

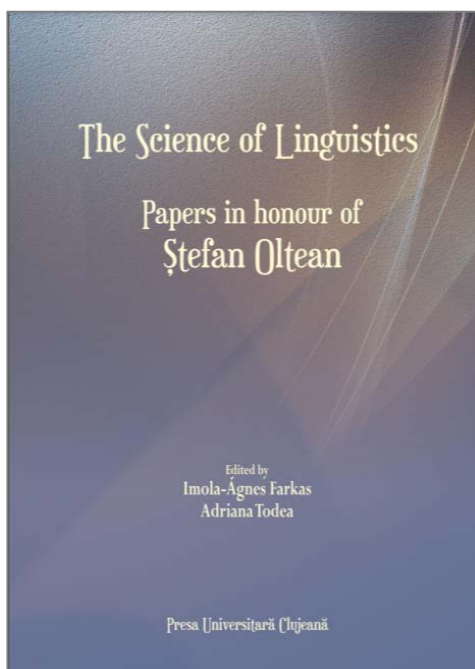
BOOKS

Farkas, Imola-Ágnes; Todea, Adriana (eds.), *The Science of Linguistics. Papers in honour of Ștefan Oltean*, Cluj-Napoca: Presa Universitară Clujeană, 2020, 279 p.

The collaborative volume *The Science of Linguistics* brings together a number of contributions on topics related to linguistic typology, sociolinguistics, onomastics, discourse analysis, multilingualism, language acquisition, and more. As such, the editors do justice to the title they have chosen, featuring authors and papers on subjects covering the wide spectrum of linguistic endeavours, that all

have one thing in common: the rigorous analysis of language. This volume is dedicated to professor Ștefan Oltean, mentor, advisor, friend, or colleague of many of the contributors to this volume.

The Science of Linguistics brings together 23 contributions in English, Romanian, and French. The articles are prefaced by a foreword signed by the editors, which describes the value of professor Oltean's contributions to Romanian linguistics through his main areas of interest



and research. In this review, I shall—for reasons of space—not discuss each article in-depth, but rather briefly present the main concepts and attitudes tackled in each contribution.

The first article is Andrei Avram's "*Spreading the Word: On the Diffusion of Gulf Pidgin Arabic*". This paper is an exploration of the varieties of Arabic taught to migrants, on the basis of a cumulative corpus consisting of five web-

sites and an e-book. The author considers the phonology, morphology and syntax, as well as the lexicon of this variety—identified as Gulf Pidgin Arabic—but notably also the sources of its dissemination.

The next article, Larisa Avram's "*English Mad Magazine Sentences. (Be) Infinitives?! I Don't Think So!*", offers a different view upon the problem of adult root infinitives identified in "*Mad magazine sentences*". Although agreeing to the premise that there exists a null modal

morpheme in such constructions, the author launches into an explanation as to why they represent subjunctives and not infinitives. The analysis presented in the paper employs an analogy with parentheticals in free indirect discourse, proposing that the coda and the echo of these constructions are considered a unit; the author then tackles the reasons for which the echo is a finite clause, and the role of the coda as the carrier of the assertoric force in the construction, c-commanding the echo.

The third article is Magdalena Ciubăncan's "*Cum traducem politețea? Mentalitatea japoneză în cuvinte românești*". This is a contribution within the field of translation studies, focusing on the difficulties of translating markers of politeness tightly correlated to the culture and background of the speakers. The author presents the contrastive features of politeness markers in Romanian, English, and Japanese, emphasizing the complexity of the linguistic system for expressing respect and politeness in Japanese, and the fluidity with which Japanese speakers move from one register to another. This is identified as the main difficulty translators face when rendering Japanese in a more western context, in which the move on the scale of politeness is rather unidirectional.

The fourth article is a joint contribution by Alexandra Cornilescu and Alina Tigău in which the authors discuss the expression type of proper names, specifically in naming constructions. In their "*The Use-Mention Distinction and the Functional Structure of Proper Names*", the authors propose a reference shift for proper names in naming constructions: from designating the bearer, to designating the name. As such, the proper names are not actually used in such constructions, but

rather simply mentioned. The presented analysis argues that naming constructions are not syntactic arguments for considering proper names as semantic predicates, and reiterates the retention of the nature of proper names as rigid designators, according to the Kripkian-Kaplanian analysis.

The fifth article, "*Returnee Vlogging and Culturalist Discourse*", is a joint contribution by Diana Cotrău and Oana Papuc, within the field of Internet linguistics. In their paper, the authors present a qualitative analysis of a corpus comprising computer-mediated, monologue-like discourse—specifically vlogs—as well as text responses, i.e. comments. The selection of speech samples is narrowed down to returnee vloggers, people who have immigrated or been part of the diaspora, and then returned to Romania. As such, the paper explores the culturalist nature of their discourse and the nationalistic rhetoric, employed throughout both the spoken medium, and the visual one, and finally the creation of a focal identity of the Romanian returnee as expressed by the selected vloggers.

Next follows an article within the field of both sociolinguistics and Internet linguistics by Bettina Ene: "*Game of Thrones – A Sociolinguistic View*". In this contribution, the author seeks to identify the prevalence of universe-specific conlangs within the online communication of members of the *Game of Thrones* fandom, and to explore whether they could be undergoing a pidginization process. The article is part of a work in progress, and it mainly presents the methodology for the corpus collection.

The seventh article is Imola-Ágnes Farkas' "*A Matter of Life and Death: Cognate Object Constructions with Live and Die*". The paper investigates cognate object constructions with *live* and *die* in

English, Romanian, and Hungarian, focusing on both the syntactic and semantic features of these constructions. These verbs are considered at the borderline between unaccusative and unergative verbs, being examples of unaccusative mismatch. The author shows that the peculiar behaviour of these verbs seems consistent with the Romanian and Hungarian data as well.

The eighth article is Ligia Stela Florea's "*Discursul raportat din perspectivă polifonică*". The author presents an exploration into the field of textual pragmatics, analysing samples of reported speech according to the type of participants identified. This approach, although in agreement with some of the existent proposals, differs from the methodology proposed by the Scapoline group and re-defines certain terminological distinctions. After offering clarifications on the proposed theoretical approach, the author goes on to exemplify the methodology through the analysis of two samples of literary texts.

The next article is Silvia Florea's "*Reportative Evidentiality and Attribution in Creangă's and Ispirescu's Fairy Tales*". This contribution is part of a larger study, and its aim is to analyse the frequency and functional diversity, pragmatic intention, and the deictic functions of indirect evidentiality constructions on the basis of a corpus made up of Romanian fairy tales. The paper presents a summary of the types of evidentiality—looking specifically at reportative evidentiality and attribution—as well as a brief presentation of the main studies on Romanian evidentiality. Through the analysis of the corpus, the author identifies varied instances of indirect evidentiality, presenting some of the most common lexical realizations and the different functions they serve.

The tenth piece is Attila Imre's "*The Semantics of Modal Verbs Reflected in Band of Brothers*". In this article, the author discusses central and non-central modal verbs, arguing for the importance of including non-central modal verbs frequently found and used in informal American English in rigorous linguistic studies. The analysis is based on a corpus containing speech samples from the book and television series "Band of Brothers". Besides the analysis of frequency and meaning of different modals, the author also argues for the importance of recognizing the evolving nature of language, and as such seriously considering examples of language beyond the 'prescriptive' for linguistic analysis.

The following article is Zsuzsa Máthé's "*Force Dynamic Patterns in Agentive Time Metaphors*". In this contribution, the author analyses a corpus of metaphors containing the node word 'time', in English and Hungarian. The proposal is that certain cognitive processes involving time could differ in terms of lexicalization in the two languages. The specific cases that are analysed are instances of force dynamic patterns, where time appears as an agent, a causative force. Of interest is the high number of metaphors with negative polarity force in Hungarian compared to English. However, generally more positive and neutral metaphors appear in both languages overall. The scale of polarity in instances where time is associated with force dynamic patterns is believed to differ from one language to another.

The next contribution is G. G. Neamțu's "*Adnotări pe marginea flexiunii substantivale*". This is an exploration of the nominal inflection through the specific grammatical categories that affect it. The author presents an analytical view of

the terminology, function, and scope of the specific categories of case, number, and gender. Multiple perspectives are taken into consideration when exploring these issues at the level of phrase, respectively content, and the author extends the discussion to tackle properties of pronouns and adjectives by extension through the issues brought forth by the grammatical categories of nominals.

Next is Alina Oltean-Cîmpean's "*Multilingualism in Romania*". The author describes a legislative framework for the discussion presented in the paper. Specifically, the issue of multilingualism and how it is tackled within the legislative contexts of the European Union on the one hand, and the Romanian legislation on the other hand. Besides the societal multilingualism identified in Romania, the author also presents how Romania encourages multilingualism at an individual level through the specific school system in which, besides the mother tongue, students are encouraged to learn at least two other languages. As a part of the paper, we find an argument for how individual multilingualism is prevalent in Romanian, with examples of English words and phrases already adopted by speakers in everyday, informal speech.

The next article is Cristiana Papahagi's "*Complex Colour Expressions in Romanian*". The paper presents an analysis of an original corpus constructed through interviews. It is important to note that the experimental corpus at the basis of the paper is of context-free colour terms. The analysis looks at the proportion of simple (including colour names derived from nouns) and complex answers; the researcher considers for analysis compound words, as well as derived words, identifying three suffixes that appeared

in the corpus. Colour-modifying adjectives concerning brightness and saturation were also identified. The author also compares the original findings with an analogue analysis of similar corpora from French and Occitan.

The fifteenth article is Cristian Pașcalău's "*Metaforele biblice între lumi ficționale și intenționalitate nonfictivă*". This is a study of biblical metaphors within the framework of cognitive semantics, possible worlds semantics, and modal referential semantics. The author tackles the issue of referentiality and the semantics of the different names for God as found in the Bible, and inquires over the fictional worlds created through the narrative lines of the biblical stories. As such, the discussion migrates towards the nature of the possible worlds created through the metaphors, as bordering the fictional and non-fictional.

The next article is a joint contribution by Hortensia Pârlog and Loredana Pungă, "*The Wolf Befriended the Lamb: English Translations of the Romanian Word Cu*". The analysis presented in this article reflects upon the use of the preposition "cu" and its semantic roles in different syntactic constructions. According to the authors, the preposition can cover a variety of meanings, acting as a guiding item towards reaching the proper interpretation of the clausal unit in which it appears. The paper also considers the challenge of translating the preposition "cu" according to the various meanings it receives in different configurations.

What follows is a contribution by Andrea Peterlicean, "*The Language of Online News: Coronavirus Headlines*". In this article, the author compiles a number of headlines centred around the coronavirus pandemic and analyses them through the

prism of Fairclough and Wodak's Critical Discourse Analysis. The analysis is mostly a lexical one, with inferences being made on the ideological colourings of certain media outlets and journalists.

The following contribution is Liana Pop's "*Méta-genres dans l'espace virtuel*". This paper presents an analytical view of an original corpus composed of speech samples of metalinguistic discourse in computer-mediated communication instances (forums and comments). The analysis concerns two major groups identified in the corpus: commentaries on the linguistic system and its norms, and commentaries on the different forms and genres of discourse. Through the analysis of the corpus, the author identifies multiple meta-genres which can be situated on a spectrum of expertise ranging from non-specialists to experts on the topic of language and its use. The implication of the author is that this new medium is a fertile ground for exploration, specifically for cognitive linguistics, given the possibility to explore different manifestations of a mental lexicon.

The next article is Maria Poponeț's "*On the Event Structure of Inchoative Verbs*". The main structure analysed in the paper is "*de la*" from-PPs in English and Romanian, in their position as identifiers of causative heads or a causative event in configurations with inchoative verbs. The author reaches the conclusion that this property of from-PPs to "diagnose" the presence of implicit causative events in inchoative constructions needs to be reassessed.

A contribution within the field of child language acquisition, Ștefania Lucia Tărău's "*The Acquisition of Tense Features in L1 Romanian*" is an investigation with a Minimalist theoretical framework, based on a corpus of Romanian L1 children. The

author presents a brief summary of the theoretical framework, emphasizing the nativist arguments and the treatment of functional categories within the Minimalist program. The choice of framework impacts the analysis of the empirical data. The original corpus is subject to a qualitative analysis through which the author identifies patterns regarding *realis* mood features and their production and interpretation in Romanian L1 children, and makes use of a morphological and syntactical analysis.

The next article is Adriana Diana Urian's "*A Semantics of the Language of Fashion*". This contribution is centred around the exploration of niche language use as it appears in fashion magazines and in social media outlets, building on the model work of Roland Barthes from his "The Fashion System". The author argues that fashion has a language of its own, placing emphasis on the international nature of its use. The exploration of the semantic of fashion items within the context of social media takes into account structural changes that occur because of this medium, as well as the complementary presence of visual imagery.

The second to last article is Marius Uzoni's "*Communication and Language Policies in the Medical Field*". This paper is part of a larger research endeavour by the author, and it tackles the importance of languages and communication in the medical field, specifically in the context of an ever-expanding globalism where non-native patients and doctors must interact through a common language. The author explores the options for overcoming the linguistic barrier in such instances, particularly through training medical staff in global languages incorporated into the medical school curriculum,

or through the use of a third party, an interpreter, trained in specialized medical field language.

The final article is a joint contribution by Mihai Zdrenghea and Dorin Chira, "*The Past Tense in Collocation with Time Adverbials (A Contrastive Approach)*". This is an exploration of the Romanian past tense verb forms, their meaning and aspectual properties, especially when used in configurations with time and frequency adverbials. The authors consider various restrictions that are applied in these configurations, as well as the semantic correlates between the two components of these constructions. The comparative approach is drawn between Romanian and English past tense forms.

It must be said that although it is generally expected of collective volumes to correlate the contributions and create a flow to the order of presentation, this is not possible in such an eclectic volume, where the contributions tackle a vast array of subjects. The editors' decision to arrange the articles based on the alphabetical order of the contributors' names seems to be the sensible choice considering the nature of this volume.

Overall, the volume offers its readers an exciting array of topics and scientific inquiries into language and communication, being a compilation of interests among which each linguist is likely to find at least one contribution of interest.

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