TABLE 2.3 The initial consonants of Middle Chinese

1	*P-*	*p-* 幫	*ph-* 滂	*b-* 並	*m-* 明				
2	*T-*	*t-* 端	*th-* 透	*d-* 定	*n-* 泥	*l-* 來			
3	*Tr-*	*tr-* 知	*trh-* 徹	*dr-* 澄	*nr-* [1] 娘				
4	*Ts-*	*ts-* 精	*tsh-* 清	*dz-* 從			*s-* 心	*z-* 邪	
5	*Tsr-*	*tsr-* 莊	*tsrh-* 初	*dzr-* 崇			*sr-* 生	*zr-* [2]	
6	*Tsy-*	*tsy-* 章	*tsyh-* 昌	*dzy-* [3] 禪	*ny-* 日		*sy-* 書	*zy-* 船	*y-* [4] 以
7	*K-*	*k-* 見	*kh-* [5] 溪	*g-* 群	*ng-* 疑				
8		*ʼ-* 影	*x-* 曉	*h-* 匣					*hj-* [6] 云

Notes on Table 2.3:

[1] Y. R. Chao (1941) pointed out that *n-* and *nr-* are in complementary distribution and proposed that they need not be distinguished; accordingly, sometimes the name 泥 Ní is used for both our *n-* and our *nr-*. However, the distinction is usually maintained in fǎnqiè spellings, and we retain it in our notation.

[2] The initials *dzr-* and *zr-* were not distinguished in the *Guǎngyùn*, and hence *zr-* has no traditional name. However, the Wáng Rénxù *Qièyùn* does have a distinct initial *zr-*, and we make the distinction in our notation.

[3] Nowadays, the more common pronunciation of the character 禪 is probably *chán* (meaning 'meditation; Chán or Zen Buddhism'), but as the name of this initial, Dīng and Lǐ (1981) give the other pronunciation *shàn* (meaning 'abdicate').

[4] Before the analysis of fǎnqiè spellings showed them to be distinct initials, MC *y-* (以 Yǐ) and *hj-* (云 Yún) were treated as a single initial with the traditional name 喻 Yù. Since in the rhyme tables *y-* (以 Yǐ) is always placed in division IV (sìděng 四等) and *hj-* (云 Yún) in division III (sānděng 三等), a common alternative terminology refers to *y-* (以 Yǐ) as "喻四 Yù sì" and to *hj-* (云 Yún) as "喻三 Yù sān"; we will sometimes use these terms also.

[5] According to current dictionaries, the character 溪 is pronounced xī in Mandarin, not the "qī" that might be expected from its Middle Chinese reading *khej*; some dictionaries do include qī as an older reading.

[6] The traditional initials 匣 Xiá and 云 Yún are in complementary distribution, which is why they are both written with *h-* in our notation, but the traditional terminology distinguishes them. In context, they can always be distinguished in our notation as well: all cases of *h-* before a division-III final represent 云 Yún (including those written with *-i-* rather than *-j-*, e.g., 隕 yǔn < *hwinX* 'fall down'). All cases of *h-* before other finals represent 匣 Xiá. In lists and tables such as this one, we distinguish them by writing *h-* for 匣 Xiá and *hj-* for 云 Yún, even though an *h-* representing 云 Yún is not always followed by *-j-* in spelling.