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## **Worlds shaped by words: a cross-linguistic investigation into the neural mechanisms of lexico-syntactic feature production**

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# STELLINGEN

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## **Worlds shaped by words**

### **A cross-linguistic investigation into the neural mechanisms of lexico-syntactic feature production**

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aan de Universiteit Leiden door

Jin Wang

1. Classifier information in Mandarin Chinese is automatically activated during lexical access in noun phrase production.
2. Visual shape information encoded in Mandarin classifiers contributes to the production process at the lexical level.
3. Late second language learners of German whose first language is Mandarin can activate grammatical gender features during lexical retrieval.
4. Semi-lexical nouns in German pseudo-partitive constructions activate grammatical gender features through multiple processing routes, which differ from regular nouns.
5. In picture-word interference (PWI) tasks, semantic and lexico-syntactic information associated with distractor words is activated during production.
6. In the blocked cyclic naming (BCN) paradigm, the activation level of lexical items increases across cycles.
7. Compared to grammatical gender in German, semantic information plays a more prominent role in the processing of lexico-syntactic features in Mandarin Chinese.
8. Semi-lexical nouns lie on a continuum between content and function words, challenging the canonical dichotomy.
9. For second-language learners of German whose native language lacks grammatical gender, it is nevertheless possible to acquire grammatical gender.
10. The way humans categorise the world is closely associated with language.
11. Investigations into the cognitive mechanisms of lexico-syntactic feature processing in second language learners offer an empirical basis for developing grammar teaching methods.
12. Cross-linguistic research promotes intercultural understanding in the context of an increasingly globalised society.