

Uses and Functions of “suoyi” (“所以”) in Modern Chinese Discourse

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A conjunction “suoyi” (“所以”) works to introduce result in cause-and-result expression when it is used in combination with “yinwei” (“因为”). And when “suoyi” appears in single-use in discourse, it has several derived functions : as drawing conclusions, supplying explanations, explaining reasons etc., and also has a function of conjoining sentences. We analysed these derived uses and revealed each characteristics and the meaning which they have in common. We have also shown the wide working range of “suoyi” and complicated cause-and-result relationship which can be seen in actual discourse.