Frequency Effect, Word Class and Eye Movements: Evidence from Text Reading

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Eye movement pattern has shown how words are identified in reading. The purpose of the present study was twofold: (a) to examine the influence of word frequency and word class while online reading Chinese, (b) to explore the eye movement pattern during text reading process. The results have shown in expository text reading, there was word frequency effect and word

class effect on fixation duration and fixation pattern. However, there were no frequency and word class effect in narrative text reading. The results are discussed in the light of a processing model.

Keywords: word frequency, word class, eye movements, text reading, expository text, narrative text

