(3), pp. 75–105.
- Venture, O., 2001, “Quelques observations au sujet de la mise en page des textes de divination sur plastron” [Some comments on the layout of divination texts on plastrons], in S.C. Yau and C. Marechal, eds., *Actes du colloque international commémorant le centenaire de la découverte des inscriptions sur les carapaces* [Proceedings of the international symposium commemorating the centenary of the discovery of inscriptions on bones and carapaces], pp. 71–90, Langages Croisés, Paris.
- Venture, O., 2017, “Paleography”, in R. Sybesma, W. Behr, Y. Gu, Z. Handel, C.T.J. Huang and J. Myers, eds., *Encyclopedia of Chinese language and linguistics*, vol. 3, pp. 322–330, Brill, Leiden.
- Vinson, D., Thompson, R.L., Skinner, R. and Vigliocco, G., 2015, “A faster path between meaning and form? Iconicity facilitates sign recognition and production in British Sign Language”, *Journal of Memory and Language*, 82, pp. 56–85.
- Wan, Y., 2017, “Stroke order”, in R. Sybesma, W. Behr, Y. Gu, Z. Handel, C.T.J. Huang and J. Myers, eds., *Encyclopedia of Chinese language and linguistics*, vol. 4, pp. 212–214, Brill, Leiden.
- Wang, H. [王洪君], 2008, 语言的层面与“字本位”的不同层面 [Linguistic levels and the levels of the theory of taking *zi* as the Chinese basic unit]. 语言教学与研究 [Language Teaching and Linguistic Studies], 3, pp. 1–11.
- Wang, J.C.S., 1983, *Toward a generative grammar of Chinese character structure and stroke order*, Ph.D. thesis, University of Wisconsin, Madison.
- Wang, N. [王宁], 2001, 汉字学概要 [Outline of Chinese character studies]. Beijing Normal University Publishing, Beijing.
- Wang, W.S.Y., 1989, “Language in China: A chapter in the history of linguistics”, *Journal of Chinese Linguistics*, 17(2), pp. 183–222.
- Washburn, D.K. and Crowe, D.W., 1988, *Symmetries of culture: Theory and practice of plane pattern analysis*, University of Washington Press, Seattle.
- Watt, W.C., 1975, “What is the proper characterization of the alphabet? I: Desiderata”, *Visible Language*, 9(4), pp. 293–327.
- Watt, W.C., 2015, “What is the proper characterization of the alphabet? VII: Sleight of hand”, *Semiotica*, 2015(207), pp. 65–88.

- Wee, L.H., 2019, *Phonological tone*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Wiedenhof, J., 2017, “Script reform (20th century): History and analysis”, in R. Sybesma, W. Behr, Y. Gu, Z. Handel, C.T.J. Huang and J. Myers, eds., *Encyclopedia of Chinese language and linguistics*, vol. 3, pp. 671–676, Brill, Leiden.
- Wikimedia Commons, 2017, *Chinese character decomposition*,
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Chinese_characters_decomposition,
accessed 11/17/2018.
- Wilcox, S., 1992, *The phonetics of fingerspelling*, John Benjamins, Amsterdam.