

RECENSIONES

Dante i slavenski svijet/Dante e il mondo slavo. Atti del Convegno internazionale, a cura di Frano Cale, Zagabria, JAZU, 1984, voll. 2, pp. XLIV + 857.

Dopo quasi tre anni di faticosa stesura appaiono ora gli attesi Atti del Convegno internazionale «Dante e il mondo slavo» che ha avuto luogo a Dubrovnik dal 26 al 29 ottobre 1981. I due grossi volumi sono stati curati da Frano Cale, ordinario di Letteratura italiana nell'Università di Zagabria e membro collaboratore dell'Accademia Jugoslava delle Scienze e delle Arti di Zagabria, il quale è stato anche presidente del Comitato organizzatore del Convegno.

Il convegno dedicato ai legami tra il sommo Poeta ed il mondo slavo è stato organizzato dalla Sezione di Letteratura Moderna dell'Accademia Jugoslava delle Scienze e delle Arti di Zagabria, in collaborazione con l'Associazione Internazionale per lo Studio e la Diffusione delle Culture Slave dell'UNESCO.

Il primo volume degli Atti si apre con i discorsi (in edizione bilingue) tenuti all'apertura dei lavori del Convegno, discorsi indirizzati ai partecipanti, agli ospiti e all'opinione pubblica e pronunciati da parte dei membri del Comitato d'onore. Segue poi una precisa cronaca dei lavori e degli avvenimenti legati al Convegno (Giornate dantesche), accompagnata dalle note sugli echi nella stampa jugoslava e quella estera.

All'autore dell'imponente **Storia della critica dantesca dal XIV al XX secolo** (Milano, Vallardi, 1981, voll. 2), opera che è stata presentata nel corso dello stesso Convegno, è toccato il posto di apertura degli interventi. Nella sua relazione «Modelli di interpretazione dantesca nel tempo» Aldo Vallone tratta i tre modelli fondamentali (quello aristotelico-dottrinale, quello platonico-linguistico, ed il terzo, quello politico-sociale, formulato dai «formalismi» attuali) sui quali si è basata e si basa l'interpretazione delle opere dell'Alighieri. La seconda relazione, quella di Riccardo Picchio e Maria Picchio Simonelli, slavisti italiani residenti negli Stati Uniti, cerca di trovare la ragione per cui Dante nella sua opera omnia teneva conto soltanto della metà del mondo cristiano. Il loro lavoro su «I confini orientali del mondo di Dante» vuole iniziare la ricerca su questi motivi, proponendo la tesi secondo la quale la visione dantesca del mondo si basava esclusivamente su criteri giuridici. Questa potrebbe essere la causa principale per cui il mondo di Dante comprendeva soltanto la metà della cristianità del suo tempo.

Segue la lunga serie di ben sessantacinque comunicazioni, serie che comprende anche la parte principale del secondo volume degli Atti. In ordine alfabetico, per lo più in lingua italiana, ma anche in croatoserbo, sloveno, polacco, russo, inglese e tedesco, accompagnate da un riassunto in lingua diversa, si susseguono i frutti delle ricerche dantologiche e dantesche degli studiosi slavisti, italianisti ed altri provenienti da vari paesi. La problematica della ricezione delle opere di Dante comprende un arco che va dalle testimonianze dirette, come ad esempio le «Lecture dantesche in un campo di concentrazione» del nestore dell'italianistica

zagabrese, accademico Mirko Deanović, che con questa relazione ha partecipato al suo ultimo convegno, fino agli studi fatti mediante una metodologia propriamente filologica, sulla struttura ritmica dell'esametro dantesco (Branimir Glavičić), su Dante, Njegoš e la tradizione esamereale (Miron Flašar) oppure sui riflessi dell'articolo italiano nelle versioni italiane della *Vita nova* (Maslina Katušić). A proposito della problematica legata alla biografia dantesca hanno riferito Frano Cale («Gli Alighieri a Zagabria del Trecento»), Francesco Dakskobler («Ipotesi sulla presenza di Dante nella Slovenia»), mentre Josip Lučić e Josip Luetić hanno invece riferito sui rapporti tra Dubrovnik e l'Italia nell'epoca di Dante. Francesco Mazzoni, Presidente della Società dantesca di Firenze, ha considerato «Le giovanili postille (inedite) di Niccolò Tommaseo alla *Commedia*», mentre gli echi di Dante nelle opere di altri autori nel corso del tempo sono stati messi in evidenza da Pietro Frassica (a proposito della *Raguseide* di Gian Mario Filelfo), Pamela Davidson (Vyacheslav Ivanov), Dunja Fališevac e Franjo Svelec (Petar Zoranić), Anjuta Maver lo Gatto (N. Gumilev e A. Achmatova), Francesco Saverio Perillo (A. Kačić Miošić), ecc. Anche il problema della traduzione delle opere dantesche nelle lingue slave ha suscitato interesse da parte di un certo numero di studiosi: Josip Bratulić ha riferito sulla traduzione croata di Kombol, A. Djamić su quella di Markuš, Mario Festini ha trattato «amore e smarrimento» nelle traduzioni croateserbe, Nevenka Košutić le possibilità di scelta nelle traduzioni croate della lirica dantesca, Olga Maruševski ha parlato della traduzione di Kršnjavi, Liliana Missoni del Canto V nelle traduzioni di Nazor e di Kombol, Dragomir Petrov sulle quattro traduzioni di un sonetto, Mirko Tomasović sulle traduzioni di Lozovina, A. Wilkova sulle traduzioni ceche della *Commedia*, Ivan Slamnig sulle versioni jugoslave di un sonetto dantesco, ecc.

Sulle varie e inesauribili possibilità di interpretazione dell'opera dantesca hanno riferito a proposito degli autori dalmati nell'800 Glorija Rabac—Čondrić, a proposito di Mattia Flacio Illirico Marcella Roddewig; Vittorio Russo ha trattato invece i versi 140—141 del *Paradiso*, Elena Saprykina i motivi danteschi rielaborati dalla satira italiana e russa nell'800. L'interpretazione di Mandeljštam ha suscitato interesse teorico di due autori, Mladen Machiedo e Michele Collucci; Josip Torbarina cerca di situare Dante nell'ambito della letteratura rinascimentale croata; sull'inferno barocco nella letteratura croata riferisce Pavao Pavličić, sull'inferno e la poesia croata contemporanea Ante Stamać, mentre Tonko Maroević fornisce un'interessante panoramica sulla presenza dei motivi danteschi nelle arti figurative croate. Dante e la Polonia, la Bulgaria, la Cecoslovacchia, in epoche diverse: vari sono stati gli spunti per gli studiosi provenienti da tali paesi.

Naturalmente, questa è solo una parte dei temi contenuti nei due volumi degli Atti del Convegno dantesco. Alla fine del secondo volume sono collocati gli «altri temi danteschi» considerati da parte di alcuni autori. Il libro si chiude con il discorso di Frano Cale, al quale seguono gli utili indici.

Le relazioni e le comunicazioni contenute nei due volumi degli Atti del Convegno internazionale «Dante e il mondo slavo» susciteranno, certamente, anche nuovi interessi da parte degli studiosi e rappresenteranno uno stimolo e una fonte di ispirazione per ulteriori ricerche. I lavori che si svolgevano nelle bellissime giornate di fine ottobre 1981 a Dubrovnik possono soltanto ora dirsi veramente conclusi. Essi troveranno il loro posto nel tempo e nella nostra cultura grazie proprio a questi Atti.

S. R.

Vladimir Ivir: A Contrastive Analysis of English Adjectives and Their Serbo-Croatian Correspondents

The second volume of the series *New Studies*, published by the Yugoslav Serbo-Croatian — English Contrastive Project (YSCECP) is V.Ivir's comprehensive study of English adjectives and their Serbo-Croatian correspondents. The study (217 pages) is accompanied by Pedagogical Materials supplied by Mirjana Vilke (pp. 219 — 284) and an Introduction to the Series by its editor Rudolf Filišovič.

The Introduction briefly states the aims of the Zagreb contrastive project, which is directed towards the advancement of teaching English to Serbo-Croat and of Serbo-Croatian to English speakers. The contrastive analysis, however, is considered to have a general linguistic value as well, which is apparent in the linguistic descriptions of the two language systems and usages. Methods and theoretical approaches are stated, and an account is given of results and publications of the project so far. The *New Studies* series are revised or completed analyses that have appeared in other YSCECP publications, now also incorporating data from a common corpus (also briefly described) of bilingual "contrastive concordances".

The Pedagogical Materials are designed for the Serbo-Croatian student of English to use it for individual study. It is a workbook that follows Ivir's study, but can also be used independently by beginners and advanced students equally. It is arranged into sections with the first two covering such essential data on English adjectives as morphemes and basic rules of adjective position or comparison, all on a level presupposed in Ivir's study.

In the second chapter, as well as in the remaining three, which were designed for more advanced stages of learning, rules and explanations from the study are repeated in an order and manner appropriate for the particular level of knowledge the student is supposed to have attained. The grammar if followed by numerous exercises, generally based on translation since translation is one of the methods adopted by the project in the establishment of interlingual correspondences. Only in one or two places do the explanations in the workbook misinterpret the text of the study (e. g., 260 on "locative subjects") or appear to be too difficult for the students to understand (e. g., p. 264 on expanded predicative adjectives). This useful approach to the Pedagogical Materials is, however, a practical improvement on the earlier one which was designed for teachers and textbook writers.

The contrastive analysis itself treats of "adjectives in the narrow sense" (p. 1) excluding such forms as nouns, participles, adverbs, etc. that may occur in syntactic positions occupied by the adjective. The twenty sections of the study fall into four main groups: 1. various types of attributive adjective structures, 2. predicative adjective structures, 3. adjectives in structures without head nouns and 4. adjective comparison. The analysis makes use of translation to arrive at Serbo-Croatian correspondents of English adjectival structures (as explained in Ivir, "Contrasting via Translation: Formal Correspondence vs. Translation Equivalence" *YSCEP Studies*, 1, Zagreb 1969, pp. 13—25).

A transformational generative approach is adopted for the contrastive study, since it offers very good grounds for gaining insight into the different syntactic and semantic relationships, both within one language system and contrastively, locating the points at which the two systems agree or differ. The transformations are not presented in a strictly formalized manner, but rather as reflecting sentence

modulation that every competent speaker is aware of and indeed makes use of. The points of difference between the two contrasted languages that come into focus through the use of this methodology are often recognized as sources of interference in the learner's usage.

Attributive adjectives are considered in their prenominal and postnominal positions and when occurring as object complements (e. g., **He made his wife happy**). They are traced in deep structure to such constituents as predicative adjectives, relative clause verbs, adverbs, nominal phrases and nouns.

The derivational history of prenominal descriptive adjectives is shown to begin with two sentences containing nominal predicates (e. g., **She lives in a room. The room is small**) which are joined into a relative clause structure by means of transformations (i. e., **She lives in a room that is small.**), and then by further transformational rules (deletion and place shift) the predicative adjective is turned into a prenominal attributive adjective (**She lives in a room small — She lives in a small room.**)

Since in Serbo-Croatian the same derivational process can be demonstrated for many attributive adjectives, the two language systems are immediately comparable. Interesting differences are found with some adjectives (particularly translation equivalents of English adjectives ending in the suffix **-able** for which the Serbo-Croatian has no corresponding lexical items (the corresponding suffix **-iv** is not applicable to the same range of stems as the English **-table**). In that case the derivational process is shown to involve elements corresponding to the underlying verb or noun of the morphologically derived English adjective, e. g. **the diagonalizable operator**

or **a. the operator is diagonalible**

or **b. the operator that can be diagonalized**

or **c. the operator that can be provided with (can have) diagonals.**

According to the author, such parallel structures can be intuitively related directly to the derived adjective, which is borne out by the Serbo-Croatian correspondent, where the derivational process stops at the relative clause stage of type c:

c. operator koji može imati dijagonale

without the possibility of forming an adjective to correspond to the English adjective in **-table**.

Other interesting syntactico-semantic relations are revealed in tracing transformations underlying **-ing** forms, though, according to the author's introductory words, they were not to be treated in the present study. Some of these forms are "true" adjectives (i. e., they stand the adjective test, since they "can be used predicatively, accept the intensifier **very**, compare, and coordinate with descriptive adjectives" p. 14), thus **interesting, charming**, etc.; others are verbal forms, (e. g. **winning in the winning team**) since they do not stand the adjective test. The distinction is shown in examples like **a winning smile** and **the winning team**. The first is shown to derive from a verb with an indefinite human object (**the smile wins one**) whose derivational history contains a **be**-predication of the type **a smile that is winning**. This structure is ungrammatical in the second case (***this is the team that is winning**), as it derives directly from the verb of the relative clause (**the team that wins**). Compound adjectives of this kind, e. g. **peace-loving**, can make one more transformational cycle to become the source of predication, and further "true" adjectives. So besides **nations that love peace — peace-loving nations** we have also **nations that are peace-loving**, and thus **very peace-loving** etc. Serbo-Croatian does not admit active participles as attributives, at least in the standard norm, so again the process stops at the relative clause level: **osmjeh koji oćarava, tim koji pobjeđuje, narodi koji vole mir**, all verbal predicates; the

last one also has a derived compound adjective **miroljubiv** (with a slightly different connotation than in English), which of course can also function in the nominal predicate (**narodi koji su miroljubivi**).

The transformational approach yields profitable insights into such ambiguous attributives as in the following sentence: **She is a beautiful dancer**, where it may refer either to the person's appearance or to her dancing performance. The two meanings are contrasted with the corresponding Serbo-Croatian ones. The first source of derivation are the two sentences with nominal predicates: a. **She is a dancer. She is beautiful**. The second is apparently a contamination of a predicate verb and adverb: b. **She dances beautifully** and a nominal predicate: **She is a dancer**, which gives the above ambiguous example. In Serbo-Croatian, type a. derivation produces the unambiguous pronominal modifier **Ona je lijepa plesačica**, referring to the dancer's looks, and type b. cannot undergo the "contamination" — transform, but stops at the initial stage: **Ona lijepo (adv.) pleše (vb.)**, unambiguously referring to the performance. Other adverb-derived adjectives (e. g. **izvrсна**), if semantically unambiguous, can follow up the entire process as in the above English example.

Apart from the differences in the extent to which transformations can be carried out in either English or Serbo-Croatian, there may be some other directions into which adjective transformations extend. For instance adjectives derived from nominal phrases in English sometimes have nominal equivalents in Serbo-Croatian, so that the English pronominal adjective is reflected in the stem of a noun whose suffix is a reflection of the English head noun: e. g. **a fat fellow** = SC **debelj (fat) + ko (fellow)**.

Denominal nouns are identified by means of the adjectival test, or rather by its failure to operate both in English and Serbo-Croatian. The difficulty arises in cases where the choice between nominal and adjectival attributives is to be made, e. g.

E chemical engineer (adj.) SC inženjer kemije (nom.)

construction material (nom).

građevni material (adj.)

As the above examples show, the two languages do not necessarily agree in the choice, which is a frequent source of the learner's erroneous usage.

Postmodification is analyzed as semantically different from premodification, the distinction being indefiniteness vs. definiteness respectively. There are parallels in Serbo-Croatian, particularly in collocations with indefinite pronouns (**something odd — nešto neobično**), but more often other structures are preferred to make this semantic distinction. This fact explains the underuse of postnominal attributives by learners of English.

Several studies of pronominal adjective ordering are discussed and assessed in view of their pedagogical suitability. A semantic classification is suggested that would best serve in teaching. It is suited for contrastive analysis as well, since English and Serbo-Croatian do not differ in the ordering of pronominal modifiers in any significant way.

When attributives have no head nouns, there are many parallel processes in both languages and contrastively interesting details are analyzed, such as replacement of the ellided noun with **one**, the construction "as Adv as Adj" (**as long as possible**), various verbless types of adjective clauses (e. g., **When ripe, these apples are sweet**), absolute adjuncts, etc., and particularly the group of adjectives and nouns denoting nationalities and languages. The English system

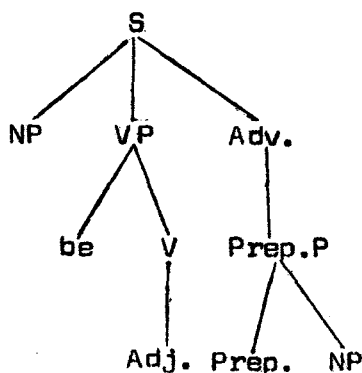
of marking nationalities and languages is more complicated than the Serbo-Croatian one, and causes difficulties for the learner.

More than a third of the study is devoted to the predicative position of the adjective and the various constructions that can expand it. This position of the adjective is regarded as crucial since it is the source of some of the prenominal adjectives derived by transformation (p. 68). Patterns with various linking verbs besides **to be** are analyzed and contrasted with the various constructions (adjectives, adverbs, nominal phrases, clauses with different verbs) that serve as correspondents of the E predicative adjective. As in other cases, the different structures can be conditioned either by various structural restrictions (e. g., **it is not available = nije dobivljivo = ne može se dobiti**) or to avoid ambiguity (**The men were silent, SC Ljudi su bili šutljivi = the men were taciturn, so Ljudi su šutjeli = The men did not talk is preferred**).

The relationship between the subject and the predicative adjective, as well as the relationship within the structures expanding the adjective is very well presented by means of deep structure presentation and transformations. As the author notes himself (p. 133) an examination of the relationship within one language and in contrast with another language system gives a much better insight into the structures if conducted in terms of transformational matrices than would mere classification.

Excellent examples are for instance ambiguous constructions in E like the subjective vs. locative as in **The room is cold**, or the subjective vs. experiencer: **She is cold**, which can be disambiguated through transformations such as: **It is cold in the room (SC U sobi je hladno)**. In the second example (**She is cold**) Serbo-Croatian has an obligatory dative of the experiencer **Njoj je hladno** (as against the subjective nominative with a different meaning: **Ona je hladna**, i. e. she is emotionally unresponsive). In English this is the underlying sentence ***To her is cold *It is cold to her**, which has to be transformed to the ambiguous **She is cold**. Again this analysis points to another possible locus of interference. This kind of adjective does not permit movement to the premodifying position (**a cold woman**), as the descriptive and locative adjectives do (**a cold room**).

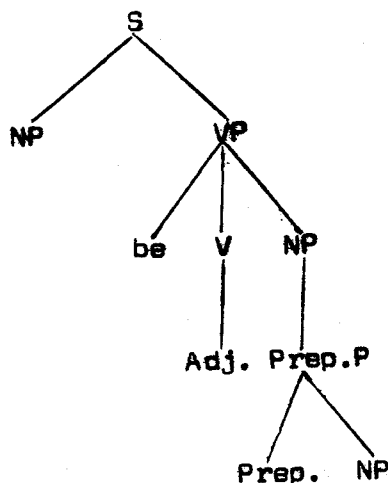
The various semantico-syntactic relations are well shown for the expanded predicative adjective (expanded by prepositional phrases, infinitive, and clauses). For instance, a prepositional phrase can be shown to be dominated by the sentence (S) as in: **At this point ... (the) lid will be quite thick**



as against: **Brooks Adams was consistent in his admonishments ...**

where it is fused with the noun and both are dominated by VP. In the first case the ties between the adjective and the PP are rather weak, which results in the relative freedom of position of the PP, while in the second example the PP restricts the »range of descriptive application of the adjective« and is thus positionally also closely linked to it (p. 99 ff).

Predicative adjectives expanded by clauses (e. g., **I am glad that you could come**) and infinitives (**I am glad to hear it**) can be brought into relation through



transformations and again contrasted to the transformational processes in SC, where expansion by infinitive is much more restricted than in E. An exhaustive description (and table) of infinitive and/or clause expandability of various classes of E adjectives is provided. The table presents »a minimum of syntactic criteria« to distinguish the expandability of nine groups of adjectives, such as follow the pattern of **happy, aware, true, sure, sad, silly, possible, impossible** and **ready**. Other structural patterns, such as case frames in Fillmore's terms are contrasted with parallel Serbo-Croatian structures, where deep cases have surface case realizations, and clauses mostly do not further transform into infinitives (e. g., **I am happy to see you; Sretan sam vidjeti vas** from **Sretan sam da vas vidim**).

The section on comparison of adjectives, or rather on comparatives and superlatives, examines reorderings and deletions of constituents and reveals the derivations of various comparative and superlative structures in the two languages. Sources for comparative structures are traced and the various restrictions operating in the deep structures as well as transformations leading to surface structures are accounted for.

Interesting contrasts are noticed in the two comparative structures in Serbo-Croatian: **M je pametniji nego brat** and **M je pametniji od brata** (genitive) corresponding to the ambiguous English structure: **M is more clever than his brother**. It is ambiguous with regard to the reference point for the description, i. e. two terms of comparison are set against each other, or else one of them is known and functions as a reference point (in Serbo-Croatian the first and the second sentence respectively). The two Serbo-Croatian structures behave like the English comparisons with the adjective **different**, i. e. **different from** and **different than**, though there are some dissimilarities, since **different than** — sentences do not derive from two-sentence base structures as it is shown for e. g.

S₁ (The South was more belligerent than)
S₂ (the rest of the country was belligerent)
with the deletion of identical sentence parts.

It is suggested, however, that **John is different than (Bill is different)** is not an underlying form of **John is different than Bill** in the same manner, since **different** is a comparative form itself (one can say **much different** and **much more clever** but not **much clever**, though of course **much more different**). But if contrastive equivalents are considered, then the non-comparative form **različít** does not take the **nego** structure (***Ivan je različít nego Petar**), while the comparative **drugačiji** does: **Ivan je drugačiji nego Petar** (and also the comparative **različítiji**: **Ivan je različítiji nego Petar**). Such contrasts perhaps show that adjectives like **different** (and probably **različít**) are more or less comparative forms, which feature may not have become apparent without the contrastive approach.

Comparatives of equality and inequality are also discussed, as well as proposition and gradual increase, and comparison with numerical expressions. In contrasted structures a different view of reality is often expressed in the two languages, as shown by the English **twice as big**, a comparison of equality, in contrast with the Serbo-Croatian **dvaput veći** (bigger), a comparison of inequality.

A special section (the last one) is devoted to the semantics of comparatives and superlatives, which does not seem to have much interest contrastively. There is sufficient formal and semantic similarity for contrasting to be possible, but though there are semantically interesting points (e. g., positives unmarked for quality: **He is five feet tall**, i. e. not tall; comparison of non-comparables: **total, unique, true** etc.), the problem arises only in cases where the choice of comparative forms does not overlap in the two languages, e. g. in expressions like English **higher education** and Serbo-Croatian **visoko školstvo** (i. e. high education).

This comprehensive study offers important insights into deep and surface relationships of structures with adjectives. Both approaches employed in the analysis, i. e. the transformational and the contrastive approach, throw light on the theoretical issues involved (such as derivational histories of some structures or disambiguation of some semantic relations). At the same time, the analysis is a sound basis for practical application of the material in language instruction (evident from the chapter on Pedagogical Material).

Dora Riffer-Maček