

The Polysemic Interpretation of the Verb 打: A Semantic Analysis of Articles from Qiāndǎo Rìbào (《千岛日报》)

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Abstract

Polysemy in semantic studies refers to a linguistic phenomenon in which a single word has multiple related meanings. In Mandarin, the verb 打 (dǎ) is a commonly encountered polysemous word in basic Mandarin language learning. This study aims to analyze the various meanings of the verb 打 (dǎ) using a qualitative approach, focusing on its contextual usage. Using the Qiandao Ribao (《千岛日报》) newspaper, edition of December 1, 2023, as the primary data source, this study identifies the semantic variations of 打 (dǎ) based on its collocations and surrounding context. The findings reveal that 打 (dǎ) has 19 diverse meanings, ranging from physical actions and communication to abstract expressions. This research contributes to a deeper understanding of polysemy in Mandarin and enriches insights into the cognitive processes involved in meaning interpretation in foreign language learning. It is hoped that this study will serve as a significant reference in the semantic course, particularly in analyzing polysemous verbs like 打 (dǎ), which will become an analytical study material for students.

Keywords: *polysemy, 打 verb, Qiandao Ribao newspaper*

Introduction

Semantics is a branch of linguistics that studies meaning in language, both in terms of lexical meaning and contextual meaning. The term "semantics" comes from the Greek word *semantikos* which means "to signify" or "to contain meaning" (Nafinuddin, 2020). In modern linguistic studies, semantics not only focuses on the literal meaning of a word, but also encompasses meaning relationships, conceptual structures, and variations of meaning in different contexts. Therefore, understanding semantics is key in the process of learning and mastering a language, particularly foreign languages such as Mandarin, which has complex lexical and grammatical characteristics.

One interesting phenomenon in semantic studies is polysemy, which is a condition where one form of language (word, phrase, or expression) has more than one meaning. Polysemy differs from homonymy because the various meanings are still within one interconnected conceptual domain (Cruse, 2002). In Mandarin, polysemy is very commonly found, especially in the verb class which often experiences an extension of meaning based on the context of use. One of the most productive polysemous verbs in Mandarin is the verb 打 (dǎ), which

lexically means 'to hit' or 'to attack.' However, in everyday linguistic practice, the meaning of the verb 打 has expanded very widely, surpassing its literal meaning.

Examples of the usage of the verb 打 that show variations in meaning include 打电话 ("to call"), 打车 or 打的 ("to take a taxi"), 打针 ("to get an injection"), and 打篮球 ("to play basketball"). These variations in meaning indicate that 打 does not always carry a physical meaning of hitting, but can function as part of a verb phrase with idiomatic or pragmatic meanings that cannot be directly interpreted literally. Such shifts in meaning demonstrate a process of semantic expansion through conceptual associations, metaphors, as well as changes in syntactic functions.

Research on the polysemy of the verb 打 has been conducted by several researchers, from the perspectives of lexicography, cognitive semantics, and syntactic analysis (Ou, 1993; Da, 2005). However, most of these studies focus on the use of 打 in Standard Mandarin in China or are based on data from spoken and written language corpora from mainland China. Research on the meaning variations of the verb 打 in the context of Mandarin use in diaspora communities, particularly in Southeast Asia, is still relatively limited.

Therefore, this article aims to examine the interpretation of the polysemous verb 打 through semantic analysis of articles in Qiāndǎo Rìbào (《千岛日报》), which is a Mandarin-language newspaper published in Indonesia and serves as an important medium for the Chinese-Indonesian community. Qiāndǎo Rìbào provides an authentic corpus of written Mandarin that reflects the local context and the dynamics of Mandarin usage outside of China. Through this study, it is hoped that distinctive meaning patterns of the verb 打 can be discovered, which may differ from its usage in mainland China, as well as provide insights into the influence of the socio-cultural environment on the expansion of lexical meanings.

The specific aims of this study are first to identify the various meanings of the verb 打 in articles from Qiāndǎo Rìbào; second to analyze the context of the verb 打's occurrence and explain the semantic mechanisms underlying its meaning variations; third to examine the interrelations among the meanings of the verb 打 based on Lexical Semantics theory and the concept of polysemy; and fourth to present reflections on the impact of polysemy in Mandarin language learning for Indonesian speakers, especially regarding understanding contextual meanings and translation. This research aligns with the findings of Rizka and Wibisono (2020), which show that the verb 打 has a wide range of meanings determined by the sentence context and the accompanying phrase structure. Therefore, understanding the variations of meanings of polysemous verbs like 打 is important not only for linguistic interests but also for learning and translation in the context of teaching Mandarin as a foreign language in Indonesia.

This research uses a qualitative descriptive approach with a corpus-based semantic analysis method. The data consists of news articles, opinions, and event reports from Qiāndǎo Rìbào published between 2020 and 2024. The analysis process is carried out through the identification of syntactic constructions containing the verb 打, classification of meanings based on sentence context, and interpretation of meanings using Lexical Semantics theory (Cruse, 2002) and a prototypical approach. Through this approach, it is expected to obtain a comprehensive and representative mapping of meanings regarding the use of the verb 打 in the linguistic practices of the Chinese-Indonesian community.

Thus, this article not only contributes to the study of polysemic semantics in the Chinese language but also enriches the understanding of the dynamics of the Chinese language, as well as providing practical implications for teaching Chinese in Indonesia.

Method

This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach with a contextual semantic analysis method. The purpose of this approach is to examine and describe the variations of meaning of the verb 打 as a form of polysemy in the context of its use in authentic Mandarin texts. The focus of the research is directed towards the meaning of the verb 打 in written discourse found in news articles.

The data sources in this research come from articles published in the Mandarin-language newspaper *Qiāndǎo Rìbào* (千岛日报) edition of December 1, 2023. This newspaper was selected because it represents the use of Mandarin in the context of formal journalism used by the Chinese community in Indonesia. The articles in this edition cover various topics such as main news, social issues, culture, economy, and opinion.

Data collection is carried out through the following steps. First, identify the text by carefully reading all articles in the December 1, 2023 edition to find all occurrences of the verb 打. The second stage is data extraction. Sentences or phrases containing the verb 打 are quoted and copied into an analysis table format, accompanied by the sentence context and information about the type of article. The third stage is filtering. Only the usage of the verb 打 that has the potential for double meaning or polysemy is selected for further analysis.

Data were analyzed using the approach of lexical semantic analysis (Cruse, 2002) while considering the theory of prototypical polysemy. The analysis was conducted through several stages, namely contextual analysis, meaning classification, meaning mapping, and tendency analysis of meanings. In the contextual analysis stage, each occurrence of the verb 打 was analyzed based on the sentence context to interpret the actual meaning displayed. In the meaning classification stage, the identified meanings were categorized into groups of primary meanings, such as physical actions, communication activities, commercial activities, sports, and idiomatic usage. In the meaning mapping stage, the relationships between meanings were mapped to identify the semantic structure of the verb 打 and to see the connections between its literal meaning and its derived meanings. In the tendency analysis stage, the frequency of the verb 打 was analyzed in each meaning category to observe dominant patterns in journalistic usage.

To maintain the validity and reliability of the analysis, data validation was conducted through triangulation of theories and dictionary references, such as *Xiàndài Hànyǔ Cídiǎn* (现代汉语词典) and *The Contemporary Chinese Dictionary*, as well as previous studies (Ou, 1993; Da, 2005; Cristee, 2009). In addition, the researchers also conducted cross-checking with Mandarin language experts to ensure that the interpretation of meanings is appropriate to the relevant linguistic and cultural contexts.

Results

Data Description

Based on the data analysis from the news article *Qiāndǎo Rìbào* dated December 1, 2023, variations in the meaning of the verb 打 were found to appear in various sentence contexts. The following are the meanings of the verb 打 in each sentence.

1. (第3版, 贸易部长在茂物市为两传统市场揭幕, 第1段, 第6行)

... 市场按照印尼国家标准 (SNI) 建造, 旨在为游客打造一个干净、安全、舒适的公众市场。

... *shìchǎng ànzhào Yinní Guójiā Biāozhǔn (SNI) jiànzhào, zhǐ zài wèi yóukè dǎzào yīgè gānjìng, ānquán, shūshì de gōngzhòng shìchǎng.*

... The market is built according to the Indonesian National Standard (SNI) with the aim of creating a clean, safe, and comfortable market for visitors.

2. (第5版, 小太阳三语学校高中部 2023 年英语日活动, 第1段, 第3行)

在这一天, 每位老师和学生都发挥自己的想象力和动手能力, 打扮成自己喜欢的欧美角色,

Zài zhè yītiān, měi wèi lǎoshī hé xuéshēng dōu fāhuī zìjǐ de xiǎngxiàngli hé dòngshǒu nénglì, dǎban chéng zìjǐ xǐhuān de Ōu- Měi juésè, ...

On this day, every teacher and student channels their imagination and skills to dress up as their favorite Western movie characters., ...

3. (第5版, 万隆万年青运动组成功举办首届全国乒乓球锦标赛, 第3段, 第8行)

..... 欢迎爱打乒乓的球友或子孙们来练习, 使身体健康, 广交朋友。

... *huānyíng ài dǎ pīngpāng de qiúyǒu huò zǐsūnmén lái liànxí, shǐ shēntǐ jiànkāng, guǎngjiāo péngyǒu.*

... Friends or children who enjoy playing table tennis are invited to come and play; it keeps the body healthy and allows you to make many friends.

4. (第6版, 创可贴不等于创口贴, 第4段, 第2行)

..... 使用碘伏消毒, 打圈擦拭到伤口外周 3 至 5 厘米即可;

... *shǐyòng diǎn fú xiāodú, dǎ quān cāshì dào shāngkǒu wài zhōu 3 zhì 5 límǐ jíkě; ...*

... Use iodine to clean the dirt, wipe in a circular motion 3 to 5 cm around the wound.

5. (第7版, 从地铁阅读说起, 第2段, 第15行)

..... 为今天香港学生阅读风气排名世界第二打下基础, 立下汗马功劳。

... *wèi jīntiān Xiānggǎng xuéshēng yuèdú fēngqì páimíng shìjiè dì- èr dǎxià jīchǔ, lìxià hànǎ-gōngláo.*

... laying the foundation for students in Hong Kong today to rank second in the world in terms of reading culture, and making a significant contribution.

6. (第8版, 2023 乒乓球世青赛: 林诗栋和陈熠夺冠 中国队包揽三金 日乒 U15 女团击败中国队夺冠, 第3段, 第3行)

闫禹潼和王艺迪一样, 喜欢打单一节奏, 这是后续需要提高的地方,

Yán Yǔtóng hé Wáng Yìdí yīyàng, xǐhuān dǎ dānyī jiézòu, zhè shì hòuxù xūyào tígāo de dìfāng, ...

Yan Yutong, like Wang Yidi, enjoys playing single rhythms. This needs to be improved for the future., ...

7. (第8版, 2023 乒乓球世青赛: 林诗栋和陈熠夺冠 中国队包揽三金 日乒 U15 女团击败中国队夺冠, 第10段, 第1行)

徐奕还是不善于打削球, 这是目前中国乒乓队整体存在的问题,

Xú Yì háishì bù shànyú dǎ xiǎoqiú, zhè shì mùqián Zhōngguó pīngpāng duì zhěngtǐ cúnzài de wèntí ...

Xu Yi is still not good at 'ball slicing'. This is an overall problem for the Chinese table tennis team., ...

8. (第 8 版, 2023 乒乓球世青赛: 林诗栋和陈熠夺冠 中国队包揽三金 日乒 U15 女团击败中国队夺冠, 第 11 段, 第 2 行)

前两年的世乒赛陈熠还打不赢小盐遥菜, 今年世乒赛终于一雪前耻。

Qián liǎng nián de Shìpīngsài Chén Yì hái dǎ bù yíng Xiǎoyán Yáocài, jīnnián Shìpīngsài zhōngyú yīxuěqiánchǐ.

In the last two years of the World Table Tennis Championship, Chen Yi could not defeat Ojio Haruna, but this year's World Table Tennis Championship, Chen Yi finally redeemed her humiliation.

9. (第 8 版, 2023 乒乓球世青赛: 林诗栋和陈熠夺冠 中国队包揽三金 日乒 U15 女团击败中国队夺冠, 第 13 段, 第 1 行)

... 在前两局打成 1:1 的情况下, 林诗栋在第三局 11:4 拿下, 第四局比赛是 11:6 拿下, 越打越轻松,

... zài qián liǎng jú dǎchéng 1:1 de qíngkuàng xià, Lín Shīdòng zài dì-sān jú 11:4 náxià, dì-sì jú bǐsài shì 11:6 náxià, yuè dǎ yuè qīngsōng, ...

... With the first two games tied at 1:1, Lin Shidong won the third game 11:4 and the fourth game 11:6. The more he played, the easier it became., ...

10. (第 8 版, 2023 乒乓球世青赛: 林诗栋和陈熠夺冠 中国队包揽三金 日乒 U15 女团击败中国队夺冠, 第 14 段, 第 1 行)

..... 温瑞博在这场男单决赛确实立功了, 打掉对方的最强对手。

... Wēn Ruibó zài zhè chǎng nándān juésài quèshí lìgōngle, dǎdiào duìfāng de zuì qiáng duishǒu.

... Wen Ruibo really made his contribution in the men's singles final by defeating his strongest opponent..

11. (第 8 版, 斯诺克英锦赛: 周跃龙晋级第二轮将战希金斯 丁俊晖第二轮胜汤姆迎战马克, 第 2 段, 第 2 行)

..... 第三局周跃龙打出单杆 134 分再次领先,

... dì-sān jú Zhōu Yuèlóng dǎchū dāngān 134 fēn zàicì lǐngxiān, ...

... In the third game, Zhou Yuelong scored 134 points in one shot and regained the lead., ...

12. (第 8 版, 斯诺克英锦赛: 周跃龙晋级第二轮将战希金斯 丁俊晖第二轮胜汤姆迎战马克, 第 4 段, 第 2 行)

29 日, 中国球员丁俊晖在第二轮比赛表现出色, 打出三杆单杆破百,

29 rì, Zhōngguó qiúyuán Dīng Jùnhuī zài dì-èr lún bǐsài biǎoxiàn chūsè, dǎchū sān gān dāngān pò bǎi, ...

On the 29th, Chinese player Ding Junhui performed well in the second round and scored 100 points in three single strokes., ...

13. (第 10 版, “侯赵配”气势转盛能否承载民意期待?, 第 8 段, 第 1 行)

..... 国民党有了打选战的底气,

... *Guómíndǎng yǒule dǎ xuǎnzhàn de dǐqì*, ...

... The Kuomintang has confidence to campaign (in the elections), ...

14. (第 11 版, 大陆首个涉台海事纠纷解决中心首单劳动法律纠纷 一天内化解矛盾, 第 2 段, 第 5 行)

..... 沉船或碍航物打捞、.....

... *chénchuán huò àihángwù dǎlāo*, ...

... rescue of sunken ships or navigation obstacles for ships, ...

15. (第 11 版, (特写) 台青扎根浙江丽水追梦: 用“文化味”助农产“出圈”, 第 8 段, 第 1 行)

..... 早些年农户很少注重品牌打造, 都是一箩筐一箩筐地卖, 市场价比较低。

... *zǎo xiē nián nóngù hěn shǎo zhùzhòng pǐnpái dǎzào, dōu shì yī luókuāng yī luókuāng de mài, shìchǎngjià bǐjiào dī*.

... In previous years, farmers paid less attention to brand development, selling basket after basket, resulting in relatively low market prices.

16. (第12版, 卷九·天宫, 第19段, 第4行)

转头望去, 果不其然, 王启年正在旁边讨好地打着扇子, 满脸的不舍与悲伤。

Zhuǎntóu wàng qù, guǒbùqírán, Wáng Qǐnián zhèngzài pángbiān tāohǎo de dǎ zhe shànzi, mǎnliǎn de bùshě yǔ bēishāng.

Turning around and looking, of course as expected, Wang Qinian was fanning himself beside him, his face full of reluctance and sorrow.

17. (第12版, 卷九·天宫, 第26段, 第1行)

说话间, 忽然从城门里驶出一匹骏马, 看那马上之人却不是什么官员, 打扮像位家丁, 不由惹得众官瞩目,

Shuōhuà jiān, hūrán cóng chéngmén lǐ shǐchū yī pǐ jùnmǎ, kàn nà mǎshàng zhī rén què bùshì shénme guānyuán, dǎban xiàng wèi jiādīng, bùyóu rě dé zhòng guān zhǔmù, ...

While talking, suddenly a horse came galloping out of the city gate. Its rider was not an official, but looked like a servant, which attracted the attention of all the officials., ...

18. (第13版, (注意) 芒格生前有本独特中国“投资经”, 第4段, 第1行)

如果一个中国人打算投资美股, 请问您会给他什么建议?

Rúguǒ yī gè Zhōngguó rén dǎsuàn tóuzī měigǔ, qǐngwèn nín huì gěi tā shénme jiànyì?

If there are Chinese people planning to invest in US stocks, what advice would you give them?

19. (第 14 版, 联合国呼吁用“两国方案”化解巴以冲突, 第 2 段, 第 3 行)

打破冲突、暴力和相互伤害无休止循环的唯一可行途径就是根据联合国决议, 实现“两国方案”。

Dǎpo chōngtū, bàolì hé xiānghù shānghài wúxiūzhǐ xúnhuán de wéiyī kěxíng tújìng jiùshì gēnjù Liánhéguó juéyì, shíxiàn “liǎng guó fāng'àn”.

The only viable way to break the cycle of conflict, violence, and endless harm to each other is to implement a 'two-state solution' in accordance with UN resolutions..

20. 第15版, 瑞典外长: 土耳其数周内通过瑞典加入北约, 第4段, 第4行)

..... 打击当地的库尔德工人党 (PKK) 成员。

... *dǎjī dāngdì de Kù'ěrdé Gōngréndǎng (PKK) chéngyuán.*

... eradicating local members of the Kurdistan Workers' Party.

21. (第15版, 加拿大间谍“内讧”反证加方对中方污蔑, 第1段, 第6行)

... 加方污蔑中方搞“任意拘押”完全是混淆是非、倒打一 耙。

... *Jiāfāng wūmiè Zhōngfāng gǎo “rènyì jūyā” wánquán shì hùnxíáoshífēi, dàoā-yīpá.*

... Canada's allegations that China is involved in "arbitrary detention" are truly misleading (making false accusations).

22. (第15版, 泰国北大年府现百日咳疫情, 第2段, 第1行)

百日咳细菌主要通过飞沫传播, 咳嗽或打喷嚏时释放的微小飞沫是主要传播途径。

Bǎiríkè xìjūn zhǔyào tōngguò fēimò chuánbò, késòu huò dǎ pēntì shí shìfàng de wēixiǎo fēimò shì zhǔyào chuánbò tújìng.

The main spread of pertussis bacteria is through droplets. The main transmission route is through droplets released when coughing or sneezing.

23. (第16版, 玛琅孔院访问玛琅华印学校, 第1段, 第5行)

此次访问主要目的在于加深院校双方相互了解的程度, 初步构建一个以“中文教育”为主题的交流平台, 从而为之后的院校合作与发展打下一个坚实的基础。

Cìcì fǎngwèn zhǔyào mùdì zàiyú jiāshēn yuànxiào shuāngfāng xiānghù liǎojiě de chéngdù, chūbù gòujiàn yīgè yǐ “Zhōngwén Jiàoyù” wéi zhǔtí de jiāoliú píngtái, cóng'ér wèi zhīhòu de yuànxiào hézuò yǔ fāzhǎn dǎxià yīgè jiānshí de jīchǔ.

The main purpose of this visit is to deepen mutual understanding between the two institutions and to build a communication platform with the theme 'Mandarin Language Education', thus laying a solid foundation for future cooperation and development between the institutions.

Classification of the verb meanings of 打

Data is classified into 5 main categories of meaning, namely the literal physical meaning which includes the use of 打 that refers to physical actions such as hitting or moving the hands, for example in the phrases 打乒乓 (playing table tennis), 打圈擦拭 (wiping in a circular motion), and 打扮 (dressing up).

The meaning of art/music activities. The verb 打 is also found in the context of playing music, as in the phrase 打单一节奏 which means to play a single rhythm.

The meaning of competitive activities/games. There is the use of the verb 打 which means to win or to defeat, for example in the words 打赢 (to win), 打成 (to play until it becomes), and 打掉 (to defeat).

The meaning of development/creation. In some contexts, 打 means to build or create something, as in the phrases 打造 (to build/create) and 打下 (to lay the foundation).

Idiomatic/metaphorical meanings. Some derived or idiomatic meanings emerge as a result of the expansion of the basic meaning, but this category is more integrated into the category above according to the context of the sentence.

The frequency of occurrence of each category indicates the dominance of meaning in competitive activities and development, which is relevant to the theme of news articles that are informative and analytical.

Table 1. Contextual semantic analysis of the verb 打

No.	汉字	拼音	Meaning (contextual interpretation)	Meaning Category	Explanation / Analysis
1	打造	dǎzào	create, build	Commercial activities / Development	This verb means to create or build something of value, often used in the context of building a brand, product, or system. This meaning has expanded from the basic physical meaning of 'to hit' to the conceptual meaning of 'to build.'
2	打扮	dǎban	Well-groomed	Physical activity (self- action)	Showing actions to arrange or enhance one's appearance. Still related to physical actions, but directed towards oneself.
3	打乒乓球	dǎ pīngpāng	playing table tennis	Sports	This meaning clearly refers to a sports activity, where 打 literally means 'to hit' a table tennis ball.
4	打圈 擦拭	dǎ quān cāshì	wiping in a circular motion	Physical actions	Physical actions that involve twisting or circular movements with the hands, expanding the literal meaning of 打 related to hand movements.
5	打下	dǎxià	laying (the foundation)	Commercial / construction activities	This meaning involves the act of placing or establishing, often in the context of

					building or setting something as a foundation.
6	打单节奏	dǎ dānyī jiézòu	playing a single rhythm	Art / music activities	The use of 打 in the context of playing musical instruments or rhythms shows an expansion of meaning to artistic activities.
7	打削球	dǎ xiāoqiú	ball slicing (tennis)	Sports	Related to sports, where 打 means hitting the ball with slicing technique.
8	打赢	dǎyíng	to win	Competitive activities	It shows the action of 'hitting until winning' or 'defeating', this meaning has already become metaphorical to competition or games.
9	打成	dǎchéng	play until 'becomes' (from A to B)	Competitive activities / status changes	In the context of games, 打成 means a process that results in a change of status through playing activities. This meaning is metaphorical and figurative.
10	打掉	dǎdiào	to defeat	Competitive activities	This meaning is also metaphorical, indicating the action of eliminating or overcoming something or someone.

Discussion

The results of this study confirm that the verb 打 has a complex polysemous nature, where its basic literal meaning "to hit" extends to various other meanings in different contexts. In physical contexts, the verb 打 retains its basic meaning by referring to actions involving hand movements or strikes (Cruse, 2002).

The extension of meaning also occurs in the context of art and music, where 打 is used to indicate the activity of playing a musical instrument or following a rhythm (Ou, 1993). This extension of meaning demonstrates the flexibility of the verb 打 in adopting more abstract and expressive meanings, in accordance with the concept of prototypical polysemy which emphasizes the existence of basic meaning and derived meaning through prototypical associations (Da, 2005).

Furthermore, the competitive meaning or victory found in the verb 打 indicates a shift from physical meaning to metaphorical meaning related to the outcome or achievement in a game or competition. This aligns with Cristee's (2009) explanation that polysemous meanings can develop through mechanisms of meaning extension that involve the metaphorization of literal meanings..

In addition, the meanings of development and creation indicate the expansion of the verb 打 into a more abstract conceptual realm, often found in formal discourse such as journalistic news articles. This usage enriches the understanding of the verb 打 as a verb that functions

not only physically but also conceptually and culturally in modern Mandarin (Da, 2005; Ou, 1993).

The mapping of meanings conducted shows that these various meanings are interrelated and form a semantic network that facilitates speakers in understanding and using the verb 打 in diverse contexts. This finding is also supported by data triangulation through dictionary references and the opinions of linguistic experts, which reinforces the validity of the meaning interpretation (Xiàndài Hànyǔ Cídiǎn, 现代汉语词典).

Overall, this research shows that the verb 打 in journalistic discourse functions as a dynamic and flexible polysemous verb, capable of adjusting its meaning according to the social and cultural context of its use, in line with the theory of lexical polysemy which emphasizes the importance of context in determining meaning (Cruse, 2002).

Conclusion

This study shows that the verb 打 in news texts in Mandarin from the Qiāndǎo Rìbào edition dated December 1, 2023, has a wide range of meanings and reflects the complex nature of polysemy. Through contextual semantic analysis, it was found that the verb 打 is not only used in its basic meaning of "to hit," but also experiences an extension of meaning in various contexts, such as physical, social, communication activities, as well as idiomatic and conceptual meanings. In journalistic discourse, this verb can mean playing, arranging appearances, creating something, winning, and even building foundations. This extension of meaning shows that the verb 打 follows a prototype polysemy pattern, where these new meanings still have associative relationships with the basic meaning both semantically and cognitively. The flexibility of the verb 打's meaning reflects the semantic richness in Mandarin, as well as demonstrates how cultural and social contexts shape lexical meanings in language practice. Thus, the verb 打 becomes a strong representation of the dynamics of meaning in the lexical structure of modern Mandarin, particularly in the realm of journalism.

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