

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9911154639103321
Titolo	Chinese under globalization : emerging trends in language use in China // edited by Jin Liu, Hongyin Tao
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Singapore, : World Scientific Pub. Co., 2012
ISBN	9786613646415 9781280669484 1280669489 9789814350709 9814350702
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (225 p.)
Altri autori (Persone)	LiuJin TaoHongyin
Disciplina	410.51 495.12
Soggetti	Language and languages - China Chinese language Globalization - China China Languages
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	CONTENTS; Introduction; References; Chapter 1 Synchronic Variation or Diachronic Change: A Sociolinguistic Study of Chinese Internet Language Liwei Gao; 1. Introduction; 2. The Theoretical Framework; 2.1. The apparent time construct; 2.2. Other considerations; 2.2.1. The prestige of CIL; 2.2.2. The likelihood of cross-modality influence; 2.2.3. The role of youths in linguistic change; 3. The Data; 3.1. The lexical usages; 3.2. The sentential features; 3.3. The discursive level; 3.3.1. A bilingual code 5; 3.3.2. A written spoken style; 3.3.3. A joking style 4. Possible Types of Linguistic Changes 64.1. Lexicon; 4.2. Grammar; 4.2.1. Word order; 4.2.2. Change in word category; 4.3. Discourse; 5. Concluding Remarks; References; Chapter 2 The Metaphorical World of Chinese Online Entertainment News Chong Han; 1. Entertainment News in China; 2. Metaphorical Tricks; 3. Defining Metaphor; 4. Description of the Data; 5. The Identified Metaphors; 5.1. War; 5.1.1. Competition

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Sommario/riassunto

As China experiences tremendous economic and social transformation in the reform years, language use in China has also undergone remarkable changes in the past couple decades: the national obsession with learning the global English, which becomes both a resource for modernization and a source of contention; the expanding use of local languages and dialects in mass media, where standard Mandarin is promoted and legally prescribed as the principal language; the emergence of the Internet language that has become a creative source for constructing a distinct youth identity; the Cantonese writing