

## A brief discussion on Internet neologism "Confirmed the eyes"

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**Keywords:** Internet neologism, Language meme, Confirmed the eyes

**Abstract:** language is one of the carriers of memes, and the replication and propagation of meme itself depends on language. This article takes "confirmed the eyes", one of the "top 10 Internet terms of 2018", as an example, from the perspective of language meme phenomenon to analyze and study its development changes and semantic features. It has been found that its semantics, grammatical features and emotional color have changed greatly from the initial use.

### 1. Introduction

The rapid development of the Internet has promoted the emergence of network buzzwords. Most network buzzwords are vivid and win universal praise. When it appeared, it was pursued by netizens. The speed of propagation was rapid and the scope of influence was wide. This article takes "confirmed the eyes", one of the "top 10 Internet terms of 2018", as an example, based on the principle of language meme phenomenon, to analyze and study its development and semantic features.

### 2. The source and meaning

"Confirmed the eyes" is derived from the lyrics in Lin Junjie's song "Drunken Chibi", "Confirmed the eyes, I met the right person", originally tepid. New Year's Eve in 2018 (February 15), weibo netizen "playing net primary school students" released a picture of "confirmed the eyes, you are a Cantonese", in order to make fun of cantonese people's red envelopes with small amounts of money, this has struck a chord with many netizens, which in turn has led to a discussion about the amount of red envelopes in various places, thus, the word "confirmed the eyes" became a hit on the Internet and became a new favorite among network buzzwords. On February 28 of the same year, weibo user "liberal arts school flower sauce" posted a video titled "a fool looks at a fool and thinks the other person is a fool". In video, two boys take photos of three husky dogs on the roof of the building with their mobile phones downstairs, while the husky dog looks at the downstairs with a cold face. A netizen gave a comment after reading "confirmed the eyes, is not reasonable people", this comment alone received more than 6,000 "likes", so the word "confirmed the eyes" was popular all over the net. On December 3, 2018, "Bite Chewing Words" published the "top 10 buzzwords of 2018", "confirmed the eyes" ranked sixth; on December 19, 2018, The National Language Resource Monitoring and Research Center released "the "top 10 Internet language of 2018", "confirmed the eyes" ranked fifth.

In The Modern Chinese Dictionary, the meaning of the word "confirm" is interpreted as: "clear recognize and confirm (facts and principles)", and "eye's expression" means the expression of the eyes. "Confirmed the eyes" belongs to the moving-object structure, and its basic meaning can be understood as the confirmation of "eyes" as the window of the soul, reaching the artistic conception of empathy. In fact, it is a kind of affirmation and recognition of the information to be expressed by the speaker, but in the later of use, its initial meaning is gradually generalized.

### 3. The concept of language meme

Memetics is a new theory that explains the laws of cultural evolution. In the process of human culture, some ideas or concepts are spread by means of culture and passed down from generation to

generation, which constitutes the concept of meme. Memes rely on imitation to survive, and language is one of its carriers. According to the different ways of copying and spreading, the language memes can be divided into two types: one is the genotype of the memes whose content remains unchanged but the form changes during the copying process, and the other is the form unchanged but the phenotype of the memes presented by different content.[1] The use of the "confirmed the eyes" series belongs to the latter - the phenotype of the memes. The earliest use of "confirmed the eyes, you are a Cantonese" was derived from the lyrics "confirmed the eyes, I met the right person", so "confirmed the eyes, I met the right person" can be said to be the language meme of "confirmed eyes" series. In the process of copying and spreading, the language memes are often combined with different contexts, and new collections appear to form a new memetic complex.[2] In the later frequent use, combined with the context of the word itself, "confirmed the eyes" constitutes a new meme complex - "confirmed eyes" series of expressions. Such as:

- (1) Confirmed your eyes, you are the one who loves the kitchen (Netease July 20, 2018)
- (2) Confirmed the eyes, is a good one (Netease September 17, 2018)
- (3) Confirmed my eyes, Yuan Quan's shirt skirt is my style (Sina.com April 17, 2018)

With the wide spread and use of this word, a series of changes have taken place in its language expression, grammatical features and emotional color.

## **4. The semantic features**

### **4.1. Single feature of "Confirmed the eyes"**

The word "confirmed the eyes" has a strong vitality, which is constantly copied and spread in the wide use. When the word first became popular, "confirm" that the information received later is mostly related to people, such as:

- (4) Confirmed my eyes, I want to drink and eat meat together (Sina Watching October 17, 2018)
- (5) Confirmed your eyes, you are the one who gave me gifts (Today's headlines, May 17, 2018)
- (6) Confirmed your eyes, you are the ones we are waiting for (Sohu Education August 29, 2018)
- (7) Confirmed the eyes, is the person who can not afford (Sina video December 3, 2018)
- (8) Confirmed your eyes, you are the right person (Baijia No. December 23, 2018)

### **4.2. Semantic generalization of "Confirmed the eyes"**

In the later popularity and communication, the meaning of "confirmed the eyes" has changed a little since the beginning. The connection is no longer limited to the living person instruction, but gradually generalizes. As long as it can be connected with "confirmed the eyes" and be understood and accepted, it can be used in verbal communication. Such as:

- (9) Confirmed your eyes, the bag you need (Sohu.com July 25, 2018)
- (10) Confirmed your eyes, Wan Hao International is the right investment platform (Internet January 14, 2019)
- (11) Confirmed the eyes, the quality of the Emgrand GL8CVT is super high, it is worth calling! (Sohu.com, January 14, 2019)
- (12) Confirmed the eyes, is the ideal brand discount women's clothing supply (Netease January 12, 2019)
- (13) Confirmed the eyes, the snow in the south is very serious (Netease December 30, 2108)

As can be seen from the above examples, the object of "confirmed the eyes" is no longer limited to "people", but also can be "package", "investment platform", "car", "clothes", "sports meeting" and anything that meets people's perceptions.

## **5. Grammatical features**

### **5.1. Acting as parenthesis**

The phrase "confirmed the eyes", the grammatical function in the whole sentence is the interjection, generally in the beginning of the sentence, do not make any ingredients, with any

ingredient also occur in a sentence structure relations, mainly have the effect of complement sentence, to simply state the speaker's attitude or emotion, is an independent language, even if you remove this sentence in the sentence structure, it will not affect the meaning of the whole sentence. In the thirteen examples above, "confirmed the eyes" are all parenthesis, and there is no substantive meaning only in order to make sentences strictly.

## 5.2. Acting as predicate

(14) Putin and Trump meets:the two are arranged to sit separately, but they still have a lot of interactions with "confirmed the eyes" (Forwarding Network November 12, 2018)

(15) I have confirmed my eyes and looked at Wannian (Hundreds of Homes, April 3, 2018)

(16) Tianyu Ma and DiLieba confirmed their eyes, it is so sweet (Tencent video April 9, 2018)

(17) I have confirmed my eyes, you are the terrible man (Sina video August 18, 2018)

After being used in a large amount, the grammatical function of "confirmed the eyes" also changes. The above examples are all served as predicate functions to explain the action behavior of the subject.

## 5.3. Acting as adverbial

(18) Confirmed your eyes again, this is the way to successfully open the sports headphones (Sohu.com, June 1, 2018)

(19) I have confirmed my eyes again and again, this is the Chengpu Railway I want (Phoenix News June 6, 2018)

(20) Once again confirmed the eyes, this is really a beast (Pacific Auto Network October 16, 2018)

(21) I have already confirmed my eyes, these are all koi (Xinhuane December 15, 2018)

In the above examples, "confirmed the eyes" are acted as adverbial and played a certain emphasis effect in the sentences.

## 6. Changing in emotional color

The "Confirmed the Eyes" series of expressions did not have a specific meaning when they were first used. "Confirmed the eyes" only played a positive role in the subsequent statements. With the widespreadly use in network communication, it has been given more emotional colors, and different changes have taken place.

### 6.1. Giving recognition and praise to people, things or things

(22) Confirmed your eyes and met an unusual sports meeting (Sohu.com, April 29, 2018)

(23) Confirmed your eyes, this is the most beautiful face in this summer (Sina.com July 30, 2018)

(24) Confirmed the eyes, "they" are the most beautiful spokesperson of Zhengding today (HeBei news network, December 23, 2018)

(25) Confirmed the eyes, this is what happiness should look like (Xinhuane December 10, 2018)

(26) Confirmed the eyes, you are the one I want to catch (Sohu, June 7, 2018)

Example 22 is a compliment to puyang second primary school's 2nd all-member sports meeting: the national flag guards are full of energy and the team is sunny and youthful. Example 23, on a hot summer's day, guangzhou metro constructors stick to their posts and make contributions, the use of this case, the praise of their selfless dedication is overwhelming. Example 24 A group of women in cheongsam walking in every scenic spot in the city, "the grace and elegance are all charms, the Chinese clothes are full of showcases civilization", and the most beautiful spokespersons are the ones. Example 25 in the National Museum's "Great Change - Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Reform and Opening-up", 83 smiling faces of people from all walks of life from various circles have infected many people, this example implicitly praised the great changes that have taken place in people's lives and their happiness since the 40th anniversary of reform and opening up. Example 26 officer huang of liucheng county public security bureau subdued a thief on his way to work, and his agility was praised by netizens, so there was a report of this case.

## 6.2. Having humorous or implicit ridicule effects

- (27) Confirmed the eyes, people who can't be unaware (Sina video December 3, 2018)
- (28) Confirmed the eyes, the way to be born (Netease September 25, 2018)
- (29) Confirmed the eyes, are bald people (Sina.com November 6, 2018)
- (30) Confirmed my eyes, you are the person of the bar (Sina.com, April 11, 2018)
- (31) Confirmed the eyes, "addicts" were arrested on the spot (Sina.com January 24, 2019)

Example 27, in this video, several children are making conflicts, one of them is a little girl who looks very cute and funny when she glares at them. This example skillfully matches the picture, vivid and vivid. Example 28, comes from a conversation between the son and the mother: The mother asked her son whether to go home to eat, and the son replied that he would come back right away, as a result, the other end of the phone the mother and said to Dad that the leftovers should not be fed to the dog, leaving a conversation for the son to eat, the use of the title makes people feel uncomfortable and humorous.

Example 29, with the development of social economy, people's life rhythm is accelerating, psychological pressure is increasing, and the problems that come with it are increasing. The problem of hair loss has become a major problem that has plagued many people, and it has shown a trend of rejuvenation. In this case, through the expression of "confirmed the eyes", euphemistically reveals the problem of hair loss that plagues everyone. Example 30, "Argumentative person" refers to a type of person who are good at pushing in the internet and prefers to make meaningless arguments. The object referred to "Argumentative person" has obvious derogatory colors, so the narrative of this example is obvious ridicule. Example 31, "Addicts" refers to a group of people who are addicted to drugs, in this case, the expression of "confirmed the eyes" is euphemistically and ironically.

There are many examples of this kind. Through these examples, we can find that the emotional color of the word "confirmed the eyes" has changed greatly with frequency used. The probability of the language meme allows it to be used in a variety of contexts, and the differences in the emotional color it presents need to be analyzed in combination with specific context conditions.

## 7. Conclusion

In people's daily communication, "confirmed the eyes" as a form of language meme is continually copied and disseminated, which makes the language expression and connotation of the word greatly enriched and expanded. Since the word "confirmed the eyes" has been widely used in online language in February this year, its semantics, grammatical features and emotional color have changed greatly from the initial use. The author enters the word "confirmed the eyes" on the Baidu homepage, and the page number is 42 pages. The scope of use covers all major webpages, the use of the group regardless of gender, the age is mostly young, and the number of examples is numerous, its pragmatic is sopower With such a strong copying power and speed of propagation, the language innovation expression produced by the word in the future needs a further attention and research.

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