



*World Englishes and Miscommunication
in view of English as an International
Language*

Chinese English

Lecture 1

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A Brief Review of Contrastive Studies in China

- Contrastive studies of Chinese and English, in its modern sense, started in the 1970s.
- Most early studies focused on grammatical issues.
- Since mid 1980s, cultural differences and pragmatic failure have received more attention.
- Contrastive studies are now carried out at all levels -- phonetic, semantic, syntactic, rhetorical, cultural and discourse levels.



Publications (1977 – 1989)

- *Ten* monographs
- *Ninety-five* journal articles:

1977: 1	1978: 3
1979: 6	1980: 9
1981: 4	1983: 9
1984: 9	1986: 13
1987: 8	1988: 16
1989: 14	

(Yang Zijian & Li Ruihua, 1990)



Essays on English and Chinese contrastive studies.

The first influential book – a collection of studies came out in 1990.

- Theory & Methodology
- Semantic Study
- Words & Phrases
- Sentences
- Rhetorical Study, Pragmatic study and others

(Yang Zijian & Li Ruihua, 1990)

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Publications (1990 – 1994)

- *Fourteen* monographs
- *Eighty-five* journal articles:

1990: 9

1991: 18

1992: 20

1993: 14

1994: 24

(Li Ruihua, 1996)



Contrastive studies of English and Chinese language and culture.

- Theory & Methodology
- Phonetic Study
- Semantic Study
- Words & Phrases
- Sentences & Texts
- Rhetorical & Pragmatic Studies
- Cultural Studies

(Li Ruihua, 1996)



Contrastive studies of English and Chinese

- Phonetic Studies
- Lexical Studies
- Syntactic studies
- Rhetorical Studies
- Discourse Studies

(He Shanfen, 2002)



Summary of previous research:

- Research has grown in all areas.
- The focus is mostly on the languages
- Not enough attention has been given to the Chinese EFL learners.
- Limited findings have been yielded in this respect.
- Research on learners was not systematic.
- Many of the findings come as a “by-product” of contrastive studies.