MORPHOLOGICAL OVERLAPPINGS OF SYSTEMS IN GERMAN AND CROATIAN LANGUAGE

Summary

Morphological differences between languages, here concretely between German and Croatian, appear because of differences in systems and therefore it is extremely important to examine genetic-linguistic any typological characteristics of their systems. German language belongs to the West-Germanic group and its most important morphological characteristics are articles, decreased system of cases, more adjective declinations, system of strong and weak verbs, etc. On the other hand Croatian language belongs to South-Slavic group of languages and it inherited a very developed morphological system of Proto-Slavic language, which was reduced in its development but without bigger deranging of relations within declinational and conjugational system. German language belongs to changeable-analytical languages and the change can be “external” by suffixes and “internal” by vocal change. Change is not equally developed in all parts of speech. It is more developed in adjectives than in nouns, pronouns or verbs. It played a great role in the Croatian language when forming a morphological system of aspirations for simplifying a rich Proto-Slavic system which had many declinations and verbal forms. In that way Croatian preserved little from the old system and it formed relations in the internal system on the basis of natural and grammatical gender, two numbers and two verbal aspects. As a result of that system of seven cases, system of indefinite and definite adjectives and system of verbal aspects based on the opposition “perfective – imperfective” verbs were developed. Differences which were identified in this analysis should help both in overcoming and eliminating differences and mistakes at the morphological level in both languages.

Key words: morphological systems, characteristics of language systems, morphological characteristics of languages, nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs and verbal aspects