

Language Heritage: A Discussion on Families' Effects Based on Cases of Yue-Dialects Spoken Region

Jinqian Liang

Guangdong Experimental High School, No.1, Shengshi Road, Liwan District, Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, China, 510375.

liangjinqian190822@outlook.com

Keywords: Cantonese, language preservation, family-based, Yue dialects

Abstract: Globalization as a trend fosters the migration of people from different areas and cultures and thus making more than one language being used in an area usual. Language inherits, and preservations of weak languages in these areas were studied, only a few were family-based. However, the situations that Yue dialects, also known as Cantonese dialects, encounter are atypical, as Yue dialects were originally the predominant languages that were used in the Pearl River Delta, while nowadays, Mandarin has taken place. Family-based preservation of Cantonese, which places more attention on a micro and individual level, has not been carefully discussed and considering the relatively unfavored policy, maybe the most effective potential approach of the dilemma. Using statistical methods, assisting by selective face-to-face interviews, strong correlations between family language usage and children's language level are revealed. With those conclusions, discussions on the possible specific family-based programs of weak language preservation are made.

1. Introduction

1.1 Statement of the Problem: Weak Languages in Globalization

The communication between regions, cultures, and races has brought the need for a mutual language so to satisfy the convenience of communication. In the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, it is witnessed that a large number of 'weak' languages or dialects either combined or went vanished during the colonial era, and later the globalization [1]. The mutual intelligibility favored languages, or dialects seize the opportunity of globalization, while for the others, the whole process becomes a survival challenge. Arabic language, for instance, is being weakened, less attracted attention to, and shifting on the orientation that might be interpreted harmful, as the results of Arabic society experiencing westernization [2]. However, it is not a 'to survive or die' dichotomy that weak languages are dealing with. As will be discussed, the unbalanced status of certain local languages or dialects is observed. Admittedly, 'weak' languages or dialects take advantage of the globalization to enlarge their influence at a global level, while at the same time lose their voice in their primary or local areas. Cantonese dialects (also referred to as Yue dialects in the passage) are among the most notable cases; they are a series of dialects that originated in south-eastern China by definition, which include Cantonese, Hakka dialect, and Chaoshan dialect. Yue dialects were brought to South-eastern Asia and Western society by the immigration of southern Chinese citizens and remain extensively used by immigrants' communities today [3]. What is different domestically is that the occasions that Cantonese is being used are limited. Even in Guangdong Province, where it originates, Yue Dialects are not used as a teaching language at school, nor as a written language for communication, much more limited in function compared to their usages in international Chinese communities, Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR [4]. Cantonese dialects' unbalanced developments between their major cradle and oversea enclaves show that single factor determined mechanism might fail to explain the decline and growth of endangered languages. Thus, by taking Cantonese dialects as a significant case, this study aims at providing a new dimension in understanding weak languages' survival mechanisms in the process of globalization.

1.2 Mandarin Popularization Policy in China

The policy of Mandarin popularization comes with very ancient Chinese tradition. The first emperor of the Qin dynasty was known to standardize Chinese characters. Under the governance of the Republic of China, attempts to standardize pronunciations of spoken language were made. After the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1955, there held the Conference of National Writing System Reform in Beijing, determining that Mandarin would be built based on Beijing dialect. Later, in 1956 and 2000, respectively, State Council Instruction Concerning Spreading Putonghua and Law of the People's Republic of China on the Standard Spoken and Written Chinese Language started to be enforced. The State Administration of Radio, Film, and Television has set the 'dialect ban' base on the mentioned regulations, which caused numerous debates, for it may have furthered limited the environment and heritage of dialects. Notably, Cantonese programs were partially allowed for propaganda purposes within the Pearl River Delta. The phenomenon of 'dialect heat' continues despite the official indifferent attitude of the government, whereas many recognized that disputes had revealed conflicts between Putonghua popularization and dialect preservation [5].

2. Purpose of the Study

2.1 Unexplored Domain

Issues related to languages or dialects preservation have been examined, though there is more to be done. Many pieces of research were conducted to place much emphasis on macro-level, such as policy-making [6] or community-based programs [7]. It is notable, however, that in many cases, the differences between individual families may result in tremendous varying outcomes, and there may not be a supposed 'comprehensive' solution that can override them. Comparably, those for the micro-level are not so frequently be tested, remaining an unexplored aspect to dig into.

It is not saying that family-based language preservation projects have not been done. Alejandro Portes and Richard Schauffler, for instance, investigated the issue of bilingualism and ancestral language heritage on immigrants in 1994, concluded that "preservation of parental languages varies inversely with the length of U.S. residence and residential locations away from areas of ethnic concentration." What has not been reached are the topics of local languages' preservation and ancestral heritage. -i.e., cases similar to Cantonese – a common local language – being threatened by Mandarin – a new-comer language – are rarely discussed, thus making the topic be needed to focus on.

2.2 Goals of the Study

This study looks at how parenting and family communication affects the acceptance of and ability to use Cantonese within teenagers (aged 14 to 22), whose families have been resident in Guangdong Province, Hong Kong, or Macau for at least six years. Participants are either able or not to speak Yue dialects, including Cantonese, Chaoshan Chinese, or Hakka Chinese.

What the paper wants to provide is a new perspective on local language preservation and inherit within the framework of family daily routine. Factors that may involve in are carefully evaluated so that it can be conclusive on what should be of priority to be focused on if attempting to preserve a local language at an individual-family level. Among all these potential factors, how parents' actions reflect on their children's language usage will also be illustrated.

2.3 Research Questions

When examining each family, the primary independent variables are the languages that the participants' parents use, the languages that are used between participants and their parents, the languages that are used between parents, and participants' views of dialects. The study will tackle questions including, a) to what extent, if at all, parents' dialects have a direct relationship with what their children can use; b) in what ways, communications in dialects between senior members (e.g., those between parents or grandparents) and those across generations (e.g., those between participants and their parents or grandparents) will affect the likelihood of participants being able to inherit the

dialects; c) what kinds of families illustrate higher tendency to use dialects between members in daily routines.

3. Interpretation of Key Phases

In the passage, phases 'Cantonese dialects' and 'Yue dialects' are used to refer to the aggregation of the three main branches of the dialects that are being used in Guangdong Province, Hong Kong SAR, and Macau SAR. The three main branches are Cantonese (Guangzhou dialect), Chaoshan dialect. Hakka Chinese.

4. Methodology

4.1 Participants

In the mass research stage, data from teenagers (ages between 14-22) living in the Pearl River Delta (Guangdong Province, Hong Kong SAR, and Macau SAR) was collected. [8] In previous research conducted by Shan Yunming and Li Sheng in 2018, it revealed that educational background has only modest effects on one's attitude towards the usage of Cantonese. [9] To yield a more locally applicable conclusion, we considered participants eligible only if they had been in the area for more than six years. The other part of the study involves small scale interviews, with similar age and location prerequisites aforementioned.

4.2 Procedure

Mass research is based on the internet platform, wjx.com, so that the questionnaires can reach more potential involvers. All participants are required to submit their real names, city of residence, and their ages. To avoid invalid data and unreliable answers, we set that each IP address can only submit once. The survey includes background related questions, as well as the participants' attitudes and ideas and personal experience of using Cantonese. A set of comparisons will be conducted based on the yielded results.

During the interview, the participants will first be asked questions on their background, for the confirmative purpose of eligibility. They shall also provide their answers to the questionnaire, which would be the base of some questions that would be asked. The remaining questions will discuss their detailed information on family language usage and any related issues. Besides fixed questions that have been marked before the interview, the interviewer will also dig into any points that he thinks to be needed by the investigation, raising questions that are related to the interviewees' answers.

5. Results

In this study, we deal with the result of the sent questionnaires, as well as that of the interviews. That what languages and dialects can the participants, their parents, and their other relatives speak were collected. At the same time, it is also necessary to find out some domestic habits by looking into what languages or dialects are in use at participants' homes, during conversations with their parents or relatives, and how their parents talk to each other. Moreover, from the self-reported answers on where the participants acquired their languages or dialects – either they came from families, schools, or neighborhoods – a series of further investigation or confirmations were carried out. Finally, the questionnaires also involved questions on the participants' attitudes towards Mandarin and Yue dialects, both emotionally and practically, and even got the participants' responses to their willingness to protect the Yue dialects.

The survey was conducted, as mentioned in the previous chapter, through the internet questionnaire platform, wjx.com, and was accessible for every person who is connected to the internet. In order to assure the reliability of the results, participants were asked to fill in a set of forms at the briefing of the research so that their eligibility was confirmed. Within a total of 440 submissions, 22 participants were disqualified because their ages did not meet the requirement of the survey, while 24 other participants did not meet the residence prerequisites, in addition to 3

incomplete forms, resulting in overall 391 eligible answers(N=391).

The data were then analyzed with various statistical methods so that the correlations between the aspects mentioned earlier may become available for further investigation and discussion. Firstly, to ensure that the results were reliable, Cronbach’s α coefficient is employed. The outcomes show that the two-part subjective rating questions yielded high-quality results, with the coefficients of 0.825 and 0.843. Next, fundamental data analyses, including mean calculation, percentage calculation, and others are conducted both with the tools provided by the original survey platforms for general reviews and with Excel for visualization, using a variety of charts. For example, segment maps, pie charts, and bar charts are generated, enabling further analysis. Finally, for more sophisticated statistical calculations, data are uploaded to the online platform SPSSAU 20.0 and used Pearson’s coefficient to determine correlations between variables.

Key facts and figures yielded from the research are presented in three main dimensions, as divided in the questionnaires (participants’ portraits, participants’ family information, and attitudes towards Mandarin and Cantonese). The following sections also include several findings that go against or beyond the initial hypothesis.

5.1 Age and Location Distribution of Participants

As the questionnaire was filled in, a participant was first asked questions of his or her age and location, to ensure that they fulfilled the requirement of sampling. Considering that the age and location distribution may bring unexpected effects on representing the entire tested population, these data are measured and graphed.

5.1.1 Participants’ Age Distribution

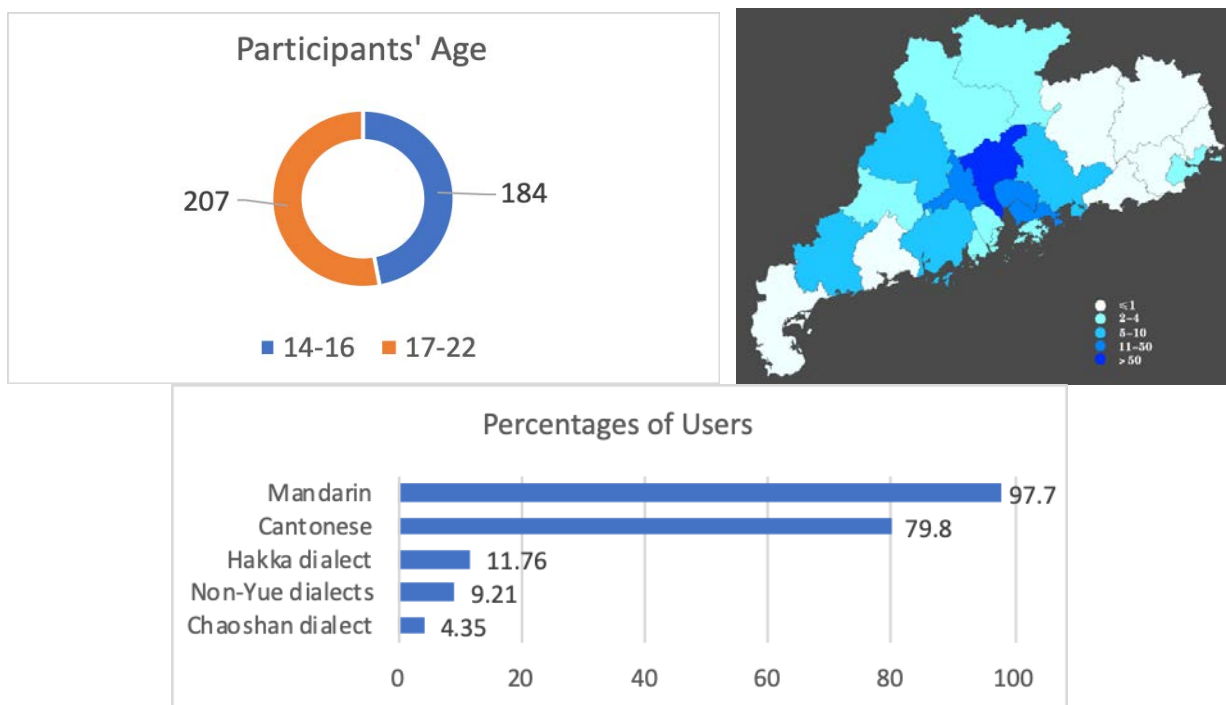


Figure 1. Ages, cities of residences, and language abilities of Participants.

Participants are grouped according to their age into two categories, between 14 and 16, who are attending middle school, and between 17 and 22, who are in high school or older. The result shows that the distribution was roughly equal, as neither group contains participants of more than two-third (Figure 1).

5.1.2 Participants’ resident cities

Participants in the survey self-reported their cities of primary residences. As the survey managed to collect results in almost every single city in the area, a segment map is used to illustrate where the participants come from (Figure 1).

5.2 Participants' Family Language Situation

As one hypothesis was that language heritages are connected to the parents and other relatives' languages, while what was playing its role is the languages that are being used, in the second section of the questionnaire, testees filled in their detailed information of what languages themselves, their parents, and their relatives can speak, and what languages are used in conversation between parents and children, between relatives and children, and between parents solely.

5.2.1 Languages that the participants can speak

Testees were required to select all the languages that they can speak in the question. A vast majority of participants can speak Mandarin; more than three-fourth can speak Cantonese; relatively small percentages are shown of those who speak Hakka dialect, Chaoshan dialect, and other Non-Yue dialects (Figure 1). According to their response, there are eight combinations of Mandarin and Yue dialects. Sixty-six participants can only speak Mandarin, while nine can only speak Cantonese. Participants that can speak two languages, Mandarin-Cantonese, Mandarin-Chaoshan dialect, or Mandarin-Hakka dialect, are in the numbers of 258, 4, and 9, respectively. Two combinations exist in people speaking at the same time three languages, either Mandarin-Cantonese-Chaoshan dialect, with the number of nine in total, or Mandarin-Cantonese-Hakka dialect, with the number of 33. Lastly, three participants can speak all four languages.

5.2.2 Effect of family members' languages on participants'

Table.1. Correlation between family members' and participants' languages.

	Correlation with Mandarin	Correlation with Cantonese	Correlation with Hakka Dialect	Correlation with Chaoshan Dialect
Mother's Languages				
Mandarin	0.553**	-0.014	0.039	-0.016
Cantonese	-0.066	0.591**	0.113*	-0.012
Hakka Dialect	0.067	-0.091	0.617**	0.009
Chaoshan Dialect	0.036	-0.057	0.095	0.520**
Non-Yue Dialects	0.074	-0.391**	-0.116*	-0.071
Father's Languages				
Mandarin	0.506**	-0.059	0.013	-0.007
Cantonese	-0.067	0.497**	0.050	-0.010
Hakka Dialect	0.067	-0.043	0.580**	0.045
Chaoshan Dialect	0.043	-0.058	0.083	0.573**
Non-Yue Dialects	0.072	-0.236**	-0.129*	-0.067
Other Relatives' Languages				
Mandarin	0.337**	0.015	-0.005	-0.050
Cantonese	-0.074	0.554**	0.014	-0.089
Hakka Dialect	0.055	0.060	0.474**	-0.017
Chaoshan Dialect	0.007	-0.020	0.030	0.525**
Non-Yue Dialects	0.080	-0.311**	-0.094	-0.020
* p<0.05, ** p<0.01				

It is assumed that usually, parents would heritage their languages to their children. In order to confirm this hypothesis, correlations between family members' languages, including father's, mother's, and other relatives', and participants' languages are calculated and shown in Pearson's coefficient. The results show that family speaking Mandarin presents a positive correlation with participants speaking Mandarin; family speaking Cantonese presents a positive correlation with participants speaking Cantonese, and to a minor extent, with participants speaking Hakka dialect;

family speaking Hakka dialects or Chaoshan dialect presents a positive correlation with participants speaking Hakka dialect or Chaoshan dialect, respectively; family speaking non-Yue dialects presents a negative correlation with participants speaking Cantonese, and to a minor extent, with participants speaking Hakka dialect (Table 1). Significant correlation labeled in bold in the table.

5.2.3 Effects of family conversation languages on participants

Another critical assumption is that it is the languages that are being used in family circumstances that would have direct effects on participants' language mastery. Thus, correlations between languages that are used in three different types of family conversations and languages that the participants can speak are measured. As shown in the results, families using Mandarin in conversation present a positive correlation with participants that can speak Mandarin, while also indicating a negative correlation with participants that can speak Cantonese; families that use Mandarin in their conversation present a positive correlation with participants speaking Cantonese; using Hakka dialect in family conversation presents a positive correlation with testee's ability to speak Hakka dialect; using Chaoshan dialects in families is to a minor extent negatively correlated to participants speaking Cantonese, while is positively correlated to participants speaking Chaoshan dialects; families using non-Yue dialects for communication are slightly negatively correlated to testee's speaking Cantonese (Table 2). Significant correlations are labeled in bold in the table.

Table.2. Correlations between family conversations' and participants' languages.

	Correlation with Mandarin	Correlation with Cantonese	Correlation with Hakka Dialect	Correlation with Chaoshan Dialect
Participants Talking with Parents				
Mandarin	0.150**	-0.292**	0.065	-0.014
Cantonese	-0.100*	0.728**	-0.039	-0.080
Hakka Dialect	0.034	-0.011	0.602**	0.073
Chaoshan Dialect	0.025	-0.080	0.041	0.680**
Non-Yue Dialects	0.028	-0.084	-0.068	-0.040
Participants Talking with Other Relatives				
Mandarin	0.145**	-0.274**	0.005	0.044
Cantonese	-0.105*	0.679**	0.012	-0.042
Hakka Dialect	0.049	-0.060	0.790**	0.019
Chaoshan Dialect	0.028	-0.084	0.021	0.660**
Non-Yue Dialects	0.035	-0.123**	-0.009	-0.048
Parents Talking with Each Other				
Mandarin	0.146**	-0.324**	-0.021	-0.073
Cantonese	-0.102*	0.646**	0.002	-0.076
Hakka Dialect	0.035	-0.034	0.582**	-0.010
Chaoshan Dialect	0.026	-0.107*	0.034	0.646**
Non-Yue Dialects	0.030	-0.143**	-0.070	-0.041
* p<0.05, ** p<0.01				

5.2.4 Effects on testees' Yue dialects level and family conversation languages

Similar questions have been mentioned above, yet they only consider whether or not a person can speak Yue dialects. In order to investigate carefully how exactly would Yue dialect be affected by family conversation languages, the analysis was conducted (Table 3).

Table.3. How tightly are family conversation languages related to Yue dialects level.

	Correlation with Yue Listening Level	Correlation with Yue Speaking Level
Participants Talking with Parents		
Mandarin	-0.369**	-0.471**
Cantonese	0.639**	0.750**
Hakka Dialect	0.046	-0.004
Chaoshan Dialect	-0.082	-0.073
Non-Yue Dialects	-0.143**	-0.140**
Participants Talking with Other Relatives		
Mandarin	-0.338**	-0.421**
Cantonese	0.644**	0.754**
Hakka Dialect	0.024	-0.017
Chaoshan Dialect	-0.064	-0.074
Non-Yue Dialects	-0.126*	-0.142**
Parents Talking with Each Other		
Mandarin	-0.405**	-0.496**
Cantonese	0.641**	0.702**
Hakka Dialect	0.002	-0.046
Chaoshan Dialect	-0.049	-0.062
Non-Yue Dialects	-0.183**	-0.188**

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$

5.2.5 Participants' views of the parents' effect on their Yue dialects.

Participants in the questionnaire must rate from zero to ten of how much they think their parents affected their language capacity regarding Yue dialects. Rating over five is considered as affected while rating under five is considered as unaffected. The outcome shows that more than three-fourth of the testees believe that their parents affected their Yue dialects level (Figure 2)

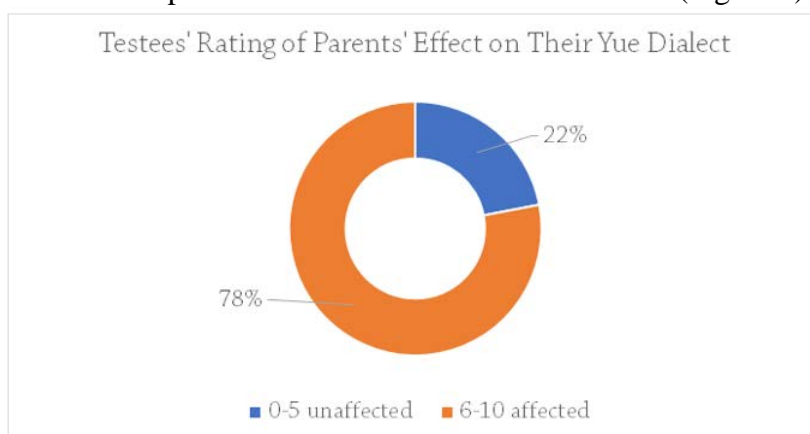


Figure 2. Testees' rating of parents' effect on their Yue dialects.

5.2.6 Comparison of different parties' effects of improving participants' dialects

In order to determine how great the effect testees believe their families have on improving their dialects, they are asked the rate of five different parties that may affect their dialects. It turns out that only the factor "family" acquired more than a vast majority of acknowledgment on enhancing their dialects abilities (Figure 3).

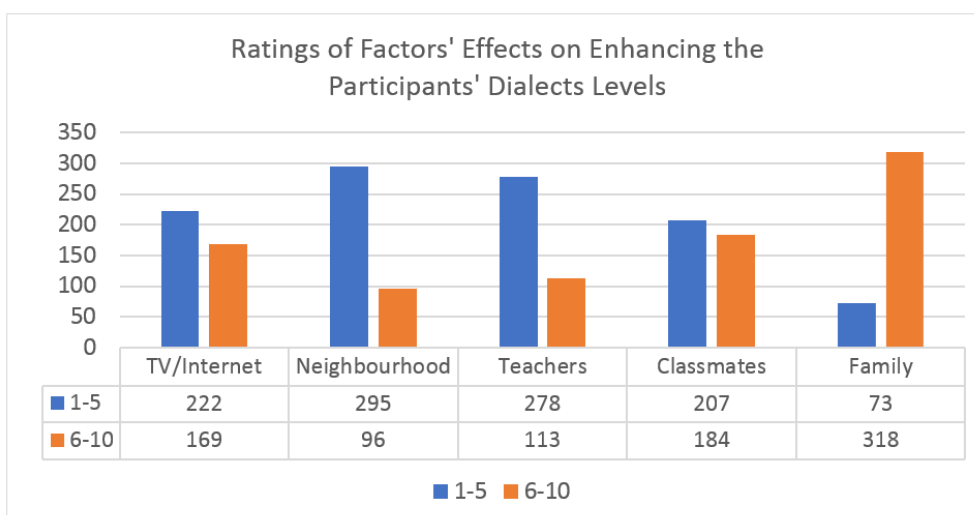


Figure 3. Rating of the effectiveness of different factors having on participants' dialects.

5.2.7 Emotional rating of Yue dialects

On a 0-10 scale of rating, testees rated their emotional attitude towards Yue dialects. The mean of the rating is 8.52. During the interpretation of the rating's distribution, scores from zero to five are considered disapproving, while scores from six to ten are interpreted as positive; most of the participants (87%) rate positively towards Yue dialects.

By employing the filter to look only at participants who are able to speak Yue dialects (n=325), the average emotion rating reaches 9.12. Only 5% of the three hundred and twenty-six samples rated negatively; by employing the filter to look only at participants who are only able to speak Non-Yue dialects or Mandarin (n=66), the average emotion rating is approaching neutral, with the number of 5.52. More than half (52%) of the answers are negative (Figure 4).

5.2.8 Emotional rating of Mandarin

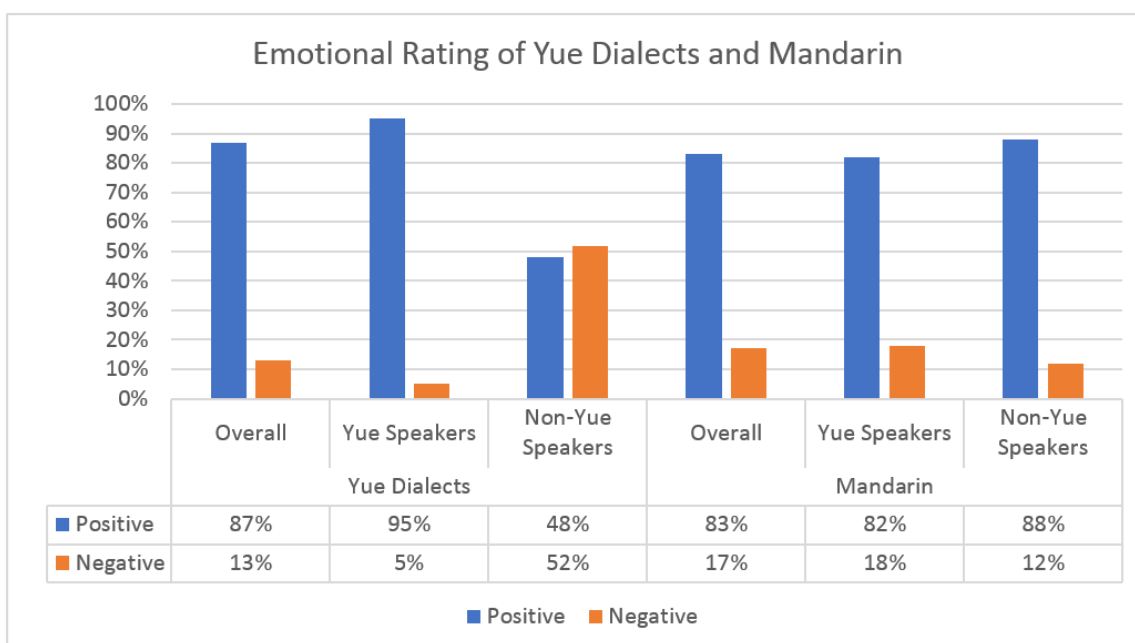


Figure 4. Emotional rating of Yue dialects and Mandarin

On a 0-10 scale, the participants rated their emotional attitudes towards Mandarin. The mean of the rating is 7.81. For the convenience of visualization, ratings of zero to five are considered emotionally negative while scoring above means emotionally positive. Over three-fourth of the answers (83%) are approving. For those who can speak Yue dialects (n=325), the average rating is

7.77. The proportions of the emotional rating of Mandarin are similar to those of the overall rating. Similarly, from answers of those who can only speak Mandarin and non-Yue dialects (n=66), the mean is 8.05, slightly higher than that of the overall. The percentage of answers that rate positively is 88% (Figure 4).

5.2.9 Connections between testees' attitudes on Mandarin and Yue dialects and family conversation's languages

Pearson's coefficient was calculated to indicate the correlation between languages spoken in family-based conversations and the participants' attitudes towards Mandarin and Yue dialects. The outcomes show that family using Mandarin in conversation is positively correlated to the high emotional rating of Mandarin, while negatively correlated to that of Yue dialects; family-based usage of Cantonese presents positive correlation with a high emotional rating of Cantonese, and in some circumstances, it is slightly negatively correlated to the that of Mandarin; family speaking Chaoshan dialect is, to a minor extent, positively correlated to the high emotional rating of Mandarin; non-Yue dialects in family conversation is also slightly correlated to the low rating of Cantonese (Table 4). Significant correlations are labeled in bold in the table.

Table.4. Correlation between family conversations' languages and testees' attitudes.

	Attitude towards Yue Dialects	Attitude towards Mandarin
Participants Talking with Parents		
Mandarin	-0.317**	0.258**
Cantonese	0.565**	-0.093
Hakka Dialect	-0.034	0.032
Chaoshan Dialect	0.019	0.080
Non-Yue Dialects	-0.134**	0.050
Participants Talking with Other Relatives		
Mandarin	-0.315**	0.261**
Cantonese	0.562**	-0.124*
Hakka Dialect	-0.026	0.028
Chaoshan Dialect	0.032	0.103*
Non-Yue Dialects	-0.077	-0.012
Parents Talking with Each Other		
Mandarin	-0.359**	0.214**
Cantonese	0.555**	-0.130*
Hakka Dialect	-0.041	0.062
Chaoshan Dialect	-0.012	0.097
Non-Yue Dialects	-0.020	0.026

* p<0.05, ** p<0.01

5.2.10 Summary of Results

As the analysis of the data above shown, the distribution of the participants' locations mainly corresponds to the population density of Guangdong Province, as well as Hong Kong, and Macau. Most samples come from Guangzhou, Dongguan, Shenzhen, Foshan, and Huizhou, cities that are located in the center of Guangdong Provinces, those that are the most populated. However, samples from the north-eastern part of Guangdong may be insufficient for a firm conclusion and may have a minor impact on the data of language constituency. Despite that, since it generally matches the population density, and that the reliability check mentioned in the previous chapter shows that the subjective responses from the participants are highly reliable, the results are believed to be comprehensively applicable from the entire tested area.

Next, the results indicate that Mandarin has been so widely spread that nearly all participants can

speak the official language of both Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macau, despite some individual cases that the participants have not received education on it. The second most used language is Cantonese, with over three-fourth of the testees being able to use the language. Hakka dialect, Chaoshan dialect, and Non-Yue dialects can be spoken by only a few participants, though the unabundant samples collection in north-eastern Guangdong where these languages are more spoken may have contributed to the results. It is not a serious issue to be worried about since such data have not played any critical roles in the core conclusion.

Positive correlations have been found between parents' and participants' languages, as long as the languages are the same. As being able to speak Mandarin a comprehensive feature among participants' family members, it can hardly result in any significant correlation with other dialects. It is unexpected that relatives being able to speak other Non-Yue dialects would have a negative correlation with participants' Cantonese, and further discussion will be made in the following section.

From the results, it can also be concluded that languages that are being used in the family may have more influence on the children's language ability, instead of merely about what languages that the members can speak. The competing relations between Mandarin and Cantonese are illustrated that in families using Mandarin for communication, Cantonese would be less likely to be inherited, even though their parents may be able to speak Cantonese, and vice versa. Even so, the ability to speak Cantonese is presented to be more fragile, as Pearson's coefficient of Mandarin affecting Cantonese at minimum twice as large as that of Cantonese affecting Mandarin, indicating a higher possibility of the pathway. There is an overall outcome that speaking a language in families, either between parents and children, or between other relatives and children, or even merely between parents themselves, are highly correlated, positively, to the yield of that language of children.

Concerning Yue dialects' levels of the testees, it turns out that most people have a higher listening level on the dialects while speaking becomes the issue. Comparatively, the analytical result shows that correlations between family conversation and the ability of speaking Yue dialects are more substantial, as their Pearson's coefficients are more significant than that of their listening level.

Besides, when analyzing how those answers view the influence of their parents and other parties, it is shown that for most participants, the only vital factors that have effects are their families. In the origin hypothesis, however, it is assumed that as teenagers have convenient access to the internet or the television, they may be significantly affected by them. Such unexpected outcomes would be discussed in the following section as well. A direct conclusion that can be driven from this result is that preservation of Yue dialects should emphasize the importance of family-based projects, rather than what were mostly conducted currently – the school-based projects.

Lastly, the relationship between family spoken languages and the participants' attitudes towards Yue dialects and Mandarins yield unexpected results. The results show that while being unable to speak Yue dialects would be critically disapproving correlated with the emotional rating of Yue dialects, Yue speakers do not view Mandarin so differently as expected. The possible causes of the biased view will be discussed in the sequencing part.

6. Conclusion

The preservation of Cantonese dialects is not a never-been-discussed topic. In the few recent decades, a reiterating wave of interest brought attempts to revise the downward reclining trend of its status and applications in society. It is admirable that these attempts conveyed a steady persistence of the natives in the Pearl River Delta region of their culture, despite that these efforts may not be efficient, according to the findings of this essay.

The paper examined three hundred and ninety-one qualified questionnaire answers (N=391). The questionnaire mainly concentrates on the participants' Yue dialects' levels, their families' situations on language usages, as well as how they viewed these dialects. Results indicate strong correlations between family dialect usage and the children's ability to use that dialect, even though those communications may not directly involve these children. The data also imply that even if extracurricular projects one of the most prevalent, their effectiveness is rarely acknowledged by the

testees. Several more essential findings are made and used for further discussions in the chapters above.

According to the yielded results and analyses, it is then concluded that more attention should be placed on the in-family language inherit, rather than teaching more non-resident persons these dialects. In essence, this is considering the fact that Yue dialects as a group of regional dialects would not generate many incentives for those who do not live in the area.

The research itself is imperfect, as that the data collected concentrated on several cities, and may not be conclusive in several specific cities that provided only a few results. Future studies may focus on sampling more equally geographically. It is also appreciated if studies emphasizing whether a difference in the effect on children's dialects exists between mothers and fathers is conducted, as this essay generates inadequate data to have a further discussion on the topic.

References

- [1] Mufwene, S.S. "Colonization, globalization, and the plight of 'weak' languages." *Journal of Linguistics*, 38, pp. 375-395
- [2] Morrow, J.A., Castleton, B. "The Impact of Globalization on the Arabic Language." *Intercultural Communication Studies XVI*: 2, pp. 202-212, 2007.
- [3] Lim, H., Mead, D. "Chinese in Indonesia: A Background Study." *SIL Electronic Survey Report 2011-028*, 2011.
- [4] Ying, C. "Language Use and Identity in the American Chinese Folk's Community: A Study of Greater Metropolitan Areas of Washington D.C. and New York." 2012.
- [5] Tang, Z. "Chong Lun Zai Quan Qiu Shi Ye Xia Yue Yu De Di Wei Gong Neng Yu Zuo Yong [Reappraisal of the Status, Function, and Use of Cantonese with Global Perspectives]." 2013.
- [6] Yu, S. "On "Dialect Ban" from the Perspective of Language Policy." 2018
- [7] McDermott, P. "Irish isn't spoken here?" *Language policy and planning in Ireland: The Irish language is central to our cultural heritage, both in the north and the south, and its preservation poses significant challenges for present-day Irish society*". Volume 27, Issue 2 June 2011, pp. 25-31
- [8] Leonard, B.D., Gilmore, P. "Language Revitalization and Identity in Social Context: A Community-Based Athabaskan Language Preservation Project in Western Interior Alaska".
- [9] Krol, A.A. "Heritage Language Maintenance and Preservation in Russian-Speaking Families of the United States." 2017.
- [10] Portes, A., & Schauffler, R. "Language and the Second Generation: Bilingualism Yesterday and Today." *International Migration Review*, 28(4), pp. 640-661, 1994.
- [11] Shan, Y., Li, S. "Language Attitudes of Guangzhou People and Inheritance of Cantonese Identity." *Chinese Journal of Language Policy and Planning*, 2018, 3 (03), 33-41 DOI: 10.19689/j.cnki.cn10-1361/h.20180303.
- [12] Guangdong Statistics Beuro, 2010, URL: http://stats.gd.gov.cn/tjgb/content/post_1430112.html (accessed on April 2nd, 2020)
- [13] Zhou, Y., Liang, J., Xiao, T., Yu, Z., Chen, T. (2019). How can the first generation of the 21st century in Guangdong areas inherit Cantonese under the Mandarin popularization.
- [14] URL: <http://file.chinathinksbig.org/ctb1819-9e9f41e4061dfdb55cd20ea4454158c9%2F21%E4%B8%96%E7%BA%AA%E7%B2%A4%E8%AF%AD%E5%9C%B0%E5%8C%BA%E7%9A%84%E4%B8%80%E4%BB%A3%E5%9C%A8%E5%A4%A7%E5%8A%9B%E6%8E%A8%E5%B9%BF%E6%99%AE%E9%80%9A%E8%AF%9D%E7%9A%84%E5%BD%A2%E5%BC%8F%E4%B8%8B%E5%A6%82%E4%BD%95%E4%BC%A0%E6%89%BF%E7%B2%A4%E8%AF%AD.pdf> (Accessed on April 3rd, 2020)