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'Lautverschiebung'. Un composto ottocentesco con mutazione di genere

Salvatore Claudio Sgroi

Studi italiani di linguistica teorica e applicata XLVIII, 2 (2009), pp. 199-226

SUMMARY

The A. reconstructs the history of Germanism *Lautverschiebung* (a German term coined by J. Grimm in 1822 and, in the Italian language, a masculine or, more rarely, feminine noun) documented at last from 1868, 1876, 1877 and so on in Italian comparative-historical and general linguistics and in general and specialised lexicography, as well as English, French and Spanish linguistics. Several competitive synonyms/translations are examined.

L'italiano dei viaggiatori stranieri

Gabriella Cartago

Studi italiani di linguistica teorica e applicata XLVIII, 2 (2009), pp. 227-262

SUMMARY

The first part of the study is an analysis of in which different ways translators face the presence of Italian borrowings and Italian elements in the travel literature of the Tour of Italy. The second part is dedicated to travellers' observations about Italian language and Italian dialects.

Complessità linguistica e variazione sintattica

Giuliana Fiorentino

Studi italiani di linguistica teorica e applicata XLVIII, 2 (2009), pp. 281-312

SUMMARY

In this paper I analyse the notion of linguistic complexity. It has been recently applied by linguists, above all in cross-linguistic analysis, in order to discuss on language change or on patterns in language acquisition which recur both in languages that do not belong to the same linguistic family and in languages that belong to different types. In the second part of the paper I apply the notion of linguistic complexity in order to describe and to explain some aspects of syntactic variability in Italian.

*La struttura Weil+V2 in un corpus di tedesco parlato contemporaneo.
Analisi sociolinguistica*

Michela Biolcati

Studi italiani di linguistica teorica e applicata XLVIII, 2 (2009), pp. 313-334

SUMMARY

This paper focuses on a construction from modern spoken German called *weil+V2*. This term refers to causal clauses introduced by *weil* with verb in main clause position. The article is organized as follows: after a first introductory section, section 2 presents an overview of the main analyses of *weil+V2* from the 80's to the present day. The reported studies show its syntactic, semantic and prosodic behaviour by comparison with *weil+Vend* clauses (i.e. the standard *weil* clauses with verb in final position). This section also provides an overview of the main hypotheses concerning the influence of sociolinguistic variables over the use of *weil+V2*. Section 3 presents an empirical study based on interviews and narrations and aimed at investigating the correlation between the use of *weil+V2* and the diatopic variable. The informants are twenty 20-30 year-old academics from north (Kiel, Schleswig- Holstein) and south Germany (Munich, Bavaria) and Austria (Vienna). The results of the quantitative analysis show that the choice between the two word order patterns (*weil+V2* and *weil+Vend*) in present-day spoken German does not depend on where speakers come from. However, the qualitative analysis shows some discourse-pragmatic principles that might influence speakers' choices. Although the research is based on a quite limited number of informants and very specific discourse types, the results emerging from such a description could show a trend in action in modern spoken German.

*Descrizione del quadro fenomenologico dialettale
di area sorrentina in relazione a quello del confinante territorio amalfitano*

Giuseppe Vitolo

Studi italiani di linguistica teorica e applicata XLVIII, 2 (2009), pp. 335-350

SUMMARY

The dialectal research in the Peninsula of Sorrento, concerning the dialects of Massa Lubrense (town), Nerano, Torca, Termini, Sant'Agata sui due Golfi (outlying villages of Massa Lubrense), Ticciano, Arola (outlying villages of Vico Equense) and, in the Coast of Amalfi, the varieties of Praiano and Bomerano and Pianillo (outlying villages of Agerola), pointed out a series of phonetic, morphological and syntactical characteristics: for example an accented vowel system that is in part or almost all different from that one of the napolitan dialect, according to the examined varieties, and, in the same accented vowel system, the use of two types of 'metaphony', the napolitan and the amalfitan metaphony. Among the most important phenomenons of the consonant system there are the retro-inflexion in the dialect of Praiano, but not in the dialects that have been studied in the Peninsula of Sorrento, the 'gammacism', that is present on both the examined areas, the phenomenons of 'doubling' and 'splitting' of intervocalic /l/, the first one typical of the Sorrento area, the second one of the Amalfi Coast, that furthermore is characterized by the 'doubling' and the 'splitting' of intervocalic /m/, that, especially in the varieties of the Peninsula of Sorrento, co-exist, unlike the dialects of Amalfi

Coast, that show a greater inclination to 'splitting'. Concerning the phono-syntax, we can observe the absence of the 'phonosyntactical doubling' in the Sorrento area, in particularly in the auxiliary and copular constructions, but a considerable frequency of this phenomenon in the dialects of the Coast of Amalfi. At last it is interesting to observe, in the examined varieties in the Peninsula of Sorrento and in the Coast of Amalfi, the use of auxiliary systems that show the auxiliary selection not according to the verbal classes, but according to the person of the subject.