



**University of Belgrade  
Faculty of Philology  
Department of General Linguistics**

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# **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BELGRADE LINGUISTICS DAYS**

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University of Belgrade  
Faculty of Philology  
BELGRADE LINGUISTICS DAYS

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University of Belgrade  
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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

December 3–4, 2021

Edited by  
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# Keynote speeches



Boban ARSENIJEVIĆ  
Karl-Franzens-University of Graz

## ON THE EXISTENCE AND NATURE OF NULL PREFIXES IN SLAVIC LANGUAGES

I tackle the generalization that telicity is necessarily marked by an affix in Slavic languages Łazorczyk (2010), arguing that the generalization overarches two structural levels: a telic event kind predicate must be marked by a prefix, and a telic overall verbal predicate must be marked by a suffix or a prefix. I provide qualitative and quantitative arguments from the Database of Western Slavic Verbs for this view, mainly looking at simple verbs with telic interpretations and the aspectual pairing relations that they establish. Building up on the analysis from Quaglia (2021), where Slavic overt verbal prefixes are clitics in the result-voice head realizing the material copied from the result head, I argue that the contrast between prefixed and affixless telic event kind verbs is the same as that between VPs with clitic and null direct objects. As null objects have been analyzed in terms of a topic-oriented variable Huang (1984), I postulate the same kind of variable in the result voice head of simple verbs involving telic event kinds. Conventionalized simple telic-event-kind verbs are then verbs lexically specified to accommodate the requirements of the variable, as a

consequence of their frequent use with a certain prefix in a set of salient contexts.

Željko BOŠKOVIĆ  
University of Connecticut

## FORMALISM AND FUNCTIONALISM

The talk will re-examine the generative vs functional perspective division in the field, arguing for a unificational view where both of these approaches have a place, i.e. where they are in principle not in competition with each other, with typology setting grounds for a rapprochement between the two traditions. To this end, it will be shown that many of what are assumed to be clear demarcation lines between the traditional generativist and the traditional functionalist/typological camp are not clear, in fact may not be there at all.

Jagoda GRANIĆ  
University of Split

## THE NEW PANDEMIC: LINGUISTIC INCIVILITY AND IMPOLITENESS

Different cultures have different norms and different values that “lie at the heart of impoliteness” (Culpeper 2011). The exact meaning of (im)politeness and (in)civility varies among cultures. For Culpeper (1996) impoliteness is a “a parasite of politeness”. The reasons why some contents and some signs become inexpressible differ from society to society. Regardless of how it is perceived, incivility is everywhere, moving “along the continuum from less to more aversive, depending on the intensity and harshness of the words” (Masullo Chen 2017).

Manifesting themselves in various ways, hate speech and discriminatory language have long ago overrun the boundaries of virtual reality to become ever-present in our daily communication. The analysis of some conversational implicatures in political and media discourse, that certainly pollute the space of public communication, shows that language is in a serious social crisis. In this era of cheap sensationalism and shallow communication we find more and more language elements that until recently would have been unthinkable in public channels. The real denotation of a curseword is a situation of conflict, of aggression (Archer 2008) towards the conversation partner, and using obscene words heightens the perlocutionary effects.



Both the formal and the informal prohibitions arising from pragmatic norm-giving can concern any element of the communication context. The numerous constraints that pragmatic norms impose on public communication, arising partly from cultural and civilizational tradition (and partly from the ongoing need of those in dominant roles and statuses to preserve the communicative and social *status quo*), raise the philosophical, political, and also linguistic problem of human freedom in the public communication space.

The focus of the paper is to discuss different impoliteness strategies in the public sphere. The analysed comments concern the current level of linguistic incivility that threatens to become the next pandemic in today's society.

**Key words:** incivility, impoliteness, pragmatic norms, political and media discourse

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Brian D. JOSEPH  
The Ohio State University

ERIC LOANS IN THE BALKANS:  
INSIGHTS INTO THE RECONSTRUCTION  
OF HISTORICAL SOCIOLINGUISTICS  
AND INTO LOANWORD TYPOLOGY

It is well known that the languages of the Balkans show many shared characteristics of structure, such as a postposed definite article, extensive use of finite complementation, and a loss of certain case-distinctions. These structural convergences are usually explained by reference to long-standing intense contact in the region among speakers of different languages. Moreover, the convergence extends beyond structural features and is manifested also in the lexicons of the languages in question. While many shared lexical items – i.e. loanwords – reflect shared cultural items or differential prestige of the languages involved, it is claimed here that the Balkan languages show also a particular type of loanword that is not recognized in most standard typologies of loanwords (e.g. those of Bloomfield 1933 or Hockett 1958). These loans can be referred to as “ERIC” loans, standing for those that are “Essentially Rooted in Conversation”, and it is argued that such loans emerge in conditions of intense and sustained speaker-to-speaker contact that is “human-oriented” – as opposed to “object-oriented” – and is thus reflected in the passage between languages of conversationally based lexical items. These ERIC loans thus are consistent with the overall convergence in the region and further signal

the existence of conditions that are conducive as well to the observed structural convergences in the Balkans.

Jasmina MOSKOVLJEVIĆ POPOVIĆ  
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## UNSOLVED PUZZLES OF CORRELATIVE CONSTRUCTIONS

The first descriptions of the sentences with a correlative construction date back to grammars of Sanskrit and Ancient Greek. However, this type of sentences has been the topic of consideration in modern syntax only in the last couple of decades. During this period, many questions and dilemmas related to sentences with a correlative construction have been addressed successfully and adequate answers have been found. On the other hand, numerous partially resolved and/or completely open questions and dilemmas still remain. Using the linguistic data from the Serbian language, in which different types of sentences with correlatives are well represented and verified in all types of subordinate clauses, the aim of the presentation is to point out and investigate a number of parameters necessary for the structural and functional determination of various types of sentences with a correlative construction.

Vesna POLOVINA  
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## NON-OMISSION OF DEICTIC PERSONAL PRONOUNS

Whereas linguistic literature is abundant concerning the use or non use of personal pronouns as anaphoric units, especially from the syntactic perspective, the non-omission of deictic, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> pronouns, both singular and plural, has received less attention. This is not surprising, since 3<sup>rd</sup> person pronouns seem to be more frequent units in texts, and typically tie with other syntactic categories. But there seems to be no agreement as to what factors influence their omission (or non-omission), syntactic, phonological, or discourse-pragmatic (Cole, 2009). Also, the fact that rich agreement languages show tendency to allow deletion of pronouns is not an undisputable fact, since some such languages actually do not allow it, and some poor agreement languages actually do, in some contexts at least, it is necessary to further study the phenomenon in various languages and contexts.

The primarily deictic 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> personal pronouns in Serbian, a rich agreement language, however, prove to be very frequent units, at least in spoken language. Even in linguistic contexts when the agreement is overtly indicating person, i.e. when these pronouns could be easily omitted, they are being used. The possible explanations, then, naturally, fall within discursal, pragmatic functioning of these pronouns. Yet it is not easy to determine why non-omission of these pronouns occurs so often. Based on the examples from a corpus of spoken conversational language,

we will try to determine their use, i.e. the factors that might be influencing the choice between overt and omitted deictic personal pronouns.

## Parallel sessions



Irene ARESES  
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## COLLECTIVE NOUNS IN SPANISH: A SPECIAL CASE OF AGREEMENT

The aim of the presentation is to offer naturalistic data showing the agreement alternations of semantically plural and morphologically singular nouns in Spanish and to analyze the factors influencing them. We will focus on the singular vs. plural verb agreement that these nouns can trigger when they are subjects (a. *El equipo tiene una meta clara*, b. *El equipo tienen un compromiso firme con el cooperativismo*, [Sketch Engine, Spanish Web 2018 corpus]; a. ‘The team-sg has<sub>sg</sub> a clear goal’, b. ‘The team-sg have<sub>pl</sub> a strong commitment to cooperativism’). Plural verbal agreement has been widely attested and studied in English (Levin, 2001; Pearson, 2011; Smith 2012, 2017, etc.) and in some Slavic languages (Wechsler & Zlatić, 2003). However, in Spanish, sentences like b., which are non-standard, are not as frequent, so that the first goal of the talk is presenting a data paradigm built up from a corpus analysis based on Sketch Engine, Spanish Web 2018 corpus.



From the theoretical point of view, the corpus study is designed to confirm whether certain grammatical factors that have been pointed out as favoring plural agreement, especially in English, but also in Spanish, are really relevant in the latter language. These factors are: (a) *animacy* of the collective noun (de Vries, 2021); (b) *grammatical person* of the verb (NGLE, 2009) (agreement in the first person plural seems to be more frequent than in the third person plural); (c) universal quantification of the subject (*all*; NGLE, 2009) and (d) distance between the subject and the verb (Levin, 2001). The results of the study will allow us to determine what contexts and features motivate these alternations in Spanish. This will help us to understand the phenomenon described.

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Maja BAĆIĆ  
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LANGUAGE AND GENDER: MALE AND  
FEMALE LANGUAGE IN THE GREEK  
SERIES ΜΗΝ ΑΡΧΙΖΕΙΣ  
ΤΗΝ ΜΟΥΡΜΟΥΡΑ

Gender portrayal, as well as the use of specific language patterns in the media influence the language, the attitude and the identity of individuals within a certain community. In other words, language mirrors, creates and reproduces social differences. In this regard, male and female discourse carries social power; both genders display a particular behavior characterized by a set of stereotypes which can be observed in oral discourse (Lakoff, 1975; Cameron & Coates, 1985; Tsilipakou, 1996). This paper aims to examine whether the Greek media and, more specifically, the discourse of two characters who star in a Greek television series promote certain social stereotypes related to men and women. For this reason, a qualitative non-experimental analysis was conducted to examine the linguistic choices of the two characters playing in the Greek series *Μην αρχίζεις την μουρμούρα* (*Min archízis tin mourmoúra*). More specifically, the focus of our study lies in the lexical analysis of the linguistic behavior of Vaso (the woman) and Charis (the man). The way they address each

other is studied based on ten selected dialogues from the first three seasons of the series. The obtained data show that both characters use stereotypical-male and female language, while the variability in their linguistic choices, according to the gender performative theory (Buttler, 1988), depends on power relations associated with their professional status, their position in the community and the discourse context. The results reveal that the use of the male language is associated with financial independence, dominance, and logical reasoning. On the other hand, the female language is associated not only with a hierarchically lower social position but also with negative features such as the use of hedges due to insecurity. Overall, the study sheds light to the way a young couple's communication is projected on Greek TV.

**Keywords:** discourse, gender, stereotypes, media, Modern Greek language

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Tatjana BALAŽIC BULC & Vesna POŽGAJ HADŽI  
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## CURRENT LANGUAGE POLICIES IN THE CENTRAL SOUTH SLAVIC AREA: WHERE ARE WE AND WHERE ARE WE HEADING?

The language in the Central South Slavic area has always been identified with the nation and the state, hence it has a strong symbolic function, which becomes politicized, especially during turbulent periods. For that reason, the newly-formed standard languages in the 1990s were marked by (violent) language changes, which were used primarily to strengthen and affirm national identities. Even though the situation calmed down at the turn of the new millennium, several negative language practices and manipulations still persist.

The paper tries to answer the following questions: (a) is there a systematic language policy in each of the newly-formed countries?, (b) who are the main actors implementing the policy?, (c) which language issues are currently dealt with? and (d) which issues should be addressed in the future? Using the interview method, we looked for answers to specialized questions concerning the language policy of standard languages based on the Neo-Štokavian dialect. Participants were not randomly selected, but were chosen following a predefined criterion. They are (socio)linguists and other experts from the renowned institutions who deal with these standard languages: Croatian, Serbian, Bosnian and Montenegrin. Research results show current language policies and reveal open questions that should be addressed

in the future. It is concluded that neither of the countries has a systematic language policy. On the one hand, language policies encounter some of the common problems (e.g. raising awareness about the importance of one's own language knowledge, an extremely low level of functional literacy, etc.), while on the other hand, they also face problems specific for a particular country (e.g. discrimination and segregation in the educational system, lack of agreement on language standard, etc.). The main problem seems to be lack of dialogue among language policy actors, who keep neglecting the role of the language community, which has never actively participated in the process of language policy making in the Central South Slavic area.

**Key words:** language policy, language planning, standard language, language policy actors

Marco BIASIO  
University of Padua

SIMILAR POLES REPEL EACH  
OTHER: THE CURIOUS CASE  
OF AORIST AND PERFECTIVE  
PRESENT IN SERBO-CROATIAN

Arsenijević(2013) argues that in contemporary Serbo-Croatian aorist forms set up a (semantic) minimal pair with the present; however, while both forms are finite and underdetermined

with respect to their concrete temporal reference, only the aorist necessarily selects for perfective stems. In this respect, perfective present (Pres<sup>PF</sup>) and aorist forms (Aor<sup>PF</sup>) seem to be occurring in complementary syntactic distribution. On the one hand, independent Pres<sup>PF</sup> forms can be licensed in embedded environments but are generally banned from main clause context; on the other hand Aor<sup>PF</sup> forms, while resisting embedding in complement clauses (Todorović 2015: 105), freely show up in main clause context, where they can either refer to past eventualities (Egorova 2021; Pušić 2013), be subject to temporal transpositions (Todorović 2016: 215–217) or convey contextually-derived pragmatic meanings (Stanojević, Geld 2011; Halupka-Rešetar, Todorović 2015).

Building on Todorović's (2016) assumption that Aor is a two-tiered aspectual ('null') tense which structurally projects a 'perfect' component, this presentation aims at showing that the distribution of Aor<sup>PF</sup> and Pres<sup>PF</sup> forms is constrained by the nature of the abstract temporal relation established between the event time ET and the reference time RT, which, for Pres<sup>PF</sup>, is of (partial) posteriority ( $\geq$ ). This claim may not only explain away the temporal transpositions of Aor and the restrictions on its embeddability (unlike the perfect, Aor lacks the auxiliary component and is unable to project an imperfective aspectual layer), but also comport with the apparent exchangeability of Pres<sup>PF</sup> and Aor<sup>PF</sup> forms of telic predicates in syntactic environments with generalized temporal reference, such as gnomic contexts [cf. (1)] and vivid narrations [cf. (2)]:

- (1) *Ko se dima ne nadimi*<sup>SMOKE UP.3.sg.PresPF/3.sg.AorPF</sup> taj se vatre  
*ne nagrije*<sup>HEAT UP.3.sg.PresPF</sup> / *nagreja*<sup>3.sg.AorPF</sup>  
 'Results demand sacrifice (lit. 'He who does not catch the smoke catches no heat from the fire')

- (2) *Dôde*<sub>COME.3.sg.PresPF</sub> / *Dôde*<sub>3.sg.AorPF</sub> otuda na carinu, ovde  
 mu *naplate*<sub>CHARGE.3.pl.PresPF</sub> / *naplatiše*<sub>3.pl.AorPF</sub>  
 (mod. from DICKEY 2000: 129)  
 ‘Here he arrives /arrived at customs, and there they  
 charge /charged him [for the books]’

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## WHAT IS SYNCRETISM GOOD FOR? A CASE STUDY

This talk will discuss the case system of Albanian (IE language spoken in the Balkans), as a case study of arguably syntactic (i.e. functional) motivation for its seemingly “morphomic” (i.e. purely formal) syncretism patterns.

Like the other languages of the Balkan Sprachbund, Albanian too features a widespread morphological reduction in the number of distinct nominal case forms, including the notable pan-Balkan genitive-dative and location-goal syncretisms. However, unlike most other Balkan languages, Albanian preserves a rather stable and, in the Balkan context, relatively rich system of at least four distinct grammatical cases (nominative, accusative, dative and ablative), which are partially syncretized (with the nominative-accusative syncretism on the one and the dative-ablative syncretism on the other hand), and partially kept formally distinct in different parts of the paradigm.

In this talk I will argue that the distribution of syncretized and non-syncretized forms in the Albanian nominal paradigm is motivated by language economy in such a way that syncretism is used to produce an optimal distribution of formally distinct case forms, so that the syncretized forms are always in complementary distribution w.r.t. their syntactic functions, and only the minimal necessary number of morphologically different forms remains in the paradigm. From a purely morphological point of view, this creates seemingly “morphomic” patterns, in which, as a rule, syncretized forms never create a natural class (e.g. NOM and ACC, but with the exception of ACC.DEF.SG, or DAT and ABL with the exception of ABL.INDEF.PL, or “accidental” syncretisms such as DAT/ABL.INDEF.SG and NOM.DEF.SG). However, these particular syncretism patterns are motivated in fact by functional “needs” of the nominal morpho-syntax, so that the distribution of syncretized and non-syncretized forms in the nominal inflectional paradigm of Albanian is, in fact, entirely motivated by the division of labour between case and definiteness in the syntax.

Although this is a “case study” of a single language and (literally) its case system, issues raised by it nevertheless allow us to further discuss the question of role and possible motivation of syncretism or the similar “morphomic” phenomena, and the morphology-syntax interface in general, in the structural makeup of natural language in a wider theoretical context.

**Keywords:** case, definiteness, nominal morpho-syntax, syncretism, “morphome”, morphology-syntax interface, Albanian.

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HEADLINE AND LEAD FOR MEDIA ARTICLE INTERPRETATION

The media play a major role in shaping public opinion due to their availability and presence in every aspect of one's life. In principle, media reporting ought to be objective and fact-based, without any evaluation or insinuation made by the journalists, but media objectivity has been called into question. According to Van Dijk's model, every news article consists of different categories and each of them serves its particular purpose. This paper will attempt to examine the role of headlines and leads in the interpretation of articles, along with the linguistic means they use and their purpose. Also, the paper aims to draw conclusions on whether these headlines and leads present the news adequately and accurately and what effect they have on the reader. The paper will analyze headlines about three different current events in the first half of 2020 – the start of the Covid19 epidemic in Serbia, the anti-Serb graffiti in Zagreb, and the protests against the new Montenegrin Law on Religious Freedom – from media of different character, considering how online media have changed the way of reporting as opposed to print media and how much the purpose of the headline has changed, from informing the reader to attracting as many readers as possible.

**Key words:** the media, lead, headline, online portal, media objectivity, information, clickbait

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## (SOME SIMPLE) MEANS FOR EXTRACTION OF ORTHOGRAPHICALLY UNMARKED FICTIONAL DIALOGUE

One of the simple exercises for students at any course of Corpus linguistics is to form a regular expression that will match fictional dialogue/direct speech strings in some corpus of prose fiction. This is a pretty convenient task because the solution to this problem lies in the identification and defining of orthographical and typographical conventions for direct speech representation in a given corpus and does not require corpus annotation. But the question is what happens when these orthographical and typographical markers in text are missing?

In order to give an answer to this question, the paper provides a brief review of recent approaches and proposed solutions to this problem, with special attention on work with unannotated corpora. Selected approaches and proposed solutions rely on machine learning processes, different sets of heuristics for automatic extraction, as well as corpus annotation or creation of e-dictionaries. However, the main aim of this research paper is to investigate whether it is possible to bring back this problem to the scope of simple student's exercises and to which extent.

Thus, the simple means for extraction we are proposing are based on the identification of linguistic features of strings in orthographically and typographically unmarked fictional dialogue, and different ways of their conversion into patterns

for the extraction from unannotated corpora. As a research corpus we used Sally Rooney’s novel “Normal people”, both the original version (English) and Serbian translation.

**Keywords:** unmarked fictional dialogue; unmarked direct speech representation; extraction patterns from unannotated corpora; Sally Rooney’s fictional dialogue

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YA VERÉIS QUE LA CHARLA VA A  
ESTAR BIEN BONITA. PROSECUTING  
EVENTS AND THE LIKE: A FIRST  
APPROACH TO THE <ESTAR + ILP>  
CONSTRUCTION WITH EVENTIVE  
SUBJECTS ACROSS SPANISH DIALECTS

Sentences like (1) and (2), are not rare in standard conversational Spanish, used in contexts where the speaker tries to convey his/her impressions or judgements about an event (e.g., *fiesta*, *partido*, *charla*) or event-like (e.g., *película*, *obra*, *programa*; also labelled as *event-related*) entity, in which the speaker has been indirectly involved like a spectator or perceiver.

- (1) La fiesta estuvo genial.
- (2) El partido estuvo preciosísimo.

Those constructions involve: (a) an event or *event-like* noun, referring second-order entities (Lyons 1977, Ježek 2016: 4.2.2.2, Bosque 1999, 2016) with temporal internal structure –durative entities whose perception is not instantaneous, but takes place parallel to the eventuality denoted; (b) adjectives that express maximal degree (a.k.a. elatives, like *genial*, *magnífico*, *impresionante* and so forth) and/or aesthetic adjectives (*bonito*, *feo*, *guapo*, *lindo*, etc.; cf. Liao, McNally & Meskin 2016), similar to personal taste predicates in that they signal intersubjective properties; and (c) the Spanish copula *estar*, instead of *ser*, the unmarked form in these cases for (at least) standard European Spanish.

(1) and (2) can be well explained within a frame where the interpretation of the <*estar* + ILP> construction needs the addition of a situation in which the information has been acquired to fulfil the requirements of the copula (cf. Escandell-Vidal 2018a, 2018b, 2019); here, the own subject (perceptible event or event-like noun) fits that acquirement situation (Leonetti & Escribano 2018: 144–145). But there arise problems that have to do with the fact that some combinations, see (3) and (4), are not acceptable in all the Spanish dialects to the same extent.

(3) Terminé mi examen y estuvo feo.

(4) Si la llegada estuvo alucinante, espera a ver el regreso.

The present talk deals with this fact exploring some possible account in terms of the interaction between the three linguistic elements involved and how they are differently treated in some Spanish dialects where the use of *estar* is broader, trying, therefore, to give a precise picture of the scope the phenomenon has, and its variability and a first explanation of the acceptability differences detected.

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## THE SYNTAX OF MODAL ADJECTIVES IN EUROPEAN PORTUGUESE: A STARTING POINT

This work investigates the properties of modal adjectives (MA) in European Portuguese. The interest in MA is due to their sensitivity to the definiteness and their possibility to occur in predicative contexts, but also the differences on positions *vis a vis* other adjectives. This study aims at answering the following research questions:

1. Can MA be divided into distinct subgroups?
2. Under what conditions can these adjectives change or not their position in relation to the N?
3. What's their behaviour in constructions with other types of adjectives?

This research is corpus-based grounded on the syntactic position of six MA. The data was collected from CETEMPúblico. The data is being analysed using R version 4.0.5.

One of the major findings so far is that there are three different subgroups of modal operators, following Horn (1989): *possível* and *permitido* at the minimum top (value 0), *provável* and *desejável* at a medium top (value 0.5), and *obrigatório* and *necessário* at the maximum top of the scale (value 1). More importantly, the subgroups show different behaviours. In Noun+Adjective and Adjective+Noun combinations, weaker adjectives as *possível* are more flexible, accepting both attributive and predicative positions, while

stronger adjectives as *obligatório* are attested to be inflexible. In spite of value 1 operators being more inflexible in N+A/A+N combinations, the same is not attested when combined with several adjectives.

These patterns are significant because it shows that:

1. MA are a heterogenous category, which presents significant differences from each other;
2. MA are further away from the N than other adjectives, something that is common to all three subgroups.

However, this is an ongoing study and more clues are still to be uncovered, especially regarding the different syntactical behaviour that *obligatório* shows when combined with Nouns and with other types of adjectives.

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#### THE EFFECT OF BOARD GAMES ON LANGUAGE SUCCESS IN EFL SPEAKING CLASSROOMS

One of the most popular pursuits for applied linguists has become the study of efficiency of teaching methods used by EFL teachers for the last decades. Some rather strong claims

have been made by language teaching experts on assumption that teaching methods are the key to either ease or difficulty in language learning. In this paper, we examine efficiency of using board games as one of the most helpful tools to improve speaking skills in foreign language learning. We take a look at research on the effect of board games and agree that appropriate and contextualized communication that centers not only surface forms but meaning as well, seems to be one of the best possible practices in language proficiency.

The paper highlights the role of board games as one of the most apparent practical classroom techniques that serve to engage learners in the authentic, pragmatic, communicative and functional use of language for meaningful purposes. It is a teaching method which manifests that cooperation among students leads to boosting confidence, motivation, responsibility, imagination, self-efficacy and self-esteem in language learning. Ability to make intelligent guesses has a positive effect on language success. The paper also aims at posing those challenges and detrimental factors that hinder learning process. Accordingly, it describes interventions implemented, the methods used and the results obtained based on the practical research on usefulness of board games carried out at No 8 Public School (Batumi, Georgia) in 2018–2019. Research methods involve observation, survey/interview and analysis.

Thus, the paper serves as a helpful guide for those teachers who strive to deal with challenges in their speaking classes. Today, EFL teachers must come to realize that board games are a useful tool in speaking classrooms and its effective contribution to better achievement of learning outcomes is undeniable.

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## AESTHETIC ADJECTIVES IN COPULAR SENTENCES ACROSS SPANISH VARIETIES

Spanish has a bicopular system –*ser* (be<sub>SER</sub>) and *estar* (be<sub>ESTAR</sub>)–. The difference between the two copulas has been explained in the literature on the basis of the notions Individual-level predications vs. Stage-Level predications. The paper explores the properties of aesthetic adjectives like *bonito* ‘beautiful’, *feo* ‘ugly’, *bello* ‘beautiful’, *horrible* ‘horrible’ (McNally & Stejanovic 2015) in copular constructions from a double perspective. From the empirical point of view, the paper compares the appearance of this class of adjectives in standard construction with *estar*, (1) (stage-level predications) vs. innovative construction with *estar* (where no stages of the subject are compared, Company Company 2006), in the different varieties of American Spanish. An analysis of data obtained from the American Spanish Web 2011 (esamTenTen11)-Sketchengine corpus. Specifically confirms (a) the gradual extension and frequency of aesthetic adjectives in the innovative structure across dialectal areas of American Spanish (from Mexico to Argentina), (b) the relevance of the semantic type of subject of predication in triggering the innovative meaning of *estar* sentences (perspectivized judgments) (human and place vs. inanimate object and nouns of representation) and (c) the type of context compatible with such an interpretation.

(1)

- Y cuando le entregan **el departamento** supuestamente reparado, ¿cuál fue su primera impresión? --Lo primero fue verlo, **que estaba bonito**. Se veía bonito por fuera y por dentro, pero por ejemplo... (Chile, elperiodista.cl)
- And when **the supposedly repaired apartment** was delivered to you, what was your first impression? --The first thing was to see it, **that it looked nice** [LIT. that it was<sub>estar</sub> beautiful]. It looked nice on the outside and inside, but for example...

(2)

...que hiciera maletas y pidiera dos días porque me la iba robar para pasar unos días en **un lugar llamado Las Chachalacas, está bien bonito**, es como el paraíso en medio de la playa... (Mexico, carreterasmexico.com.mx)

...to pack my bags and ask for two days because I was going to steal it to spend a few days in **a place called Las Chachalacas, it's<sub>estar</sub> very nice**, it's like paradise in the middle of the beach... (Mexico, carreterasmexico.com.mx)

From the theoretical point of view, the paper aims to explain the occurrence of aesthetic adjectives in innovative predications with *estar* on the grounds of the proposal developed in Gumiel-Molina, Moreno-Quibén and Pérez-Jiménez (2020). In this work, innovative structures with size and age adjectives ultimately derive from the presence of an experiencer argument in the argument structure of these natural classes of adjectives. The argument augmentation of certain classes of adjectives, subject to geographical variation, results in subjective predications with the *estar* since the

experiencer is the entity that provides counterparts to form the stage-level comparison required by the copula.

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COGNITIVE MECHANISMS AND  
CONCEPTUAL PATTERNS MOTIVATING  
THE MEANING OF FOOD IDIOMS  
IN ENGLISH AND SERBIAN

This paper analyzes the conceptual basis of English and Serbian idioms containing words denoting various food items. Through the excerption from several general and specialized dictionaries of both languages in question, there have been formed a corpus comprising approximately one hundred English and the same number of Serbian idioms containing some specific food item (e.g. a specific kind of fruit or vegetables, dairy products, drinks, etc.). The aim of this qualitative analysis is to reveal the cognitive-semantic source of meaning of food idioms, i.e. to identify cognitive mechanisms and precise patterns of their operation which lie at the core of the analyzed idioms' meaning and motivate the use of words denoting food items used in everyday human diet in these expressions. Moreover, a contrastive analysis of the aforementioned conceptual patterns identified in the two languages will provide an insight into similarities and differences between English and Serbian in terms of conceptualization of abstract notions relying on the domain of food. Also, there will be made a comparison of the productivity of conceptual patterns common for the two languages.

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## ARGUMENT NARRATIVIZATION THROUGH DISCOURSE REPRESENTATION: EXAMPLE OF ONE PUBLIC APPEARANCE

It seems that direct and indirect speech, terms used in the schooling process, are not a topic of interest even in grammar textbooks<sup>1</sup> (e.g. Klikovac 2010, Stanojčić & Popović 2012). With this fact in mind, one could think that this is not a topic worthy of interest in the research community. However, the aim of the present paper is to refute such a belief. One acquires very early that both of these speech types serve

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<sup>1</sup> In Serbia.

as a transmitter of other people's words, the latter being transmitted in their original form using three models, whereas within the reported speech these words are being transformed and integrated in the enunciator's statement. The term discourse representation will be used in the present paper for both types of speech, and their simplified typology based on three main features – direct, indirect and free, will be presented as well. A corpus which is composed of a transcript of a 80-minute political speech is explored and its analysis has shown numerous very descriptive, sometimes plastic, examples of represented discourse that serve not as an indicator of what another enunciator had stated but as a picture of the situation in which the main enunciator is on one hand and the presence or the absence of the other enunciator's credibility, or even the main enunciator's credibility on the other. The argument narrativization rests precisely on representation, a sort of staging of other people's words – which is described within the concept of polyphony – and this representation is a cohesive factor since it either introduces a part of argumentation or connects one part with another related part of argumentation. The intonation component, which is also described in the present paper, is not negligible as the corpus is based on an orally presented text and since the enunciator uses different prosodic elements whilst transferring and marking other people's words within complex sequences with more than one enunciator.

***Key words:*** discourse representation, narrativization, polyphony

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## THE EFFECT OF LEXICALITY ON THE CHILDREN'S PRODUCTION OF REFLEXIVE VERBS AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF FIRST LANGUAGE ACQUISITION IN SERBIAN

The present study was designed to test whether there is any difference in the production of true and lexical reflexive verbs. The distinction between true and lexical reflexive verbs was determined by respecting the criterion of the interchangeability of the clitic *se* and the reflexive pronoun *sebe* 'self' in the case of true reflexive verbs, but not lexical reflexive verbs. Target verbs were tested in a verb elicitation task. A total of sixty subjects belonging to three age groups (three-year-olds, four-year-olds and five-year-olds, twenty participants each) took part in the research. The results of the first GLMER analysis (three-year-olds) suggest that lexical reflexive verbs were produced slightly better than true reflexive verbs ( $\beta=-2.019$ ;  $z=-1.850$ ;  $\text{Pr}( > |z| )=.064$ .). The second GLMER model (4-year-olds) does not show any significant difference ( $\beta=1.188$ ;  $z=1.152$ ;  $\text{Pr}( > |z| )=.249$ ), whereas the last GLMER analysis (five-year-olds) supports the results of the first GLMER analysis ( $\beta=2.213$ ;  $z=2.027$ ;  $\text{Pr}( > |z| )=.042$ ). The difference in the production of true and lexical reflexive verbs can be explained with the fact that true reflexive verbs can be replaced with their transitive variants, whereas lexical reflexive verbs cannot. The children's non-target answers for true reflexive verbs confirm that children perceive the given situations as transitive, which points to the

similarity between reflexive and transitive verbs in terms of the existence of two thematic roles – the Agent and Patient. The reason why the difference was significant in the oldest tested group in the first experiment could be that children still tend to combine verbs with complements instead of using reflexive forms when possible as they get older, thus indicating their preference for transitive verbs, which show canonical linking of semantic roles and syntactic functions (Pinker, 1984, 1989). Overall, the results of the present study indicate that lexicality can be an important factor in the production of reflexive verbs.

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## SYSTEMS OF STRONG CONJUGATION IN CONTEMPORARY GERMAN AND NORWEGIAN: A TYPOLOGICAL AND CONTRASTIVE PERSPECTIVE

Contemporary German and Norwegian are two genetically, geographically and typologically related languages, but nevertheless show a high degree of morphological asymmetry within strong verb conjugation. This asymmetry is a result of historically divergent development of the two languages. The markers of strong Germanic conjugation were originally uniform, and can positionally be classified as internal and external. Internal or introflective markers of strong Germanic conjugation are ablaut (apophony), umlaut (metaphony or regressive vowel assimilation) and regular grammatical consonant alternation. Ablaut is to be considered as specific replacive morph which indicates the category of tense. These features have invariant topology, i.e. they appear in precisely allocated positions within strong verbal paradigms.

External markers comprise of a specific system of inflection markers without dental elements, and they mark the verbal categories of person, number, tense, and mode. The inflectional system of the strong Germanic conjugation shows pronounced allomorphy. One marker can appear in multiple inflection forms, and that is why the strong conjugation also comprises of syncretic forms. Also suppletive forms can appear within the conjugation, but they are rare.

The authors have contrasted the aforementioned features and principles in German and Norwegian, and have established the tendency towards weak conjugation in Norwegian. This is all due to the loss of subjunctive, the disappearance of old inflectional endings and the destruction of the paradigm but is also due to the fact that old sound changes have a less prominent role within verbal paradigms. On the other hand, German shows a tendency towards stability within the strong conjugation, preserving a number of sound changes, as well as strong inflectional markers. Due to that, on the synchronic level, the morphology of strong conjugation clearly differs from both weak and mixed conjugations.

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## THE FUNCTIONS OF COLLOCATIONS WITH POLARITY ADJECTIVES IN POLITICAL INTERVIEWS

Exploring modern media from the perspective of critical discourse analysis can open a range of discourses for contrastive analysis, including political discourse, whose important segment have recently become political interviews. Broadly speaking, a political interview is defined as any interview conducted on a political topic, with an interviewee who has a particular political role in society. Identifying collocations and their potential functions in such interviews



is the subject of this research. The emphasis is on collocations which denote human beings in English and Serbian, and the polarity adjectives they incorporate. Polarity is a typical feature of adjectives, therefore positive and negative polarities occurring in collocations with adjectival collocates arise from their meaning and are classified within semantic fields. The research includes both window and adjacent collocations, as the collocational span is typically extended up to four collocates before or after the word examined. The aim of this paper is to determine what functions collocations with polarity adjectives have in political interviews and how they relate to different characteristics of those interviews. The results show that the functions of collocations are varied and their use coincides with other linguistic means employed for manipulation in political discourse.

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## 孝 XIÀO – THE CULTURAL LINGUISTICS PERSPECTIVE

孝/xiào/ usually translated as “filial piety” or “filial obedience” is considered to be one of the most important concepts that have governed interpersonal and family relations in China for millennia. Although its scope and understanding slightly varied through the ages (Zhang, 2020), it nonetheless remained one of the core notions of moral philosophy developed by the followers of Confucius also known as the ruists, and the norm of behavior towards parents and elders in both traditional and modern Chinese culture.

This presentation will be focusing on the word/character 孝/xiào/, the compounds, idioms, and phrases it forms in the modern Chinese language, as well as on some of their direct antonyms. Firstly, we will briefly introduce the philosophical interpretation of this concept and point out its cultural significance. Then, we will turn our focus on its linguistic analysis based on the lexical corpus collected in four dictionaries (see list below). Our goal is to shed some light on the meaning extensions and the productiveness of this word in modern language and to show how it still influences the thoughts and behavior of modern-day Chinese. Lastly, we will briefly discuss the lexemes considered the direct antonyms of not only this cultural keyword but also the compounds and phrases it forms, and the ways they are usually translated into the Serbian language.

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## A GLIMPSE INTO PRIVACY OF ZAGREB'S UNIVERSITY – LINGUISTIC LANDSCAPES AND SOCIOPRAGMATICS OF PUBLIC TOILET GRAFFITI

Main focus of this study are Linguistic landscapes (Blommaert 2013), particularly the graffiti found in public toilets of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, at the University of Zagreb. These graffiti, also known as latrinalia (Dundes 1966), bear a lot of socio-cultural meaning and significance which is contained in their discursive structures and their social functions (Wales and Brewer 1976, Nwoye 1993, Whiting and Koller 2007). In order to observe (re)production of ideologies and identity performance in the student population of this specific part of Zagreb's University, the analytical emphasis was put on sociopragmatic and semiotic features of graffiti, in a broader domain of Critical discourse analysis.

Graffiti in the analysed corpus were categorized on the basis of their content, form, genre and specific location. Methodology used in the analysis was comprised from Grice's Cooperative Principle (1980), tools from Conversation Analysis (Sacks, Schegloff and Jefferson 1974), Speech Act Theory (Austin 1976, Searle 1980) and van Leeuwen's Social Actor Theory (1996).

Finally, the interpretation of data has been done in respect to 3 different levels of social context: micro context (the very toilet), mezzo context (the Faculty/University) and macro context (Croatian and global society).

The central aim of this study is to show the interconnectedness of different levels of social context, as well as to bring to awareness that we are not bare consumers of space, place, signs and language, but are also their creators, interpreters and critics.

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## SELF-MENTION IN ACADEMIC JOB ADVERTISEMENTS IN HUMANITIES: CONTRASTING AMERICAN AND BRITISH RECRUITMENT DISCOURSE

This conference talk presents and discusses a quantitative study that aims at establishing how self-mentions (for instance, such first person pronouns as *we*, *our*, etc.) are employed in recruitment discourse in the United Kingdom (the UK) and the United States of America (the USA). Specifically, the study seeks to identify potential quantitative differences associated with the use of self-mentions in the corpus of academic job advertisements in humanities that are posted online by universities in the UK and the USA, respectively. Whilst the application of the one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) to the corpus did not yield statistically significant results as far as the frequency of self-mentions was concerned, it was possible to observe that the self-mention *we* was used more substantially in academic job advertisements



in humanities published in the UK, whilst the self-mentions *I* and *my* were represented more amply in the advertising of academic jobs in humanities in the USA. These findings are further discussed at the conference in conjunction with the construal of explicit authorial presence, which marks the Anglo-Saxon style of recruitment discourse.

**Key words:** advertisements, academic jobs in humanities, recruitment discourse, self-mention

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## NON-CONVENTIONAL METAPHORIC MEANINGS AND INTERPRETATIONAL STRATEGIES

Speakers in everyday conversations often use non-conventional metaphors in order to produce some aesthetic or humorous effects. However, spontaneous metaphors, by increasing such effects, can also increase addressee's cognitive effort in their interpretation. According to cognitive-propositional approach within relevance theory, interpretation of words with non-encoded metaphoric senses requires the construction of occasion-specific sense (*ad hoc* concept), based on interaction among encoded concepts, contextual information and pragmatic principles. Such complex inferential processes distinguish them from the comprehension of conventional

metaphoric meanings of polysemic words which involve disambiguation – a simpler inferential process of choosing which encoded sense of a word's polysemic structure appears in the proposition expressed. According to our corpus of everyday speech, the use of non-conventional metaphors can lead to misunderstandings and misinterpretations. In our paper we show what might cause such interpretation problems of non-conventional metaphor. Our account is based on the relevance-theoretic interpretational strategy, which says: (a) follow a path of least effort in constructing an interpretation of the utterance (that is, test interpretative hypotheses in order of their accessibility); (b) stop when your expectation of relevance is satisfied or abandoned. Such examples are not only useful for better understanding of spontaneous metaphor misinterpretations, but they can also be applied to other phenomena that fall into the domain of lexical pragmatics: lexical narrowing, hyperbole, approximation, etc.

**Keywords:** corpus research; everyday conversations; relevance theory; lexical pragmatics; non-conventional metaphor; contextualization; interpretational strategies.

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## ASPECTUAL AFFIXATION OF BIASPECTUAL VERBS: TOWARDS THE ELIMINATION OF BIASPECTUALITY?

Many aspectologists (e.g. Isačenko 1960; Mučnik 1966; Avilova 1968; Gladney 1982; Čertkova & Čang 1998; Zaliznjak & Šmel'ev 2000) argue that there is a general trend towards the elimination of biaspectuality. According to this perspective, both biaspectual verbs (BVs) of Slavic origin and biaspectual borrowings become part of the binary system of Slavic aspect over time. This is usually accomplished via affixation: the BVs form aspectual partners, and themselves become perfective (PFV) or imperfective (IPFV) (Mučnik 1966; Schoorlemmer 1995). It is assumed that the transition from biaspectual to monoaspectual status is a long and gradual process (cf. Jászay 1999). Čertkova (1996), however, observed that 26% of BVs in Russian can actually be used in both perfective and imperfective contexts, even though their aspectual partners coexist. In contrast, only 9% of BVs have reportedly lost their biaspectuality and are now being used as exclusively PFV or IPFV verbs (cf. Čertkova 1996). Hence, the elimination of biaspectuality is far from an ascertained process. Stable biaspectuality does not seem to be a feature of borrowings only as some verbs of Slavic origin, despite having had PFV derivatives for centuries (e.g. Ru. *obeščat'* – *poobeščat'* 'promise'; Cr. *častiti* – *počastiti* 'pay for dinner/lunch') have not yet lost their biaspectual status in dictionaries (Donchenko

1971; Anderson 2002; Kolaković 2018). Donchenko (1971) considers this evidence that BVs do not assimilate into the binary aspectual system (cf. Čertkova & Čang 1998; Gorobec 2008).

Considering these facts, this paper addresses the following research question: do the sentential and textual levels provide evidence that BVs with aspectual partners lose their biaspectuality over time? The focus on diachrony will help to determine whether aspectual derivation is linked to the gradual elimination of biaspectuality in base verbs. The distribution in aspectual sentential functions of Russian and Croatian BVs and their centuries-old (I)PFV partners (see Table 1) will be examined in the following corpora: Russian National Corpus (Apresjan et al. 2006), CroDi (Hansack et al. 2016) and Riznica (Brozović Rončević et al. 2018). If over time the distribution of BVs in aspectual sentential functions has shifted towards a predominance of either the IPFV or the PFV aspect, it will be assumed that aspectual affixation contributes to the elimination of biaspectuality.

**Keywords:** biaspectual verbs, aspectual affixation, Croatian, Russian, corpora, diachrony, elimination of biaspectuality

*Table 1: Russian and Croatian BVs and their (I)PFV derivatives*

Russian		Croatian	
BV	Derivative	BV	Derivative
krestit'	okrestit'	časiti	počasiti 'pay for dinner/lunch'
obešcat'	poobešcat'	daniti se	razdaniti se 'dawn'
rodit'(sja)	rožat'	nočiti	prenočiti 'spend the night'
veleť	poveleť	savjetovati	posavjetovati 'counsel'
venčat'	obvenčat'	stradati	nastradati 'suffer'

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THE USE OF FEMALE *NOMINA AGENTIS*  
IN JOB ADVERTISEMENTS –  
A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF  
THE SERBIAN AND MODERN  
GREEK LANGUAGE

Language, apart from being a means of communication, is also an important medium for conveying meaning and shaping social and cultural patterns. Additionally, language plays an important role in defining notions such as gender and gender equality (Filipović, 2009; Cameron, 2003). In an era of active participation of women in the labor market, it is important to examine the impact of language on their position in society and their access to various fields (Stout, Dasgupta, 2011). The way in which employers advertise open job positions gives us a great insight into this topic. The aim of this paper is to examine the use of gender-sensitive language in job titles on four search engines in Serbia and Greece. The paper seeks to investigate the extent to which titles of female positions are represented, bearing in mind that the choice of linguistic elements has an impact on the perception of the market reality and the motivation of future employees. Specifically, the focus of the paper lies in the areas of accounting, customer support, translation, insurance, management, marketing, economics and science. The findings are compared within two culturally and socially close contexts, in order to draw conclusions about the position of women in the labor market. The results of the analysis confirm the hypotheses, that is the examined



job titles are rarely in line with gender-sensitive language. It was also found that the use of *nomina agentis* exclusively in the masculine gender is more common in the case of higher positions, especially in the field of management. The paper provides insights into the current situation with which women come into contact when searching for jobs in certain areas. Moreover, the study provides a basis for further research on the relationship between language and gender in the social Serbian and Greek context, respectively.

**Key words:** gender sensitive language, labor market, language and gender, Serbian language, Modern Greek language

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## MULTICULTURAL CONTEXT AS CHALLENGE FOR TEACHING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

This paper discusses some problems and challenges in teaching a foreign language in a multicultural context. The languages in focus are Serbian and Slovenian. The remarks related to Serbian have been collected during five year work with the students who learned Serbian in the project *Svet u Srbiji* (The World in Serbia). The participants of the project were students from different countries, different continents, and different cultures, whose native languages belong to different language families. The Slovenian examples come from the classes for immigrants in Slovenia.

The research emphasizes some linguistic presuppositions that can make learning of Serbian easier or harder. Students from Mali, Burundi and Ghana are much faster in the process of learning the language than the other students. The paper shows that there are some purely linguistic reasons for this fact. We also show some sociocultural differences that can bring about mistakes or misunderstanding in communication in Serbian. The main problems in teaching Slovenian to immigrants are often related to some culturally based areas, like kinship terms, word play, proverbs, phraseology and similar.

The conclusion is that teaching a foreign language (in this particular case Serbian and Slovenian) has to be adjusted to linguocultural models that students belong to. A teacher has

to prepare different teaching materials and to use different teaching strategies depending on linguistic and cultural background of students.

**Key words:** intercultural communication, Serbian, Slovenian

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## ANALYSIS OF SYNTACTICAL STYLISTIC ELEMENTS IN SWEDISH

Sentence structure is one of the most important components of stylistic analysis since it primarily represents textual readability and comprehensibility. Languages with predominantly strict word order, such as the Scandinavian ones, show various distinctive stylistic characteristics. Stylistic analysis can be affected by numerous aspects in spoken and written Swedish, e.g. hypotaxis and parataxis, nominalisation, final doubling, topicalisation, sentence structure in formal and informal texts combined with additional syntactic features. Stylistic variations of a given text can also improve language learning and acquiring the knowledge of different language functions in specific linguistic situations. The aim of this study is to examine the most frequent examples of syntactical stylistic analysis in Swedish and to emphasize their importance for advanced language learning.

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SURPASSING THE “BAD DATA” PROBLEM:  
ITALIAN EPISTOLARY DISCOURSE AS  
A SOURCE OF SPOKEN LANGUAGE

In this research I focus on the so-called “bad data” problem in historical pragmatics and on the ways in which it can be surpassed. Labov (1994: 11) defines the bad data problem as the problem encountered by researchers in historical pragmatics who have to rely on written data in order to do research on the spoken language in a diachronical perspective. If we take into account the fact that recorded spoken language sources from before the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century do not exist, researches have to rely on those sources (such as some literary works, letters, wills and testaments...) that approach spoken language the most.

The goal of this research is to examine if epistolary discourse is appropriate for surpassing the bad data problem. My corpus consists of around 140 letters from the *Lettere di*

*Levante* (Letters from the East) collection written in the first half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, and today kept in Dubrovnik State Archives. All of the letters were written in the Italian language koinè and were addressed by the Republic of Ragusa to her ambassadors in the medieval Bosnian Kingdom.

In determining the aspects of the spoken language in the corpus, I apply the framework devised by Jucker (2008), who researches the differences between the written and the spoken language, Koch and Oesterreicher (1985), who propose the orality model when dealing with written texts, and Culpeper e Kytö (2010), who distinguish between different orality levels in texts that approach the spoken language.

The results of this research imply that this particular corpus approaches the spoken language, albeit a particular subtype – the diplomatic discourse.

**Key words:** historical pragmatics, corpora, Italian language, spoken language source, diplomatic discourse

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## CONTINENTAL ROMANCE LOANWORDS IN SERBO-CROATIAN

Serbo-Croatian is a language which has a long-standing history of borrowing from Latin and the Romance Languages; its westernmost dialects (in Montenegro and Croatia) teem with Latin, Dalmatian Romance and Italian loanwords while its easternmost dialects (in Serbia) are stocked with significant numbers of Romanian loanwords. With such abundant and clearly distinct extremes it is easy to ignore the fact that the midmost dialects (in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia) are not without an occasional loanword of Latin or Romance provenance and that these apparently cannot be assigned to either Romanian, Italian, or Dalmatian Romance. In this presentation, I investigate the possible sources of these loanwords, try to reconstruct the donor language – which for the present I dub Continental Romance – and determine whether it had any defining characteristics which would allow us to distinguish it from Dalmatian Romance as the only other autochthonous Romance language spoken in this general area.



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WRITING AT BREAKTHROUGH  
LEVEL IN LEARNING SERBIAN  
AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

The paper advocates writing as a neglected skill in the communicative approach and the necessity to reintroduce it to the language class. It shows on some exercises from a small group of foreign overseas students at the beginner level in Serbian language intensive course the different level of progression in acquiring linguistic skill of writing, but in many cases overcoming outcomes given in Common European Framework for Learning Modern Languages. Insight in the student papers reveals new possibilities of introducing some complex syntactic structures to early stage of second language acquisition.

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## ADNOMINAL ARGUMENTS IN PHRASES HEADED BY DEVERBAL NOUNS IN SLOVENIAN

In Slovenian, all three arguments, agent, theme and recipient can appear simultaneously as postmodifiers in a nominal phrase whose head is a deverbal noun, (1).

- (1) podeljevanje [nagrada]      [mednarodne žirije]  
       [najboljšim filmom]  
       awarding                      awards.gen international jury.gen  
       best movies.dat  
       “presenting awards        to the best movies  
       by the international jury”

If these adnominal arguments are all expressed by noun phrases – genitive for agent or theme, and dative for recipient – their word order is fixed as in (1). It is possible, however, that these same arguments appear as prepositional phrases (the equivalents of the “by-phrase”, “for-phrase” etc.).

When dealing with three adnominal arguments, we observe that the two arguments expressed by the genitive NPs appear in the fixed positions, (1), while the arguments expressed by PPs and a dative NP have a more flexible order. If in (1) the genitive agent argument NP is replaced with the PP “s strani mednarodne žirije”, two WOs are possible, of which (4a) is preferred.

- (4) a. podeljevanje [nagrada] [najboljšim filmom]  
[s strani mednarodne žirije]  
b. podeljevanje [nagrada] [s strani mednarodne  
žirije] [najboljšim filmom]

In the talk, I will attempt to show that the above described word order properties of Slovenian multiple adnominal arguments follow from an analysis, in which the genitive case in adnominal position is assigned in a structural setup, while the dative and other oblique cases are assigned inherently (by the P head or the functional applicative head). The mechanisms of case assignment will be a combination of the one proposed in Dvořak (2011) and Rappaport (1998). The data is also consistent with the analysis found in Kovačević et al. (2011) and Šarić (2018) for Serbian, however, the latter endorsing a fundamentally different case assignment mechanism (as in Pesetsky 2013).

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## DEFINING THE MODERN LINGUIST: *UPGRADING THE SKILLS OF LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE STUDENTS*

This paper presents the first results of the project *UPgrading the SKills of Linguistics and Language Students – UPSKILLS*, a three-year Erasmus+ strategic partnership between higher education and research institutions from Malta, Serbia, Croatia, Italy, Austria and the Netherlands. The project seeks to identify and tackle the gaps and mismatches in skills for linguistics and language students, with the goal of making their university education more compatible with the requirements of the contemporary job market. The project grew out from academia and industry insights related to the changes in the way the study of language can be and frequently is approached in the era of big data and artificial intelligence.

We will first present the findings of the recently completed UPSKILLS needs analysis, which included a survey of existing language and linguistics curricula across European

universities, as well as questionnaires for and interviews with representatives of the language industry. These findings, summarised in the format of a new professional profile for linguists, point to the need for including (largely) novel areas in linguistic curricula (e.g., programming and quantitative data analysis), but they also suggest that theoretical linguistics should be taught along with its possible applications in practical tasks typically required in companies (e.g., linguistic data annotation). Next, we will present an inventory of already existing materials that can be used for teaching and learning activities in the areas in need of enhancement, and we will discuss plans for the creation of additional materials, which will jointly contribute to the development of new curriculum components and supporting materials to be embedded in existing programmes of study.

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## MEASURING SYNTACTIC COMPLEXITY IN L2 WRITING: THE CASE OF FRENCH

In this paper, we discuss the most commonly used variables for objective measurement of syntactic complexity: mean lengths of clause, sentence and T-unit, mean number of clauses per T-unit, mean number of T-units per sentence, as well as variables that combine syntactic complexity and

accuracy: mean number of grammatically correct T-units and mean length of grammatically correct T-units.

In the research we conducted, the written production of the third-year students of French at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade was analyzed in order to determine how complex their language is and which syntactic structures are frequent or rare in their written production. Apart from analyzing the whole sample of 123 essays independently, the essays were also divided into two groups based on overall text quality and then analyzed again using the same variables. The purpose of this division was to determine whether there is a direct relationship between syntactic complexity and quality of the text, i.e. whether the greater syntactic complexity of the text means greater quality and vice versa.

The two variables that proved to be the most useful in pointing out differences between texts of different overall quality are mean number of grammatically correct T-units and mean length of grammatically correct T-units. The findings indicate that it is not possible to separate syntactic complexity and accuracy as strictly as the CAF framework does and that the relationship between syntactic complexity and quality of the text is not straightforward.

**Keywords:** second language acquisition, syntactic complexity, T-unit, subordinate clauses, interlanguage, written production

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## THE DISTRIBUTION OF ROMANI WORDS AND SERBIAN LOANWORDS IN ROMANI-SPEAKING CHILDREN'S NARRATIVES

The aim of the study is to investigate the part-of-speech distribution of Romani words and Serbian loanwords in the Gurbet Romani variety spoken by elementary-school children in Eastern Serbia, where extensive language contact between Serbian as the dominant language and different varieties of Romani has been reported (Ćirković&Mirić 2017).

The corpus for our research consists of transcripts of conversations with 20 native speakers of Gurbet Romani recorded in 2017 and 2018 in Knjaževac and Minićevo (Eastern Serbia). All speakers are elementary-school students aged 7 to 14, bilingual in Romani and Serbian. The semi-structured interview was used as a data collection method, with questions focusing on autobiographic stories and traditional culture.

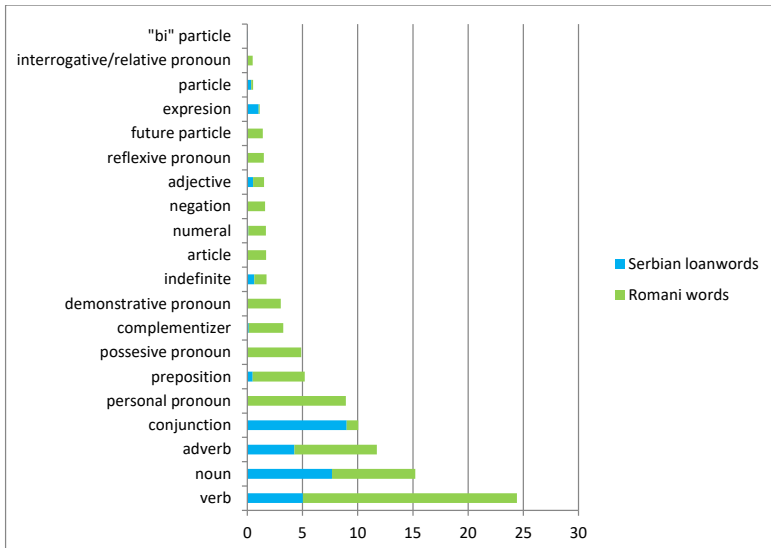
The corpus of narratives contains 8,306 word tokens (proper nouns and unintelligible words excluded) and it was manually annotated for parts of speech.

As the quantitative analysis of word tokens shows (cf. Figure 1), Romani words account for 70.74% of the overall corpus, while Serbian loanwords represent 29.26%. Across parts of speech, in the sample of Romani words, verbs (e.g. *džal* 'go') are the most frequent – 27.41%, then follow personal pronouns (e.g. *amen* 'we') – 12.61%, nouns (e.g. *dej* 'mother') and adverbs (e.g. *kate* 'here') – each with app. 10% of the Romani words

sample. In the sample of Serbian loanwords, conjunctions (e.g. *i* ‘and’) are the most frequent – 30.78%, then follow nouns (e.g. *kolako* ‘cake’) – 26.21%, verbs (e.g. *slavil* ‘celebrate’) – 17.2%, and adverbs (e.g. *ponekad* ‘sometimes’) – 14.57%.

The results will be discussed in relation to the following points: a) semantic and pragmatic factors affecting the obtained distribution of particular parts of speech; b) presence/absence of Romani equivalents for certain Serbian loanwords; c) morphological adaptation of inflected loanwords, d) comparison to other studies on loanwords in various Romani varieties (e.g. Elšík 2008, Meyer 2018, 2020).

*Figure 1.* The percentage of Romani words and Serbian loanwords with regard to parts of speech (the overall sample)





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PARADIGM UNIFORMITY AND  
PARADIGM CONTRAST IN MOROCCAN  
ARABIC VERB INFLECTION

The concept of Paradigm in linguistics simply refers to a group of output forms with a common underlying structure (Blevins, 2016). The role of derivational and inflectional paradigms in explaining allophonic and allomorphic alternations has gained increased amount of interest from phonologists over

the development of phonological theory. This interest in paradigmatic relationships has been triggered by the fact that certain alternations cannot be explained derivationally. This means that there are some instances of allophonic/allomorphic change that result from something other than deriving structure S2 from structure S1 (Benua, 1997; McCarthy, 2005). Therefore, such non-derivational effects have been attributed to paradigmatic relationships that are characterized by defying the containment property of derivational approaches. For example, the surface shape of a given paradigm member M1 may affect the phonological or morphological make up of another paradigm member M2 even though M1 is not contained in M2 (or M2 is not derived from M1). This effect may come in the form of increased similarity or increased dissimilarity between those members (Kenstowicz, 2002).

Along these lines, the present work is mainly concerned with issues of paradigm uniformity and paradigm contrast in Moroccan Arabic verb inflection. Particularly, we focus on the perfective paradigms of middle-weak, final-weak and final-geminated verbs. What is of interest here is the fact that the perfective paradigms of the aforementioned verb categories appear to manifest some seemingly erratic alternations and irregularities pertaining to the morphophonological make-up of their individual members. In this paper, we attempt to explain these alternations in terms of constraint interactions à la optimality theory. In this regard, we show that the observed alternations are the result of avoiding identical homophonous members within the same paradigm. Specifically, we believe that paradigm contrast is initially motivated between the 1st person singular member and the 3rd person feminine member. We also show how this need for contrast between two members of the paradigm triggers other alternations

at the level of the 1st/ 2nd combined domain for the sake of maintaining a maximum level of uniformity between the members of the paradigms under study.

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## THE USE OF DIMINUTIVES IN EVERYDAY COMMUNICATION

The main goal of this paper is to analyse diminutives within spoken corpora with respect to morphology and pragmatics. We analyse the formation process of diminutives, as well as their pragmatic function within the discourse.

The corpus being used for this research has been collected manually and contains transcripts of everyday communication among students (about 250,000 tokens), as well as transcripts of TV talk shows on politics (about 173,000 tokens). For the purpose of the extraction of diminutives we have created a simple script in Python.

Additionally, we are interested in exploring whether there is a difference in the use of diminutives within two different spheres of discourse – political discourse and everyday communication among students.

**Keywords:** diminutives, morphopragmatics, pragmatic functions, corpus analysis, spoken discourse

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## MIXED-METHODS SOCIAL NETWORK ANALYSIS SHEDS NEW LIGHT ON SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

Social networks play a vital role in SLA. Combining computational and anthropological Social Network Analysis (SNA), we investigate the influence of peer interaction dynamics and social graph topology on measurable outcomes in two intensive language courses: a 5-week course of German for Erasmus+ exchange students in Baden-Württemberg ( $n=40$ ), and a 4-week summer course of the Polish language and culture in Warsaw ( $n=181$ ).

Unlike studies focusing on the micro-level of individual participants' *egocentric* networks, presenting an *emic* view only, we demonstrate how and why peer learner networks can be examined *in their entirety*, complementing an *etic* perspective. In particular, we focus on the moderating role of the social network (mesoscopic explanatory variable) – in turn influenced by engagement with the TL culture (macroscopic explanatory variable)—on L2 progress (microscopic response variable).

The quantitative component of the project showed among others

- i) that outgoing interactions in the TL are a stronger predictor of progress than incoming interactions,

- ii) a clear detrimental effect of interactions with same-L<sub>1</sub> speakers ( $r_{\text{outgoing}} = -.31[-0.63, 0.00], p = .048$ ),
- iii) the strongest influence of the network in the domains of pronunciation and lexis, where degree centrality *in the TL* positively correlates with progress ( $r_{\text{outdegree}} = .258, p = .001$  for pronunciation;  $r_{\text{outdegree}} = .304, p = .0002$  and  $r_{\text{indegree}} = .263, p = .001$  for vocabulary), while betweenness *in total communication* is significantly anticorrelated ( $r = -.242, p = .003$  and  $r = -.204, p = .01$ , respectively).
- iv) This mirrors the impact of closeness centrality (ease of access to other students).
- v) Combined with the deleterious influence on SLA of a high in-degree, this underscores the importance of the network's structural properties.

In turn, structured interviews carried out with course participants and their instructors yielded valuable information on the formation and types of the networks the learners engaged in and the purposes these networks served. The presentation will thus illustrate the benefits of combining computational (quantitative) and anthropological (qualitative) social network analysis. Lastly, we shall also compare two face-to-face iterations of one of the courses with its online edition during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Keywords:** social network analysis (SNA), second language acquisition (SLA), study abroad, peer learner networks, centrality metrics

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## BILINGUALS' LANGUAGES, EMOTIONS AND SOCIAL NORMS: TEASING APART THE COMPLEX INTERACTIONS

Recent research (Costa *et al.* 2014; Geipel, Hadjichristidis & Surian 2015, 2016; Cipolletti, McFarlane & Weissglass 2016; Corey *et al.* 2017; Hayakawa *et al.* 2017; Ćavar & Tytus 2018; Brouwer 2019; Karataş 2019; Dylman & Champoux-Larsson 2019; Driver 2020) has shown that the same dilemma may elicit different moral judgements depending on the language in which it has been described.

Using a covert  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  experiment where 61 bilinguals were asked to translate ( $L_1 \leftrightarrow L_2$ ) a passage peppered with swearwords, we show that the picture is much more complex. While the results ostensibly corroborate the so-called 'foreign language effect', it was only observed in the case of ethnophaulisms, that is expletives directed at social (out)groups. This indicates that the key factor modulating response strength is not so much the different emotional power associated with the respective languages, but *social and cultural norms*.

Long cultural learning and socialisation make expressions in  $L_1$  highly prone to normative influences, whereas using a foreign language exempts the speaker from these (whether our own or socially imposed) norms and limitations. It transpires that switching to a foreign language during decision-making may not only reduce emotionally-driven responses and political correctness biases, but also promote



candid deliberative processes (e.g. rational cost-benefit considerations). This clashes with the notion that the effort of using a FL cues our cognitive system to prepare for strenuous activity and thus a more deliberate mode of thinking.

The orthogonal influence of the language medium on decisions, judgments and reactions has far-reaching consequences in our multilingual and multicultural world (not limited to such high-stakes scenarios as legal contexts).

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## LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS DURING EMERGENCY REMOTE INSTRUCTION: FINDINGS FROM 118 COUNTRIES

Building on MacIntyre et al. (2020), this study examines the transition to emergency remote instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic based on questionnaire responses from over 6,000 language learners and teachers as well as Linguistics majors and instructors from 118 countries.

Regression and other inferential analyses of *instructors'* responses indicate that:

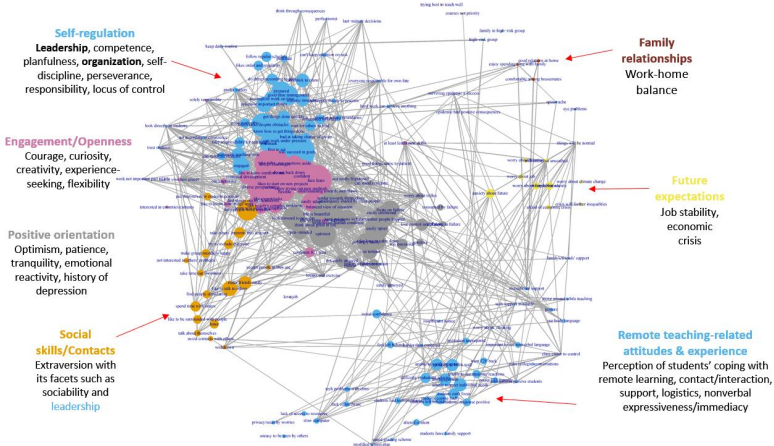
- i) gender was predictive of teacher engagement ( $\beta=.06$ ,  $p<.001$ ), but not negative affect, psychological overload, perception of student coping, or concerns about learning outcomes;

- ii) teachers coped better when they worked in higher education:  $F=9.31$ ,  $p<.001$ ,  $\eta_p^2=.02$  [.01;.04] and used synchronous delivery:  $t=-6.2$ ,  $p<.001$ ,  $d=.33$  [.22;.43];
- iii) educators were *more* engaged in developing rather than economically developed countries:  $t=3.59$ ,  $p<.05$ ,  $d=.31$  [.14;.48];
- iv) psychological overload was mediated by perception of student coping;
- v) instructors' stress levels were affected by anxiety about the future, living conditions, self-acceptance, appraisal of situational impact, course optionality, and perceived effectiveness of virtual delivery;
- vi) teachers felt that remote instruction depressed students' language progress by around 64% compared with in-person classes;
- vii) future learning outcomes were the biggest cause for concern in beginner-level classes:  $\beta=.09$ ,  $R^2=.51$ ,  $p=.026$ .
- viii) the breakup of some constructs in clusters of naturally correlating variables (Fig. 1) suggests that in crisis situations these may function differently than during 'business as usual', supporting the Strong Situation Hypothesis (see e.g. Meyer et al., 2010) and in line with Resnik and Dewaele (2021).

We will also demonstrate how multilingualism operationalized as weighted proficiency in languages spoken moderated participants' coping behavior and attitudes. Although 'more polyglot' teachers found remote teaching harder than initially expected ( $r = .223$ ), they were less likely to make huge adjustments to their lives ( $-.278$ ) or instruction ( $-.373$ ), and more likely to believe that they would come out

unscathed (.252). They felt their students were coping well (.302), and their classes were longer (.271).

Lastly, we will discuss factors distinguishing language *learners* who are better- and worse-coping under the emergency conditions.



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## THE COMMON SLAVIC MIRATIVE RECONSTRUCTED THROUGH GENITIVE ADVERBIALS

In each branch of the Slavic languages there exist a number of interrogative-exclamative, adverbial (i.e. lexicalized) genitive case constructions that have unclear origins and

have been largely avoided in synchronic accounts (with only sporadic attempts at their analysis, decades apart, e.g. Menac 1983: 85; Franks & Rojina 2007), e.g. Rus *kakogo čerta!* ‘what the devil!’, Cz *kýho kozla!* ‘what the goat!’ and BCMS *majke mile* ‘sweet mother!’. This article is the first attempt at uniting these expressions under the rubric of mirativity, i.e. exclamatives generated through the acquisition of unexpected information, following DeLancey (1997, 2012) and Aikhenvald (2012). Furthermore, I extend Kagan’s (2013) irrealis genitive to include these miratives through an explanation of the cognitive overlap of interrogativity, negation, and surprise. While West and East Slavic tend to place mirative marking on non-topicalized semantic cataphora (through the use of metaphor), South Slavic demonstrates prototypical mirative formation (by marking the new information morphologically). Finally, I bring in evidence from neurolinguistics and formulate a semantic map of the Common Slavic genitive, following Haspelmath (1997, 2003) and Narrog & Ito (2007).

**Keywords:** historical linguistics, morphology, mirativity, irrealis genitive, Russian, comparative Slavic

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## A CORPUS INVESTIGATION OF THE ORDERING OF SELECTED ATTRIBUTIVE ADJECTIVES IN SLOVENIAN

The paper investigates the question of attributive adjective ordering in Slovenian against the background of the cartographic model of natural language syntax, outlined already in Rizzi (1997). According to this model, the order of adjectives within a complex noun phrase results from a hierarchy of functional projections (e.g., Cinque 1994, 2010, Scott 2002, Shlonsky 2004, Laenzlinger 2005); a proposal for how the hierarchy should be structured is given below:

DETERMINER > ORDINAL NUMBER > CARDINAL  
NUMBER > SUBJECTIVE COMMENT > ?EVIDENTIAL >  
SIZE > LENGTH > HEIGHT > SPEED > ?DEPTH >  
WIDTH > WEIGHT > TEMPERTURE > ?WETNESS >  
AGE > SHAPE > COLOR > NATIONALITY/ORIGIN >  
MATERIAL > COMPOUND ELEMENT > NP

(Scott 2002: 114)

The model has been very influential, but has also attracted various types of criticism, ranging from the problem of innateness, origin and plentitude to the problem of rigidity (i.a., Truswell 2009, Larson 2017, Scontras et al. 2017, 2019, Leivada and Westergaard 2019). Given the conclusions based on large databases, the concerns of corpus studies focusing on the rigidity problem seem particularly relevant (i.a., Wulff 2003, Truswell 2009, Kotowski and Hartl 2019, Trotzke and Wittenberg 2019).

Using nearly 1,2-billion-word Gigafida corpus, we conducted a study in which we check the frequency of attested orders of selected attributive adjectives of thirteen semantic categories and determine whether we can adequately predict language use if we adopt a cartographic model as a working theoretical framework, specifically the adjective hierarchy proposed in Scott (2002).

The results show that the probability of encountering an order that violates the hierarchy, compared to the probability of encountering an order that respects the hierarchy, is in general extremely small, and indicates that the order of adjectives attested in our Slovenian corpus is by-and-large compatible with the proposal that the order is governed by a hierarchy of adjective projections.

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## PARASYNTHETIC VERBS IN AGRAMMATISM

**Introduction.** The present Agrammatic Broca’s aphasia single case study, conducted in Italian, investigated the processing of the linguistic phenomenon verbal parasynthesis.

The purpose was to shed light on three founding questions: (1) the order in which the prefix and the suffix are attached to their base; (2) whether parasynthetic verbs all behave the same with respect to (1) or, whether they behave differently according to their semantics; (3) which is the affix that is responsible for making the nominal/adjectival base become verbal.

**Methods.** The patient was diagnosed with Broca’s Aphasia and consequent Agrammatism, incurred after a cerebral



ischemia. The patient was first administered 10 Reading Task, which were then re-administered for oral repetition. A total of 700 one-word stimuli were collected, divided between: parasyntetic verbs, double derivational stage verbs, prefixed verbs, prefixed with a derivational suffix verbs, suffixed verbs. Each of these categories was made of infinitive and inflected form.

**Results.** Patient's performance in oral repetition was overall better than in reading (52/350 correct responses in reading vs 92/350 correct responses in oral repetition). A significance was found in the Task comparing: parasyntetic verbs/double derivational stage verbs vs. prefixed verbs; parasyntetic verbs in the infinitive/double derivational stage verbs in the infinitive vs. prefixed verbs with a derivational+inflectional suffix in the infinitive/ verbs with a derivational+inflectional suffix in the infinitive.

**Conclusions.** With respect to (1), we established that prefixation in parasyntesis has to be either precedent to suffixation or contemporary to it, whereas hypotheses of prefixation following suffixation were excluded. As for (2), we noticed similar performances on parasyntetics and double derivational stage verbs, also with respect to the number of prefix omissions. As for (3), an analysis of errors on suffixes of different verb types, seemed to point towards considering the infinitive suffix of parasyntetic/double derivational stage verbs as inflectional and not derivational.

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## ELECTRONIC CORPORA IN LANGUAGE TEACHING: APPLICATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

The paper describes corpus-based approach to second language teaching and learning. The approach is based on production of bilingual English-Serbian corpus, developing repertoire of methods and techniques of the corpus utilization and analyzing positive cumulative effects upon developing of the users' written and oral performance in domain of the second language.

Self-compiled bilingual corpus comprises literary texts of Paul Auster and Ernest Hemingway, prepared in machine-readable electronic format. Pre-processing phases, selection of texts, tagging, the alignment and description of electronic environment are given in order to give an account of full corpus-building cycle. Acquisition-rich paralleled input enhances non-linear learning, during the treatment of key morphological, lexical and syntactic areas of English as a second language. Methodical repertoire of exploitation of the corpus material is illustrated through possibilities of inter-corpus and corpus-based activities of pupils-users of the corpus. Each corpus utilization session is stored in the digital repository of traces of pupils' activities in the teaching and learning process. This enables longitudinal tracking of development of integrative written and oral performance in domain of the second language.

Central utilization approach is based on combinatory variety of concordances used in the teaching process, as well as on various queries and tasks performed by pupils. Upon the evidence of the longitudinal research based on bilingual corpora application conducted in the second language teaching in elementary school, the paper offers the rationale for establishing corpus-based language pedagogy, not only for primary education, but for various education levels. This possibility is becoming more viable thanks to the notable tendency of gradual moving of corpus-based and corpus-driven research paradigms from the periphery towards the center of modern education.

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## DEVELOPING THE DIGITAL REPOSITORY SARGADA: CHALLENGES AND INSIGHTS

SARGADA is the acronym of the project *Syntactic and semantic analysis of arguments and adjuncts in Croatian*, the 4-year project fully supported by the Croatian Science Foundation, which has started in February of 2020. The main objective of the project is to describe and define the criteria for distinguishing arguments and adjuncts in the Croatian language, and then to apply these criteria in the building of the syntactic repository SARGADA.

Linguistic resources in which syntactic and semantic levels of sentence elements are processed in some way, based on selected linguistic methodologies and approaches, can generally be roughly divided into several categories: syntactically parsed and morphosyntactically marked parts of general or specialized corpora of texts in individual languages; dependency treebanks as exclusively syntactic resources in the narrowest sense; valency lexicons, i.e. syntactic resources in a broader sense, created as a result of

general linguistic or national projects; and lexical databases with elaborated systems for marking semantic frames. The repository SARGADA with its conceptual basis, and as a digital resource of a specific part that directly arises as a by-product of the syntactic research of ambiguous examples, will not be similar to any of the mentioned resources and does not have a specific role model.

The main goal of this paper is to show the applied part of the project that includes the gathering of data, compiling a list of verbs with ambiguous phrases and collecting sentences with corresponding verbs, corpus research, and creating the database for the description of ambiguous phrases regarding the argument/adjunct status. The workflow for the final version of the searchable repository of sentences with ambiguous sentence parts will follow the development of the project's theoretical research.

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## SOME 'ILLYRIAN' ETHNONYMS AND THEIR SUPPOSED ALBANIAN COGNATES

The names of three Palaeo-Balkan tribes, labelled as 'Illyrian' in Greek and Roman sources, have been connected to seemingly related Albanian forms. The cognate pairs proposed in previous research are: 'Illyr.' *Taulanti* – Alb. *dallëndyshe* 'swallow', 'Illyr.' *Delmatae* – Alb. *delmë* 'sheep',

and 'Illyr.' *Dardani* – Alb. *dardhë* 'pear'. While analysing the plausibility of these comparisons, one should have in mind two important points. Firstly, the Illyrian linguistic material is difficult to define, and it is often established on the basis of exclusion from other neighbouring languages (Greek, Thracian, Celtic, etc.). It is, therefore, reasonable to doubt whether all three ethnonyms belong to one single language. Secondly, Albanian is known to share lexical items not only with Illyrian but with other Palaeo-Balkan languages as well. Consequently, it is not always possible to distinguish between inherited and borrowed forms. Taking these circumstances into account, the comparison between 'Illyr.' *Taulanti* and Alb. *dallëndyshe* is reaffirmed, since Alb. *dallënd-* may derive from 'Illyr.' *Taulant-* (mostly) in accordance with Albanian sound laws. On the other hand, the link between 'Illyr.' *Delmatae* and Alb. *delmë* is rejected on both phonological and morphological grounds. In the case of 'Illyr.' *Dardani*, the relation with Alb. *dardhë* can be maintained, although the correlation is far from certain. Furthermore, one may question the attribution of *Delmatae* and *Dardani* to Illyrian, since they stem from linguistically diverse areas on the periphery of the ancient Illyrian kingdom. Finally, this discussion aims to show the instructive character of these three comparisons for future studies of the relationship between Albanian and the ancient languages of the Balkans.

**Keywords:** Illyrian, Albanian, Palaeo-Balkan languages, etymology, onomastics

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## TYOLOGY OF NOUNS OF EVENTS IN MODERN RUSSIAN

Our study focuses on nouns that express an event: *groza* (storm), *sobranie* (meeting) *vojna* (war), etc. and its purpose is to provide criteria of analysis that could be applied to all events. The goal is to establish a typology of these nouns in Russian.

There are many studies on the types of processes in general and in Russian in particular. Z. Vendler and A. Mourelatos for English, T. Bulygina and Padučeva for Russian, J. François for French, to name a few, have greatly contributed to the study of verbs that express actions, states and other types of processes<sup>2</sup>. However, there is, in Russian linguistics, a lack

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<sup>2</sup> Kokochkina, I., (2004). *Typologie des prédicats d'états*, Thèse de doctorat, Université Paris XIII and Kokochkina, I., (2008). "Les prédicats d'états en russe : essai de typologie", In: *Construire le temps. Etudes offertes à Jean-Paul Sémon*. Paris: Institut d'études slaves. 21–38;

of works devoted exclusively to predicative nouns of events. The above mentioned explains the reasons for choosing this research topic.

## 1. THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS AND PROBLEMS OF DEFINITION

According to our observations, in Russian, nouns of events usually appear with the light verb<sup>3</sup> *byt'* (to be), and they form the basic structure **Noun of event / W: *byt'***, wherein W is the light verb.

## 2. PARAMETERS OF ANALYSES OF EVENTS

We have developed a list of parameters, some of which are included in the work of G. Gross and F. Kiefer on events, in French<sup>4</sup>, and others that we have added given the particularities of our data corpus. There are nine parameters : place, time, aspect, causation, goal, participant, control, intensity and result.

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Vendler, Z. (1967). *Linguistics in Philosophy*, Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY; Mourelatos, A. P.D. (1978). "Events, processes and states", *Linguistics and philosophy*, 2, 415–434; François, J. (1989). *Changement, causation, action : trois catégories fondamentales du lexique verbal français et allemand*. Genève: Droz ; Bulygina, T. (1982). "K postroeniju tipologii predikatov v russkom jazyke", *Semantičeskie tipy predikatov*. Moskva: Nauka, 7–86 ; Padučeva, E. (1996). *Semantičeskie issledovanija. Semantika vremeni i vida v russkom jazyke*. Moskva: Jazyki russkoj kul'tury.

<sup>3</sup> The term is from Z. Harris, 1976, *Op. cit.*

<sup>4</sup> Gross, G. and Kiefer, F. (1998). «La structure événementielle des substantifs». *Folia Linguistica* XXIX, ½, 43–65 ; Kiefer, F. (1998). «Les substantifs déverbaux événementiels», *Langages*, 131, 56–63.

**Place** and **time** are capital for our analysis because an event generally exists with respect to a location and a time reference. The reference point can be specific or deictic. This information is expressed by prepositional phrases with locative nouns and nouns of time, by adverbs and adverbial phrases and, finally, using possessive adjectives as *Moskovskij* (*Moskovskij putč* – the putch that took place in Moscow), *martovskij* (*martovskij prazdnik* – the party that took/ takes/ will take place in the month of March) and so on.

The parameter of « time » is inextricably linked to the parameter of **aspect** (and Aktionsart). There first crucial opposition is : « durative event – punctual event ». « Punctual event » refers to events whose duration can not be expressed linguistically (as *vzryv* – explosion). At the opposite pole we find « durative predicates ». They refer to situations whose duration may be expressed by various adverbial phrases (*nedelju* – a week, *dva dnja* – two days), determiners (*odnodnevnyj* – one-day-long) and, finally, they combine with specific light verbs such as *idti* (take place, literally « to walk »).

When analyzing durative events, it's essential to distinguish light verbs that express aspectual values such as inchoative, continuative and terminative. Thus, with regard to the class of « meetings » (*sobranie* – meeting), the beginning of event is expressed by *načínat' sja* / *načat' sja* (to begin), *otkryvat' sja* / *otkryt' sja* (to open), the middle phase by *prodolžat' sja* / *prodolžit' sja* (to continue), *dlit' sja* / *prodlit' sja* (to continue) and the end by *zakančivat' sja* / *zakončit' sja* (to end).

We must add to this list « frequentative value ». The frequency is supported either by adverbs and adverbial phrases (*často* – often, *inogda* – sometimes, *dva raza v god* – twice a year) or by the verb *byvat* (occur):

**Causation** refers to an extremely rich spectrum of phenomena. There are for example verbal operators. They can be of various kinds. For « natural events », independent of human will, *vyzyvat' / vyzvat'* (to cause) and *provodit' / privesti k* (to lead to) express the relation between two events :

**Goal** only characterizes « organized events », as opposed to « natural events ». Goal may be intrinsic (or lexicalized), as with predicates such as *match*, *meeting*, etc. In this case, an adverb or an adverbial phrase can be added to express the adequacy or inadequacy of the outcome compared to the initial goal.

Events involving the idea of goal in their semantics also accept lexemes that refer to the recipient of the event (*prazdnik dlja detej* – party for children).

The parameter of **participant** refers to two related although distinctive concepts : « beneficiary » for events conceptualized as positive (*čudo* – miracle) or neutral (*saljut* – fireworks) and the « victim » for events whose consequences are conceptualized as negative (*zemletrjasenie* – earthquake). Indeed, the term « beneficiary » seems appropriate to refer to the individual or individuals for whom the event is of interest or from which they get some profit.

As for the term « victim », it is inextricably linked to the idea of damage caused by a negative, or tragic, event.

The parameter of **control** is manifested in light verbs such as *vesti / provesti* (*vesti peregovory* – conduct talks, *davat' / dat'* (*dat' bal* - hold a ball, etc.). The predicates of events contained in these examples are similar to a certain extent, to nouns of actions.

And one can not, in this logic, ignore the verbal operators which we call « causative verbs of change » such as *otkladyvat' / otložit'* (defer), *otmenjat' / otmenit'* (cancel), *perenosit' / perenesti* (postpone) and others that express many ways in

which a voluntary human subject can intervene in the course of an « organized event ».

**Intensity** can be expressed by adjectives like *sil'nyj* (*sil'nyj dožd* – heavy rain), etc. and by verbs such as *usilivat' sja* (strengthen/ intensify/ gather strength).

We end on the parameter of the **result** by mentioning resultative verbs such as *udavat' sja/ udat' sja* (succeed).

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## THE AMERICANIZATION OF ENGLISH

This work, entitled “The Americanization of English”, examines the American English influence on two varieties of English: it deals with phonological, grammatical, graphemic, and particularly lexical impositions of American English on both British and Australian English. Such a linguistic peculiarity has been defined as “Americanization of English”.

In order to stress this phenomenon, I examined several grammatical, graphemic, and phonological aspects, and in relation to lexical impositions, I analyzed a rather large number of American English lexical items being borrowed by both British and Australian English: rather recent lexical items and interjections deriving from American English are for example *have a nice day!*, *so long!*, *cookie*, *truck*, *candy*, *guy*, *don,t get me started!*

As far as American English phonological impositions are concerned, the usage of American English *anti*-pronounced as /antai/ can often be heard, and the pronunciation of *schedule* as /'skedjul/, also coming from American English,

is now widespread in both British and Australian English. Moreover, many Australian and British people pronounce the prefix *pro-* as /prɒ/ instead of /prɔː/ in words like *progress* and *process*.

An example of grammatical influence, regards inflectional morphology, i. e. the American English usage of *gotten*, but exclusively in Australian English. Moreover, British and Australian English grammar are marked by an increased use of *like*, employed as a conjunction, and by the adoption of modal auxiliaries, i. e. the use of the epistemic *have (got)*.

The entirely new aspect, however, I examined in my work is the reverse phenomenon, i.e. the British English influence on American English, which has not received adequate treatment by general linguistics, yet, (whereas the influence from Australian English on American English has not occurred so far). The British English influence on American English, the so-called “Briticization of English” is particularly recent and excludes the masses, being mainly pertinent to an educated elite and to journalistic terminology.

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## UNIFORMITARIAN PRINCIPLE AND ‘YES’ AND ‘NO’ IN INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES

‘Yes’ and ‘no’ are normally taken for granted in our daily use of language, and little attention has been given to them in linguistic research. This paper hopes to show that the ‘yes’-‘no’ (Y-N) words are not mere replies, and research concerning them have a potential to develop other areas of linguistic study. We incorporate uniformitarian principle to analyse evolution of the Y-N words and shed light on various issues in historical changes more comprehensively among the Indo-European (IE) languages in Europe.

The Y-N words do not always exist, and the Celtic languages, for instance, lack them. In other IE languages, the N word etymologically stems from a negative marker, but there are two main sources for the Y word, e.g. the copula and a complementiser or a subordinate clause. Geographically, the copula type is found in northern Europe, whereas the complementiser type, in southern and eastern Europe with the exception of Greek and dialects of Slovenian.

The distributional pattern is relatively easily formulated, but uniformitarian principle gives us a different perspective. Analysis on what is happening now in the Celtic languages enables us to study what must have happened in other branches of the IE languages where historical record is scarce. Irish, for instance, employs borrowing from English *yeah*, and are developing a copula-based phrase *sé* ‘yes’, and this is due



to the frequency of this verb. History repeats itself, and what is currently observable in Irish can be applied to history of other IE languages. In addition, various social factors such as shifts in religion might have affected the development and formed the north-south division. Therefore, by looking at the Y-N words, it is possible that a new perspective in historical change can be gained.

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## THE EFFECT OF CONTEXT ON THE (A)SYMMETRY OF SERBIAN ADJECTIVE ANTONYMS

The paper deals with the symmetry of antonymic relationships of polysemous Serbian adjectives when they are used in different sentential contexts. We focus on 22 adjectives, i.e. 11 antonym pairs from the perspective of their lexicographically defined primary meaning. Three senses were selected for each of the adjectives from the referent dictionary of Serbian (RSJ) and classified into the categories of primary, secondary concrete, and secondary abstract meaning (e.g. *dubok bunar*, *dubok sneg*, *duboka prošlost*). We constructed sentences which served as stimuli in an empirical study with native speakers of Serbian (N=81), who had the task to replace the underlined adjective in a sentence with its antonym. The aim of the research is (a) to determine whether adjectives

reciprocally elicit each other in each of the contexts and (b) to establish whether the strength of symmetry, expressed via the percentage of respondents who listed the adjective from the posited pair as an antonym, varies depending on the context in which the adjective is activated. It is found that when adjectives are activated in primary or secondary concrete meaning, symmetry is recorded in all posited pairs. However, when the adjective is activated in its secondary abstract meaning, symmetry is recorded in one half of pairs; there are five pairs in which there is no symmetry, with two subcases: (1) one adjective elicits the other from the pair in varying percent, but the second does not (e.g. *nizak* – visok, but *visok* – dubok), and (2) both adjectives from the pair elicit other adjectives as antonyms (e.g. *pun* – tih, *prazan* – značajan). The concluding part reflects on the possible reasons of the recorded asymmetry, such as collocation incompatibility and the absence of the corresponding sense in one of the adjectives posited as pair members.

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