

Imola-Ágnes Farkas & Adriana Todea (eds.). 2020. *The Science of Linguistics – Papers in Honour of Ștefan Oltean*. Cluj Napoca: Presa Universitară Clujeană. x + 279pp.

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The volume *The Science of Linguistics*, edited by Imola-Ágnes Farkas and Adriana Todea, brings together a collection of 23 papers in honour of professor Ștefan Oltean. The authors of these papers put forth research from the fields of semantics, syntax, pragmatics, sociolinguistics and comparative linguistics, areas of investigation to which professor Ștefan Oltean has had an extremely valuable contribution. This collection of papers advances novel and intriguing research, which not only covers a wide area of topics and fields, but is also bound to give rise to many future contributions and fruitful inquiries.

The volume opens with a paper by Andrei Avram, “Spreading the word: On the diffusion of Gulf Pidgin Arabic” (pp. 11-22). Avram investigates the role of linguistic instruction to future migrants to the Arab Gulf, by studying a corpus made up of 5 websites and 1 e-book, sources created for Indian, Filipino, Indonesian and Czech future migrants and by analysing a series of phonological, morpho-syntactic and lexical features. The author shows that the Arabic taught to would-be migrants is an instance of a minimal pidgin of Arabic. An interesting aspect shown in this paper is that instructors of this variety, as well as the authors of the sources, seem to be unaware that they speak a pidginized variety.

The following paper, by Larisa Avram, “English *Mad* magazine sentences. (BE) infinitives?! I don’t think so” (pp. 23-38), discusses the semantic properties and the syntactic structure of *mad* magazine sentences. The author compares and reconciles previous analyses of *mad* magazine sentences (Giorgi 2014 and Grohmann & Etxepare 2003), and argues that sentences of the type “What?! Bob write a linguistics article?! No way!” have a modal verb in their structure and that they are, in fact, subjunctive clauses. Moreover, Avram argues that the irrealis interpretation these structures give rise to stems from the relation between the coda and the polar echo-question, where the former c-commands the latter.

In the paper “Cum traducem politetea? Mentalitatea japoneză în cuvinte românești” [= How do we translate politeness? The Japanese mentality in Romanian words] (pp. 39-49), Magdalena Ciubăncan contrasts the linguistic representations of politeness and respect in Japanese, Romanian and English. The author argues that, in Japanese, style and register (and consequently the use of certain linguistic markers) can oscillate even in the same inter-personal relation, depending on the context dynamic. This particularity of the language, referred to as the principle of fluidity, can give rise to translation difficulties, as illustrated by fragments from the novel *Suspine tandre*, by Yoko Ogawa, translated into Romanian by Ciubăncan.

In “The use-mention distinction and the functional structure of proper names” (pp. 50-65), Alexandra Cornilescu and Alina Tigău analyze the syntactic structure of proper names, focusing on descriptive names and on verbs of naming and nomination. The authors expand Longobardi’s (1994) influential analysis, which argues that proper names are DPs, and claim that, other than the D features, the structure of proper names also includes a qualitative classifier, syntactically realized as the nominalizer *n*. Two novel arguments that the authors bring are that, in naming constructions, proper names have a *mention*, rather than a *use* function and that, from the point of view of their syntactic representation, verbs of naming and nomination have a PP-small clause in their structure.

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Diana Cotrău and Oana Papuc present a discourse analysis of the speech of two young returnees, in their paper “Returnee vlogging and culturalist discourse” (pp. 66-73). The authors analyze three YouTube vlogs, two posted by a Romanian immigrant to the UK and one by a Romanian immigrant to Italy, both of whom have returned to their country of origin after almost a decade. The discourse of these vloggers has some common features, the most prominent being a type of nationalistic rhetoric – these content creators focus on the negative aspects of their host-countries and seem to counteract the idealistic image that had been instilled in them prior to their departure.

Social Media is the platform analyzed in the next paper as well, “Game of Thrones – A sociolinguistic view” (pp. 74-82). The author, Bettina Ene, sets to analyze the use of two conlangs from the TV series “Game of Thrones”, “Dothraki” and “High Valyrian”, focusing on online communities of fans. This sociolinguistic investigation shows that fans use these languages in their online communication in fandoms on Facebook, both to convey every-day messages, and to teach one other new words and structures. Given that these languages are being constantly enriched, the author discovers that these users often resort to code-switching.

The focus of the next paper, “A matter of life and death: Cognate object constructions with *live* and *die*” (pp. 83-92), is a comparison of cognate object constructions with *live* and *die* in English, Romanian and Hungarian. Imola-Ágnes Farkas studies the syntax and the semantics of the cognate object constructions created from these verbs, which are known in the literature to give rise to unaccusativity mismatches. The author shows that COC stemming from *live* and *die* equivalents have an exceptional status in Romanian and Hungarian as well. For instance, in Romanian, they can appear in a variety of patterns (not just as nominal objects, but also as part of PPs), while in Hungarian the CO appears as a full nominal, rather than a pseudo-object, as is typical of this language.

The following paper, “Discursul raportat din perspectivă polifonică” [= Reported Speech from a polyphonic perspective] (pp. 93-106), by Ligia Stela Florea, is couched in the framework of Ducrot’s (1984) polyphonic theory. The author follows well known researchers in the field (Nølke et al. 2004) in arguing that there is a four-way distinction between various types of speech, but departs from them in identifying the factor responsible for this distinction. Florea proposes that, in terms of poliphony, the difference stems from whether a given speech hosts two locutors (typical of direct speech or free direct speech) or whether the two voices are a locutor and an enunciator (characteristic of indirect speech and free indirect speech). The author analyzes two Romanian literary works (N. Breban’s *Bunavestire* and P. Stoica’s *Viața mea la țară*) in order to support her argument.

Another discourse analysis is provided by Silvia Florea in her paper “Reportative evidentiality and attribution in Creangă’s and Ispirescu’s fairy tales” (pp. 107-127). The author analyses the grammatical markers that show the source of information in ten Romanian fairy-tales, with a focus on indirect reportative evidence markers (e.g. *as they say*) and on attribution ones (e.g. *according to* NPs). The results show that these Romanian fairy-tales illustrate a large number of markers, such as *vorba ceea* ‘as they say’, *pe bună dreptate* ‘rightfully’, *pesemne* ‘apparently’, conditionals and logical deductions, and also that there is significant regional and genre variation between the two sub-corpora.

The focus of the next paper is the use of modal verbs. In “The semantics of modal verbs reflected in *Band of Brothers*” (pp. 128-139), Attila Imre discusses a shift between the use of regular modals and that of the non-central ones *get to* and *gotta* in American English. Following Leech et al. (2009) who argue that the use of particular modals (*shall*, *ought to* and *must*) has been declining, the author provides a quantitative analysis of the occurrence of these verbs in the TV series “*Band of Brothers*”, compared to the book. The results indicate an increase in the use of non-central modals, central modals representing only a third of the occurrences. The author further

argues that this shift, found especially in spoken language and less so in the book, is probably due to the influence of video entertainment.

Time metaphors are the central point of the next paper. In “Force Dynamic patterns in agentive time metaphors” (pp. 140-147), Zsuzsa Máthé provides a comparative analysis of time metaphors and time-related lexicalizations in English and Hungarian. Following primarily the theoretical models of Lakoff & Johnson (1980) and Talmy (2000), in their schema of causation and force dynamics theory, the author analyses time metaphors from formal, informal and literal texts from American and Hungarian corpuses. Looking primarily at the “time is change” metaphor, the author argues that, while the two languages typically use similar strategies to encode force dynamics, they differ in terms of the rates of negative polarity metaphors, which are more common in Hungarian than in English.

The next paper puts forth a comprehensive description of noun inflection in Romanian. In “Adnotări pe marginea flexiunii substantivale” [= Notes on nominal inflection] (pp. 148-162), G. G. Neamțu proposes a comparative analysis of the three primary nominal features: case, number and gender. The author provides a contrastive description across two properties: the inflectional and the relational status. While both case and number are seen as inflectional properties (the former being also relational), gender represents a non-inflectional and non-relational feature.

As Alina Olteanu-Câmpean’s paper, “Multilingualism in Romania” (pp. 163-173), shows, in Romania one can talk of at least two forms of multilingualism: a societal one, where linguistic diversity is captured by two legislative documents presented by the author – *The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities* and the *European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages* and an individual one, based on each speaker’s knowledge of more than one language. From the point of view of societal multilingualism, the author argues that there is a discrepancy between the linguistic richness found in this territory and the number of minority languages officially recognized, while, at an individual level, the educational system is argued to have a strong influence on the way (especially young) speakers come to learn and make use of at least one foreign language.

Cristiana Papahagi’s paper, “Complex colour expressions in Romanian” (pp. 174-186), explores a 2014 corpus in order to establish whether Romanian uses suffixation rather than composition with respect to colour expressions. Through a series of tasks, ranging from eliciting color expressions to respondents providing lists of colours, as well as through an overview of historical data, the author analyzes the strategies used by native speakers of Romanian with respect to color terminology. The results show that simple terms are preferred, followed by modifying expressions, compounds and complex descriptions. The author then compares these results with data from French and Occitan, providing a comparative picture of color expressions in these three languages.

Biblical metaphors are the focus of Cristian Pașcalău’s paper, “Metaforele biblice între lumi ficționale și intenționalitate non-fictivă” [= Biblical metaphors at the intersection of fictional world and non-fictional intentionality] (pp. 187-198). Following the framework of possible world semantics and reference theory, the author discusses a much-debated paradox, the idea according to which Biblical narrative, while being characterized by a non-fictional intentionality, gives rise to fictional worlds. By analyzing biblical fragments, Pașcalău argues in favour of a series of linguistic markers that mirror this paradox: the use of the past tense to talk about present events, existential quantifiers or the use of negative operators in association with modal expressions.

The authors of the next paper, “The wolf befriended the lamb: English translations of the Romanian word *cu*” (pp. 199-213), analyze the function and the meaning of the Romanian preposition *cu* at a clause level, a sentence one and lastly at a textual level. Hortenisa Pârlog and Loredana Pungă first show that *cu* can carry a number of functions, from a copulative or a

possessive one, to introducing a container, manner, time, cause or concession. At a textual level, it can function as a pragmatic idiom. As for the relation between *cu* and its English equivalents, the authors argue that English uses not only a wide range of preposition to convey the meaning and the functions of the Romanian *cu*, but also the mechanism of transposition, be it class-shift, structure-shift, a combination of explicitation and structure shift or intra-system shift.

A more recent topic of interest is discussed in Andrea Peterlicean's paper, "The language of online news: Coronavirus headlines" (pp. 214-219). Couched in the framework of Critical Discourse Analysis, this study investigates the distinct rhetorical mechanisms various publications have used when reporting news on the Coronavirus pandemic. Looking at headlines from around the world (Romania, the USA, China and the UK), the author argues that different ideologies (neutral, subjective and misleading) are reflected into the linguistic strategies used by these portals, such as elliptical sentences, certain lexical choices or the use of adjectives meant to intensify the emotional impact of the message.

In "Méta-genres dans l'espace virtuel" (pp. 220-233), Liana Pop analyses a series of websites and online forums and discusses the emergence of a new type of expression, focusing on the users' lexical choices, language level, abundance by grammatical rules and overall coherence. The author argues in favour of the so-called "folk-linguistics", an accessible meta-language where non-specialized speakers provide information and input on linguistic data. Pop presents two case-studies, one that resembles a glossary of the lexicon of young speakers and one question-answer online communication, which ends up resembling a dictionary article.

Maria Poponeț approaches a much debated topic in the field in her paper "On the event structure of inchoative verbs" (pp. 234-243). The author investigates the Romanian data and observes that inchoatives are incompatible with *de*-PPs which show agents or causers, on a par with English inchoatives (Alexiadou & Anagnostopoulou 2004). However, they do allow *de la*-PPs with non-agentive causers. Poponeț brings further evidence that *de la*-PPs can modify adjectives or some unergatives as well, similarly to *from*-PPs in English, thus strengthening the arguments against a vCAUS in the structures of inchoatives.

Ștefania Lucia Tarău, in "The acquisition of tense features in L1 Romanian" (pp. 244-256), presents empirical data coming from weekly recordings of 4 children in the early multi-word stage, who have Romanian as their first language. The study primarily focuses on the acquisition of realis mood features, the aim being to determine whether the structures used by children at this early stage are truly acquired or simply formulaic. The data show that these children produce several phi-feature mismatches, especially related to the [person] feature. Based on these observations, the author follows Chomsky (1995) and argues that, while children have knowledge of these features, for reasons of simplicity a default form is used.

The language of fashion is the central point of the next paper, as the name suggests. In "A semantics of the language of fashion" (pp. 257-263), Adriana Diana Urian presents data from two sub-corpora, namely fashion magazines and social media platforms. Following Barthes (1990), the author analyses fashion expressions as a language in itself and uncovers differences not only between the rhetoric used in social media and that from fashion magazines (in the case of the former language being simplified), but also in the case of various fashion magazines, where linguistic expressions differ depending on the profile, target audience and message conveyed.

Triadic medical communication is discussed by Marius Uzoni in his paper "Communication and language policies in the medical field" (pp. 264-273). The author looks into two distinct scenarios where doctor-patient communication is mediated by a third party, be it a relative of the patient or an interpreter. In an ever more global world, linguistic barriers can affect a medical interview, if the medical staff and the patient do not share the same language. The author presents both advantages of triadic medical communication (i.e. facilitation of the dialogue) but also

disadvantages (i.e. delay in information flow or a breach in patient-doctor confidentiality). The author also brings into discussion the need for legal regulations with respect to communication in the medical field.

This volume ends with Mihai Zdrengea and Dorin Chira's paper, "The past tense in collocation with time adverbials (A contrastive approach)" (pp. 274-279). The authors contrast the use of temporal adverbials in Romanian (a language with a three-way past tense system: *perfect compus*, *perfect simplu* and *imperfect*) and in English (which only has past simple and past continuous). The authors bring data on the use of various types of temporal adverbials (indefinite time adverbials, definite time adverbials and frequency ones) in order to put forth a comprehensive comparative picture of the compatibility of these tense forms in the two languages with the aforementioned adverbials.

Summing up, this volume consists of a series of diverse and rich papers, which mirror the wide range of topics professor Ștefan Oltean has been and still is interested in. These articles manage to answer much debated questions in the literature, bring considerable data from Romanian and other languages and pave the way for new directions of research.

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Tiparul s-a executat sub cda 4946/2022

la Tipografia **Editurii Universității din București – Bucharest University Press (EUB-BUP)**
