



# Word Order Strategies of Standard Chinese: An Analysis in Regard to Temporal Sequence

By Anja Schmidt

GRIN Verlag Sep 2007, 2007. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 210x148x2 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2004 in the subject American Studies - Linguistics, grade: 1+ (A+), University of Hamburg, course: Motivation in Language, 17 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: Linguists studying the syntactic relations of Chinese have often argued that Chinese, being a non-inflectional language, was more reliant on iconic principles than most Western languages. Since Chinese is largely dependent on the use of grammatical particles and word order, it was sought to represent conceptual mappings more directly than other languages, i.e. denoting states and events as direct reflections of human perceptions. But how iconic is Chinese really? And what are the main determinants of Chinese word order? The aim of this paper is to investigate the influence of temporal sequence on Chinese word order. I will in particular examine the pre- and post-verbal placement of adverbials and try to display the limitations of this theory. I will furthermore demonstrate how other factors can account for word order questions not sufficiently resolved by the Principle of Temporal Sequence. Accordingly, I will try to show...

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