Emerging Virtual Linguistic Landscape Created by Members of Language Community in TikTok

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Abstract: This paper explores the virtual linguistic landscape of an emerging virtual language community in TikTok, a language community realizing immediate and non-immediate communication without a precise Spatio-temporal domain or a specific socio-cultural boundary or interpersonal network. This kind of language community generates a large number and various forms of virtual linguistic landscape, with which we conducted a virtual ethnographic survey together with telephone interviews to collect data from coping. We have been following two language communities in TikTok for several months so that we can illustrate the composition of the two language communities and some typical virtual language landscapes in both language communities first. Then we try to explore the reasons why and how they are formed through the organization, transcription, and analysis of the interviews. Our analysis reveals the richness and diversity of the virtual linguistic landscape, and finally, we summarize some of the characteristics of this language community.

Keywords: virtual linguistic landscape, virtual language community, virtual ethnographic survey, TikTok

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