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Any English in the Future?

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The general assumption which prevails nowadays understands English as a language which is spreading around the world incredibly fast, thus becoming a global language. The aim of this paper is to analyze the circumstances that have caused English to become the leading world language and the possible ways of approach to English in the future. Is there going to be one uniform standard English language or is the tendency rather towards a plurality of Englishes? Or, is there any other language which could overtake this specific role of English? How is English influenced by other languages – and can we still call it English? The paper attempts to provide some hints and suggestions concerning the above mentioned questions.

Keywords: English, World Englishes, lingua franca, Slovenglish, intercultural communication

The Conceptual Dimension **SEXUALITY** as a Typical Facet of Zoosemy

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*As one may reasonably expect, sexuality broadly understood seems to play an important role in the formation of zoosemes targeted at the conceptual category **HUMAN BEING**. The conceptual domain **SEXUALITY** is not only closely related to the conceptual category **HUMAN BEING** but, more importantly, it may be simultaneously regarded as one of the conceptual dimensions by means of which the conceptual category **DOMESTICATED ANIMALS** is related to the conceptual category **HUMAN BEING**. Thus the aim of the present paper is to provide a historical account of selected aspects of English zoosemy; that is, the process of semantic alteration whereby animal names come to be employed to designate human characteristics.*

Keywords: zoosemy, sexuality, conceptual dimension, metaphor

**Kooperácia fonetickej a syntaktickej roviny
na korpuse filmového dialógu
(v angličtine, v nemčine a v slovenčine)**

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Štúdia predstavuje výsledky interdisciplinárneho výskumu realizovaného v rámci sondy do diskurzu sitkomu. Výskumným zámerom bolo pozorovať hovorený prejav v sémanticky identických výpovediach v troch jazykových mutáciách (anglickej, nemeckej a slovenskej). Výskumný korpus tvorilo 50 úvodných výpovedí jednej epizódy sitkomu „Priatelia“. Stanovili sme si za cieľ skúmať, ako kooperácia fonetickej a syntaktickej roviny prispieva k výstižnosti a k stručnosti, k typickým charakteristikám sitkomu. Fonetická analýza odhalila, že najvyššiu frekvenciu výskytu mala extrémne krátka pauza vo všetkých troch jazykových verziách. Syntaktická analýza poukázala na vysokú frekvenciu výskytu jednoduchých dvojčlenných viet a veľmi nízku frekvenciu výskytu súvetí. Prepojenie fonetickej a syntaktickej zložky poukázalo na opozíciu anglická a nemecká mutácia vs. slovenská mutácia. Predpokladáme, že dôvodom je na jednej strane genealogické pozadie skúmaných jazykov a na strane druhej rozdielne prekladové techniky. Výskum potvrdil, že ústnosť a stručnosť (typické črty sitkomu) sa prejavili aj individuálne – v rámci fonetickej aj syntaktickej roviny, aj vo vzájomnej kooperácii týchto dvoch rovín.

The present study provides an interdisciplinary approach to the research on sitcom discourse. The research aim was to observe semantically identical utterances in three language versions (English, German and Slovak). The corpus of the study is based on an episode from the sitcom Friends. The study investigates the manner of cooperation between phonetic and syntactic levels and the contribution of this interaction to the precision and conciseness as typical features of sitcom. The phonetic analysis revealed the highest frequency of extremely short pauses in all three versions. The syntactic analysis showed a high frequency of simple two-member sentences and very low frequency of compound/complex sentences. The interrelation of explored phonetic and syntactic aspects unveiled the opposition of English and German versions versus a Slovak version. The reasons seem to be different genealogical background of the studied languages and various translation techniques. The features typical of sitcom, conciseness and precision appeared to be manifested both on individual language levels and in their cooperation.

Kľúčové slová: mediálny dialóg, sitkom, hovorený prejav, fonetická analýza, syntaktická analýza, temporálna pauza, typológia viet

Keywords: media dialogue, sitcom, speech, phonetic analysis, syntactic analysis, pause duration, sentence typology

Trauma, Self and Memory in the World War II Poems by Richard Hugo

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The article provides a fresh reading of the war poems by Richard Hugo. His reputation as a poet of lonely American landscapes has caused his readers to ignore his war trauma poems. These poems, written over his entire career, make him an important, if hitherto unrecognized, American chronicler of World War II and its psychological impact upon the sensibility of the lyric poet.

Keywords: Richard Hugo, American poetry, war, regionalist, confessional, trauma, self, memory, landscape

Attempted Rejections and Affirmations of the Big Other: Hazel Motes and Flannery O'Connor

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*This article examines the conception of Jacques Lacan's big Other in Flannery O'Connor's *Wise Blood* (1949). Using as a point of departure O'Connor's refusal to not only acknowledge the merits of psychoanalysis but also to altogether deny the existence of the unconscious, this article explores how this stance is disproved in O'Connor's writing. Furthermore, this article speculates upon the reasons for O'Connor's position in regard to psychoanalysis as stemming from fears in O'Connor's own unconscious. These unconscious fears relate to O'Connor's terminal illness and her subsequent desire to keep her religious beliefs firmly intact.*

Keywords: O'Connor, Lacan, psychoanalysis, big Other, méconnaissance, Žižek, abjection, Kristeva

The Song of Initiation by Leonard Cohen

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This paper aims at examining spiritual contexts in the work of the Canadian singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen. Its structure resembles a web, or a grid which tries to reconcile the division between the secular and spiritual realms with regard to Cohen's oeuvre. The intersection of these two concepts is understood to be the climax of an initiatory experience triggered by longing for self-knowledge and love. It accepts the idea that the esoteric teachings in the singer's output contain strong reflections of the mystical aspects of Sûfism and Kabbalah.

Keywords: song, knowledge, individuation, initiation, esotericism, religion, sexuality

The Life and Music of Generation X

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The aim of this article is to present the background and conditions in which the members of so-called Generation X grew up. The term Generation X is used to describe people born between 1965 and 1978 who lived in an unfriendly society which led a self-destructive life. The article further centers on the analysis of the lyrics of the Seattle music scene bands that reflect the feelings and problems of the young people.

Keywords: Generation X, single-parent families, drugs, music, grunge, lyrics

‘Grappling with the present by writing about the past’

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The following paper addresses some of the primarily methodological and terminological questions that need to be considered before commencing an analysis of film from the viewpoint of film history. The issues that are discussed here include the definition of the genre and the (im)possibility of accuracy and authenticity in its depiction or rather interpretation of history. Finally, a more specific topic – national identity, the role of history in its construction and the suitability of film as the material for its analysis – is touched upon and considered in the light of the above-mentioned aspects of the genre.

Keywords: history, myth, national identity, historical film, film history

Průsečíky v životě a tvorbě Robinsona Jefferse a Johna Steinbecka

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Tato esej se zabývá styčnými plochami v životě a díle Robinsona Jefferse a Johna Steinbecka. Přestože oba patřili v komunistickém Československu k nejpopulárnějším americkým autorům, souvislost mezi nimi hledal jen málokdo. Představená analýza se opírá jak o archiválie z pozůstalosti autorů, tak rozbor primárních textů. Zaměřuje se přitom na ozvuky Jeffersovy poezie ve Steinbeckově rané tvorbě, které lze vysledovat především v románu Neznámému bohu.

This essay probes the contact zones in the lives and works of Robinson Jeffers and John Steinbeck. Despite the fact that both ranked among the most popular American authors in communist Czechoslovakia, hardly anyone has sought points of similarity between them. The analysis presented in this paper draws on archival materials as well as on a close reading of primary texts. In so doing, it focuses on the echoes of Jeffers' poetry in the early works of John Steinbeck, which can be traced especially in the novel To a God Unknown.

Klíčová slova: Robinson Jeffers, John Steinbeck, Kalifornie, příroda, vliv, paralely

Keywords: Robinson Jeffers, John Steinbeck, California, nature, influence, parallels