

Taiwanese (Min Nan) Homophones in Mandarin Popular Media

Due to the popularity of the internet, the usage of Min Nan in the forms of homophone in Mandarin has become popular on entertainment talk shows, in media, and in online written forms in Taiwan. Taiwanese people speak Mandarin, and some of them also speak one of the Chinese dialects, Min Nan. This paper focuses on the popular usages of five Min Nan phrases which are homophones of Mandarin according to the enormous number of the phrase search results on Google and Online Word Dictionary (2021). Both Mandarin native speakers and language learners from foreign countries inquired about the meanings of these Min Nan phrases in Mandarin online through China- and Taiwan-based websites. These Min Nan homophones in Mandarin are popular not only in Taiwan but also throughout the Chinese diaspora, in China, Singapore, and Malaysia where many Mandarin speakers reside.

References

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