Sanja Berberović
University of Tuzla
Faculty of Philosophy


The volume presents a collection of papers written to honour Professor Elvira Petrović, who founded the Department of English Language and Literature of the University of Osijek in 1977 and acted as head of the Department until 2004 when she retired. Professor Petrović’s friends, colleagues and students found the occasion of her seventieth birthday a suitable event to express to her their deepest respects and gratitude.

The volume opens up with a section containing Professor Petrović’s biographical notes, the editors’ introduction, and an interview with Professor Petrović. Additionally, in their articles, M. Vilke and D. Kalogjera paint a professional, yet personal portrait of Professor Elvira Petrović. Seven sections, each containing papers that tackle different issues, follow the opening section.

Sections one and two, entitled Teaching English: The Teacher’s Perspective and Teaching English: From the Learner’s Point of View contain papers on methodological issues in TEFL. The third section, entitled Language(s) and Literature(s) in Social, Educational and Cultural Context examines language and literature learning from different aspects.

The next three sections are entirely dedicated to linguistic issues. In section four, M. Bratanić, M. Omazić, and G. Milić in their papers give their contribution to lexicological issues.

In the paper On the lack of norm in Croatian subject field terminologies and how to deal with it, M. Bratanić discusses the lack of strategy of terminology planning in the Croatian language. As observed by the author, the growing communication needs produce acquisition of special terminologies and, rather than being standardized, the use of special terminologies is subject to free interpretations and individual choices. It appears that the task of terminology planning in the Croatian language is assigned to terminological glossaries and dictionaries, the roles of which the author discusses. In an attempt to underline the
importance of terminology planning, the author gives an overview of the most important traits and strategies of linguistic standardization, accompanied with examples of how several countries have applied such strategies to successfully accomplish terminology standardization. In conclusion, the author sets the aims of terminology planning in the Croatian language.

M. Omazić’s paper, *Phraseology-the state of the art* aims to prove that phraseology, although a new linguistic discipline, occupies a more important place in linguistics than in the periphery where it is often placed. Phraseological units are the focus of attention of a variety of fields ranging from lexicology, foreign language teaching, and discourse analysis to cognitive linguistics and stylistics. The author presents the development of phraseology as a linguistic discipline and touches upon the current trends in phraseological research. As the discipline is characterized by the presence of numerous open questions, such as inconsistent terminology and different definitions of and approaches to phraseological units, it appears that phraseology has yet to strengthen its position in linguistics.

G. Milić’s paper, *Some issues concerning deadjectival conversion to nouns*, tries to determine whether adjectives used as nouns are the product of a word-formation process, which is a syntactic approach to this issue, or are the results of semantic change, which is a cognitive linguistics approach. The important characteristics of both approaches are considered in detail. Taking into consideration a variety of criteria, from syntactic to semantic and historical ones, the author concludes that the examples analyzed are best regarded as the results of profiling by using metonymy and metaphor.


In her paper *Degrees of grammaticalization*, O. Mišeska Tomić concentrates on the variance between English and the South Slavic languages with respect to grammaticalization. The author considers formal properties manifested in English and the South Slavic languages, such as valance, voice, person, number and modality. O. Mišeska Tomić also shows how language contacts introduce changes in grammaticalization of individual features.

The attention of A. Imamović’s paper, *Adjectives as gender selectors in English and Croatian*, is focused on adjectives in restricted collocations that exhibit gender agreement with the nouns they premodify or predicate. Contrary to syntactic rules, these modifiers select the head-word. The adjectives as gender selectors fall into three groups according to their semantic features i.e. adjectives
that describe biological features, those that describe appearance and behavior, and those that lexicalize cultural and social background. A comparative analysis of these adjectives in English and Croatian presented in the paper leads to a conclusion that some of the semantic features incompatible with the nouns of masculine or feminine gender are language-specific, while others are language-universal.

The paper by M.-M. Stanojević, *Bounding in perfective and imperfective verbs*, examines verbal aspect and the effects of the perfective/imperfective distinction on translation equivalence. Taking a cognitive point of view on equivalence, M.-M. Stanojević focuses on Polish verbs of seeing *widzieć* (imperfective ‘see’) and *zobaczyć* (perfective ‘see’) and their translation into Croatian using the dual aspect verb *vidjeti* ‘see’. In certain contexts, Croatian verb *vidjeti* successfully establishes an equivalent construal. In some other contexts, the Croatian translation with the prefix of *vidjeti* in underspecified in comparison to Polish *widzieć/zobaczyć* and results in different construal bounding and figure/ground alignment in the Croatian target. M.-M. Stanojević’s analysis confirms the dynamic nature of equivalence.

The peripheral instances of conditional clauses, namely indirect conditional clauses, are the subject matter D. Vidaković discusses in her paper *Indirect conditional clauses in English and their equivalents in Croatian*. The author gives an overview of the types of English indirect conditional clauses and provides detailed description of each category. A contrastive analysis of English conditional clauses and their Croatian counterparts, based on formal and lexical correspondence, indicates that, with most types of indirect conditional clauses, the difference between English and Croatian is insignificant.

Section Six of the volume, entitled *Cognitive Processes and Language* embraces papers by L. Komlósi, D. Kučanda, T. Gradečak-Erdeljić, G. Buljan, and M. Brdar.

*Social reality as a reward for cooperation: On the task of figuring-out implicit information in verbal communication* by L. Komlósi investigates the nature of cooperation in verbal communication. The author gives an overview of theories aiming to describe cooperativity, such as the ones of Putnam, Grice, Sperber and Wilson, Levinson, Lakoff, Bruner, and Talmy. The author gives evidence that cooperation is demonstrated on different levels. L. Komlósi concludes that social reality functions as the foundation of social understanding.

D. Kučanda’s paper, *Syntactic functions, semantic roles and metonymy*, challenges the traditional explanations of the differences in subjectivization of se-
mantic roles in terms of Semantic Function Hierarchies and cut-off points and, in turn, proposes an alternative analysis within the framework of cognitive linguistics. The comparison of a number of English sentences with their counterparts in German and Croatian indicates that the differences in subjectivization of semantic roles can be analyzed as the differences in metonymization.

In her paper entitled *Metonymy and grammatical recategorization of nouns*, T. Gradečak-Erdeljić considers metonymy as a valuable didactic tool in presenting transpositions from mass nouns into count nouns and vice versa offers. As count/noncount distinction in English nouns poses problems for foreign language students, numerous suggestions on the treatment of this issue have been proposed, ranging from creation of dictionaries based on count/noncount distinction to the studying of nouns in noun phrases rather than as lexical entries. Retaining the count/noncount distinction, the author shows that metonymy, as well as other cognitive mechanisms, can help language students extract rules themselves rather than simply memorizing them.

In her paper *Most u grlu – Metonymy and conceptual integration in idiom modifications: A case study*, G. Buljan uses the theory of blending as a tool for uncovering conceptual complexity hidden behind a hyperbolic modification of a Croatian idiomatic expression. The author shows that metaphoric and metonymic mappings prior to blending are a precondition for the creation of the idiom. Recurrence and different functions of metonymy in the creation of the modified idiom are placed into the focus. Metonymy is claimed to expand the two original input spaces, metaphorical mappings are said to depend on double metonymic mappings within the target input and metonymy is assumed to motivate hyperbole.

M. Brdar’s paper, *How pure is the pure hyperbole? The role of metonymic mappings on the construction of some hyperbolic effects*, attempts to define the cognitive status of expressions referred to as hyperbole by answering two questions: Can hyperbole appear in isolation without being supported by other tropes and is hyperbole a trope at all? Discussing examples of ‘pure’ hyperboles, the author arrives at the conclusion that hyperbole is based on metonymic mappings and that a feasible definition based an isomorphic relation between linguistic form and a corresponding meaning shift cannot be devised.

The volume is rounded off by a section dedicate to literary criticism which contains papers by B. Berić, S. Brekalo, I. Crawford, R.Ch. Weber, S. Runtić, and S. Nikićević.
Overall, the issues discussed and insights presented in over thirty papers dealing with linguistics, language teaching and literature indeed present the current topics and trends in research in these fields. The volume, written to celebrate the career of Professor Petrović, can be seen as her own legacy, as well as a valuable contribution of her students and colleagues to their respective fields of interest.