

Lan-Fen-Huang

Research project

PhD title (provisional) Implications of Learner/Non-native Corpora of Spoken English: An Investigation of Discourse Markers

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My project aims to identify the use that Chinese speakers of English and NSs make of discourse markers in their speech using corpus methodologies. The outcome will be a description of a selection of discourse markers, and a comparison of the two groups of speakers. Implications of learner corpora and pedagogical applications will also be examined.

The project uses three publicly available corpora: The Spoken English Corpus of Chinese Learners, the Michigan Corpus of Academic Spoken English and the International Corpus of English-Great Britain. Standard investigation software, WordSmith 4, is used to search for the relevant items and scrutinise their co-texts.

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