

## *Studies of particular languages*

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**ENGLISH** See also abstract 76–76

**76–93 Huddleston, Rodney.** Homonymy in the English verbal paradigm. *Lingua* (Amsterdam) **37**, 2/3 (1975), 151–76.

This paper investigates the amount of homonymy (in which two or more words in a paradigm are realised by the same word-form) that it is appropriate to postulate for the inflectional paradigm of English verbs; the reduction in homonymy from traditional grammars is seen to be based largely on a rejection of the principle that an inflectional distinction applying in the paradigm of one member of a lexeme class necessarily applies in all other non-defective members.

The discussion is broadened to include consideration of the extension to other verbs of the inflectional categories phonologically marked only in the paradigm of *be*. The traditional analysis distinguishes Past and Present Indicative and Subjunctive. This is to claim, unjustifiably, that the syntactic difference between *is* and *was* is the same as that between *be* and *were*. Consequently, the analysis of *he were* as Past is rejected in favour of Present Unreal. It is argued that the Indicative/Unreal mood distinction should be extended from *be* to all verbs, although it does not seem appropriate to apply this principle in the case of the concordial contrasts of *am/are* and *was/were* in Present and Past Indicative respectively.

### **FRENCH**

**76–94 Walker, Douglas C.** Lexical stratification in French phonology. *Lingua* (Amsterdam), **37**, 2/3 (1975), 177–96.

Lexical stratification, indicated by diacritic features such as [foreign], [Romance], [learned], etc., is a widespread characteristic of contemporary phonological descriptions. Some of the evidence distinguishing the learned from the non-learned lexical stratum in modern French is outlined. When the learned vocabulary is incorporated into a standard phonological description of the language, the resulting analysis is highly abstract and not well correlated with data from language acquisition. Several aspects of the analysis of French phonology presented in Schane, *French phonology and morphology*, are discussed from this perspective, and an alternative dealing with stratal differences in a more concrete and lexically oriented manner is suggested. [References].

GERMAN *See abstracts 76–76, –90, –141*

## SPANISH

**76–95** **Díaz Castañón, C.** Sobre la terminación ‘-ado’ en el español de hoy. [On the ending ‘-ado’ in contemporary Spanish.] *Revista Española de Lingüística* (Madrid), 5, 1 (1975), 111–20.

The literature on *-ado* is reviewed, establishing the stylistically governed absence of the fricative element. This absence is not stable for a purely phonetic environment. Relative frequency of the respective lexical item plays a role also in its absence or retention. Five degrees of reduction are distinguished. The absence of /d/ is not restricted to uneducated speakers. There is a tendency towards its greater preservation among young female speakers, whilst older, male speakers tend not to pronounce it. [History of *-ado* vs. *-ao*.] [Statistics of the investigation.] Speakers in general are aware of the special morphological status of participial *-ado*. Foreign learners appear to regard the absence of /d/ as a favoured marker. The gradation with respect to /d/ seems to be a stable sociolinguistic indicator.

**76–96** **Fernández Lagunilla, Marina.** Acerca de la secuencia ‘se impersonal+enclítico de 3ª persona’: ¿una restricción superficial? [Is the restriction on sequences of impersonal ‘se’+3rd person clitic pronoun really only a surface matter?] *Revista Española de Lingüística* (Madrid), 5, 1 (1975), 177–93.

The problem of the absence of sequences of (impersonal) *se+lo(s)* is raised. [Earlier approaches.] This *se* is regarded as a [–specific, +human] subject, and not as the output of any sort of reflexive transformation. The NP object with *a* is not an underlying dative, since related sentences show non-dative cases. Perlmutter’s output constraints do not explain the unacceptability of the *se+lo(s)* sequence, but in fact permit it to occur, which it does where *se* is reflexive and dative.

A solution is proposed involving a pronominalisation transformation sensitive to the non-superficial information that the subject is [–specific, +human], i.e. to the derivational history including the ‘impersonal transformation’, and also [+masculine]. Without a condition on pronominalisation, *lo* would be output, rendering the construction superficially ambiguous with those others where *se* is reflexive and dative. *Le* occurs for *lo* in order to avoid this ambiguity. The overriding requirement of gender-marking prevents the application of a strategy for disambiguation in the case of feminine direct objects. The article also incidentally contributes an example of an ordered pair of transformations. [Bibliography.]

- 76-97** **Lozano, A. G.** In defense of two subjunctives. *Hispania* (Appleton, Wis), **58**, 2 (1975), 277-83.

This article is a reply to Bolinger (1974) (see abstract 76-23). Lozano validates his binary description of the Spanish subjunctive by reference to the semantic categories set up by Gili y Gaya within the 'classical' approach, and by reference to the existence of subjunctive and optative in Ancient Greek, the surface functions of both of which were covered by the single formal subjunctive in Latin. [Borderline cases between the two 'subjunctives'.] There are verbs in Spanish (e.g. *decir*) whose single surface form covers two separate units and associated syntactic features, and these features are therefore latent but real, as is the case with the two 'subjunctives'. The two differ in their behaviour toward negation in the matrix sentence, embedding of *tienes que* and co-occurrence with perfectives. [Summary in chart form. Some classification of the two. The borderline between the semantic criteria for them. Notes.]

- 76-98** **Perl, Máthias.** Teoría de valencias y investigaciones semánticas de verbos españoles. ['Valenztheorie' and research into the semantics of Spanish verbs.] *Lenguaje y Ciencias* (Trujillo), **15**, 2 (1975), 47-55.

Valency theory, as formulated by Tesnière, Helbig and Schenkel and others is discussed. In its application to lexicography, it equips lexical entries with a semantic description in terms of predicate calculus, and a semantic-syntactic description in terms of a componential analysis of the verb and its associated nouns. [Usefulness in diagramming translation equivalence.] Syntactic well-formedness is diagrammed by matching components of different elements of the sentence. [Applications of the theory. Notes.]