

ALEKSANDER WILKOŃ

### **Tradition in Language and Linguistics**

The paper attempts to analyze the notion of tradition and determine its place within the historical linguistics. The first part presents established definitions and typologies of tradition whereas the second - the author's understanding of the concept and a model of linguistic text analysis which aims at demonstrating how tradition manifests itself in language. The model is applied to the analysis of famous lament by Jan Kochanowski.

BOGDAN WALCZAK

### **Language in the Age of Globalization**

The article focuses on the role of language in the globalized world and knowledge-based civilization. The author begins by presenting language as the basic cognitive tool and the carrier of cultural heritage. The question of the perennial search for the universal language is also raised. Later, the future of language is considered. The author forecasts that the language of tomorrow will be: 1. subject to global unification processes; 2. increasingly international; 3. highly anglicized; 4. less diverse as certain languages will become extinct.

KRYSTYNA KOWALIK

### **The Tradition of 'Tradition'**

The aim of the paper is to examine the Polish lexeme 'tradycja' [Eng. tradition] in selected Polish language dictionaries with respect to its historical records and conventional usage. Notably, the syntactic patterns the lexeme enters into are analyzed in detail.

KATARZYNA SKOWRONEK

### **Subversive Linguistics**

The article attempts to present one of the trends in linguistics which blurs the distinction between the central and the peripheral. The author proposes that the margins and peripheries are potentially more fertile and conducive to the development of their respective fields. This is due to the fact the progress in linguistics is not linear but based on qualitative turns and breakthroughs during which certain trends prevail whereas other are confined to the margins of the discipline. The new dominant trends owe their success not to their superiority but to their effectiveness at a given moment and conformity with the needs of their times. The dominant trends are relatively stable (synchronically) but the new and seminal is provided by peripheral niches which create innovation. Such 'outsiders' are responsible for epiphanies, brilliant ideas and creative solutions which break the mould of established trends. 'Subversive linguistics' is a label that can be attached to certain conscious procedures in linguistics which, whilst not uniformly critical of the dominant trends, try nevertheless to create a field of innovation and scope for creative change. The 'subversive' part of the label refers to the attempts to undermine the established notions of traditional linguistic from the inside and alter them creatively.

MONIKA BIESAGA

### **The Analysis of Changes in the Rhetoric of Academic Lectures**

The article describes differences between the theoretical model of academic lecture established in Polish linguistics and the conclusions drawn from the analysis of the corpus of authentic utterances. The language of academic lecture is determined mainly by the primacy of its didactic function. However, the results of the analysis demonstrate that the genre also comprises other communicative patterns typical, for example, of written academic discourse or the oral language. Thus the conclusions of the paper illuminate the ways generic models are constructed. The necessity to take into account authentic utterances and secondary communicative influences is strongly emphasized.

JOANNA JAKLIŃSKA-CIĄGŁO

### **Contemporary Students' Letters against the Epistolary Tradition**

The following article is based on the texts which the junior high school students wrote in class. The assigned topic was: Epistolography: the art of the past? The students were presented with a linguistic challenge, the opportunity to enter into the dialogue with tradition. Writing texts based on the 17th century letters as well as on contemporary e-mails, the students had to deal with the traditional epistolary form. The research aimed at gauging the students' skills in writing traditional letters as well as e-mails. The study has revealed that training students in traditional epistolary art could help them communicate via e-mail more successfully. The training, however, cannot consist only in practising conventional phrases. It is essential that students see letter-writing not as a futile outdated pursuit but as valuable set of skills helpful in self-expression.

STANISLAV KOSC

### **Dialogue with Tradition in Papal Teachings of Benedict XVI**

Tradition is what shapes the identity both of individuals and of whole nations. Perhaps this is the reason why Europeans try to actively participate in discussions about the value of connecting with tradition. Pope Benedict XVI, in his theological and philosophical reflections, takes a stance towards the issue. His views are not limited to the question of faith. It seems worthwhile to analyze his reflections academically. Only such societies could endure and maintain their integrity which, on a daily basis, refer to their best traditions based on ethical norms, respect for human dignity and universal values. The goal of such references is to critically evaluate history, culture, contemporary ethics and norms, to draw inspiration from enriching tradition and then transmit it to future generations. The Church seems to have accumulated a great deal of most valuable traditions which contribute to the well-being of contemporary societies. It offers the opportunity to conduct inspirational dialogue with tradition and sees the dialogic method as one of the most important ways of searching for the truth, creating healthy cultures and strong ethical values. It seems particularly crucial for the Polish culture, so deeply embedded in the Christian tradition, to approach the religion through

such a comprehensive dialogue. Only in this way could we find out how authentic Polish Christian faith is and whether it is conducive to the integral development of individuals and societies.

STANISŁAW KOZIARA

### **The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6: 9-13): The Traditional Text and Its Contemporary Modifications**

The article discusses the canonical religious text - The Lord's Prayer. It was first included in its entirety in the Gospel of Matthew and it belongs to the canon of central prayers of Christianity. It is also one of the oldest texts in the Polish language. In the first part of the paper, the author focuses on the traditional language and style of the prayer. In the second, modern Polish translations of this biblical text are analyzed, especially with respect to unwarranted linguistic modifications introduced in this time-honoured text.

MACIEJ MĄCZYŃSKI

### **Janina Porazińska's Dialogue with Tradition**

The article discusses the elements of tradition in the language of Janina Porazińska's children's fiction. The vocabulary of her prose, with elements such as compounds, diminutives, determining adjectives and neologisms, can be divided into two categories: 1) words which come from the folklore of the Lublin area and thus belong to the dialectal lexicon; 2) neologisms created by the writer, which imitate the structure of dialectal vocabulary and serve the purpose of rendering her texts more poetic.

IWONA STECZKO

### **Death and Dying in the Epitaphs at the Rakowicki Cemetery in Krakow**

The paper discusses the depictions of death and dying from the epitaphs at the Rakowicki Cemetery in Krakow. The epitaphs analyzed come from mostly non-extant gravestones from the period 1803-1865 recorded in the 19th century by Antoni Kostecki. Among many synonyms of death occurring in the epitaphs, two major groups can be distinguished: explicit references to dying and its euphemistic mostly idiomatic descriptions. The analysis demonstrates considerable changes that were taking place in death-related vocabulary at the beginning of the 19th century.

MARTA ŚLIWIŃSKA

### **French in the Journalistic Language: An Analysis of Ludwik Stomma's Feature Articles**

The present paper focuses on gallicisms (French loanwords) which appear in Ludwik Stomma's feature articles published in *Polityka* between 2005 and 2007. In order to analyze aspects of French loanwords in journalistic idiom, it is necessary to start by drawing up the

guidelines for the description of empirical data excerpted from the given text type. The author has chosen structural-functional, semantic, and quantitative analyses of gallicisms. The first part of the research leads to the division of linguistic material into: quotes, proper nouns, and lexical borrowings. The semantic criteria used to introduce the distinctions between the gallicisms made it possible to propose lexico-semantic categories and numerous subcategories. The frequency of autosemantic word forms allowed to create a list of key terms of highest textual frequency and to present the types of syntactic accommodation of the most frequent elements. The dominant properties established during the course of structural, semantic, and quantitative analyses can be regarded as typical of Ludwik Stomma's idiolect.

IWONA ZBIJOWSKA

### **Linguistic Games with Tradition in Political Blogs**

The article presents the problem of language games with tradition in political blogs. The analyzed material comes from blogs written by well-known figures from politics and the media. The examples show intertextual modifications of fixed expressions, Biblical and literary quotations, as well as idioms, proverbs and slogans functioning in everyday colloquial language.

KATARZYNA KONCZEWSKA

### **Polish Religious Language in Grodno and the Grodno Area**

Polish religious language in Grodno and the Grodno area is very unusual due to the historical and sociological specificity of the region. It has many varieties, depending on whether people have learnt it and used at home or whether it is used exclusively for worship. The language of young local priests differs considerably from the standard literary Polish: it has many peculiarities and it is used rather sporadically. Polish is the language of the Catholic media in Grodno but it is obligatory to include Belarusian translations of all texts since this is the primary language of the region. Inscriptions on Catholic tombstones, on the other hand, irrespective of when they were made, are always in Polish. They are perfect examples of the peculiar local usage and as such require proper linguistic research.

MARIA TERESA LIZISOWA

### **Moral and Ethical Values in the Legal Language**

In her article, the author reflects on the ethics and morality of law. She puts forward a thesis that ethical values are not purely empty declarations in the preambles to normative acts and that the legal language itself entails the axiology that is inscribed in the legal system. The article discusses the relationship between the norms of positive law and the good, which, according to the generally accepted natural law, is to be the ultimate goal of all human actions. Reviewing old and contemporary methods of formulating legal texts, the author comes to the conclusion that the universal idea of jurisprudence, according to which the authorities should be bound by law is present in the Polish legal culture. The law is passed for

the good of the state understood as a whole, and through legal rules, the goods of all people living in that state are subdued to it. The author states that in the word *prawo* [law] itself resides the essence of truth and rightness understood as the moral rules of behaviour, opposed to the negative connotations of the word *wina* [guilt]. Moreover, legal regulations establish the means to guarantee the good and prevent its repression or violation. The traditional rules of language help to forge moral and ethical values which give the power to determine the duties and liabilities associated with particular human actions. The author concludes that ultimately it is the legislator who is responsible for the choice of moral and ethical values which embody the idea of law and, in turn, determine the norms of conduct in social life. The system of legal language, on the other hand, already contains the value-based rules formulated as binding norms. The articulation of the complementariness of rights and duties of legal entities means the affirmation of their rightness and conduciveness to good, but this good is relative. For it is not justice in the absolute sense which is enshrined in legal acts but the rightness in interpersonal relationships, since the latter constitutes the basis of the socially expected legal order.

MACIEJ RAK

### **Regional *śleboda* and Standard Polish *wolność*: Two Ways of Expressing Freedom**

The aim of this paper is to compare *śleboda* (a word from the Podhale region dialect) and *wolność* (Polish word for 'freedom'). The selection of these words is not accidental. *Śleboda* and *wolność* are very important concepts, the former - in the regional folk culture of Podhale, the latter - in the Polish language and culture. The inspiration for this article was Anna Wierzbicka's *Understanding Cultures through Their Key Words*. English, Russian, Polish, German, and Japanese. The comparative analysis of the two lexemes demonstrated that *śleboda* is relatively more egocentric.

ADAM RYCHLIK

### **The Characteristics of the Polish CB-Language**

The paper analyzes the language used by drivers on the Citizens' Band radio (CB radio). The users of the radio communicate only in speech, their communication is highly pragmatic and based on partnership. The utterances alternate between formal and informal ones, which determines the range and register of vocabulary. Drivers often use diminutives and polite addresses thus creating the atmosphere of mutual respect and cordiality, which can be comforting and reassuring for strangers who happen to establish a casual contact. The specific language used on the CB radio fulfils two basic functions: it creates a sense of community among drivers and protects the information passed on as warnings. At the end of the paper, the author appends a comprehensive glossary of the CB language.

KAZIMIERZ SIKORA

## **Best Wishes in the Dialectal Language: An Analysis**

The article analyzes traditional forms of seasonal greetings connected with Christmas, New Year and Easter celebrations. The analysis follows the ethnolinguistic and pragmatic frameworks and draws on the notion of performative utterances (in its broad definition). In the course of analysis of a wide range of wishes and seasonal greetings, both sung and recited, two basic types of such utterances have been established: 1. optative utterances, based on lexicalized expression of modality; 2. performative utterances, based on syntactic structures incorporating modal verbs. The author enriches his linguistic analysis with broader contextual considerations of folk culture and rules of conduct as well as focusing on the reasons of the current decline in the tradition of seasonal greetings.

KATARZYNA WĘGOROWSKA

## **Linguistic, Cultural and Symbolic Reflection on the Cult of the Dead in the Eastern Borderlands as Preserved in the Works of Polish Scholars throughout the Ages**

The paper contains philological reflections on the cult of the dead in northeastern Borderlands. The cult has been a source of inspiration for interdisciplinary studies of many Polish scholars - the popularizers of Polish culture, tradition and folklore. The analysis of the excerpts of the works of Oskar Kolberg, Aleksander Brückner, Aleksander Lubicz, Zenon Sobierajski, Czesław Pietkiewicz, Barbara Ogrodowska, Hanna Żyburtowicz and Teresa Kokocińska, the authors of Encyklopedia Kresów, as well as of Piotr Grochowski, allows the author to emphasize the uniqueness of:

- a) Radunica (celebrated in the time of Easter and Whitsunday) and
- b) Dziady (celebrated at end of October or at the beginning of November at the time of Christmas and Shrovetide).

The early Slavic pagan elements of these holidays are still present in Easter and Christmas customs.

The names of the objects used in rites in northeastern cemeteries, churches and houses have been interpreted in terms of language forms and symbolism. Amongst the objects, most significant are: egg, knish (a baked or fried dumpling made of flaky dough with filling), kutia (a sweet dish usually made of wheat grain, poppy seeds and honey), kisiel owsiany (oat gelatin dessert), fish, groats, pea, broad bean, bread, cheese, salt, honey, poppy seeds, dried mushrooms, white tablecloth, fire, open window and door, spoon and figures of forefathers-beggars.

A comprehensive analysis of the names allows the author to interpret the cult as a form of peculiar dialogue between sacrum and profanum, paganism and Christianity, the past and the present.

RENATA DŹWIGOŁ

## **The Divine and the Devilish: Polish Proverbs and Idioms about God and the Devil**

The paper analyzes proverbs and idiomatic expressions that present relations between God and the Devil. It is commonly believed that the forces of good (God) and of evil (the Devil) are clearly separated (the formula: GOD AND the DEVIL). God creates and symbolizes all that is good, while the Devil perpetrates and stands for evil. Man has to choose (the formula:

GOD OR the DEVIL). Although the choice seems obvious (the formula: GOD ABOVE the DEVIL), man chooses wrong (the formulas: BOTH GOD AND the DEVIL; the DEVIL INSTEAD OF GOD) or makes no choice at all (the formula: NEITHER GOD NOR the DEVIL). The clear order of things (the divine and the devilish apart) may also be destroyed when man gives vent to his feelings. In expressive idiomatic expressions the words God and Devil are interchangeable.

MACIEJ MALINOWSKI  
**The Enigmas of Archaisms**

In the 21st century Polish language, many of the archaic words and expressions of yesteryear still function. In spite of their relative frequency (occurrences in familiar folk or pop songs), they often remain incomprehensible to the vast majority of language users. The ignorance of the lexeme's denotational definition is usually the reason. Often, the context in which the word occurs is misleading. The lexeme *prząśniczka* has always meant 'part of the reel, narrow small board to which the yarn is attached', rather than 'a woman spinner, a person performing the activity of spinning'. The adjective *szparki* is largely forgotten today, with its archaic meaning 'quick, jaunty, perky'. In the past, people would say that 'an old man still walked *szparki*' (that is 'fast') or he was a *szparki* fellow. The adverb *szparko* 'firmly, strongly, heavily' was also used. A contemporary songwriter makes a clever use of the archaic adjective in one of the texts for Maryla Rodowicz entitled *Szparka sekretarka* (literally: 'A lively, efficient secretary'). Meanwhile the lyrics were mostly misinterpreted as obscene probably due to the existence of the homonymous noun *szparka* (Eng. slit, gap).

EWA MŁYNARCZYK  
**Szewc bez butów chodzi [literally: Cobbler Has no Shoes]: Traditional Crafts in Polish Idioms and Proverbs**

The comparison of old and contemporary idioms which contain lexemes *szewc* or *szewski* [cobbler, cobbler's] demonstrates the essential traits in the development of Polish phrasology connected with crafts and craftsmanship. Their analysis shows that many idioms disappear as the picture of professional activities they convey is deemed too simplistic. On the other hand, the linguistic history of the proverb *szewc bez butów chodzi* illustrates the most characteristic features of craft-related idiomatic language (i.e. variants based on the similar depictions of craft works, interchangeability of trades, internationalism).

MAGDALENA PASTUCHOWA  
**Lexicalization in View of Linguistic Tradition**

The paper concerns mutual relations between lexicalization processes and linguistic tradition. The author invokes Polish and foreign works and points to possible ways of understanding lexicalization by illustrating them with Polish linguistic material. The attention is focused on the diachronic approach to lexicalization processes. The aim of the article is to indicate linguistic processes which allow lexicalization to be treated as a phenomenon continuing the

Polish lexical tradition (maintaining old meanings), or as a process causing the severance of etymological relations. The paper also stresses the importance of folk etymology as a process which can be interpreted as an attempt to build artificial etymological relations between lexemes.

MAGDALENA PUDA-BLOKESZ

### **Mythology-Based Phrases Present in and Absent from Modern Phraseology and Paremiology Studies**

The article discusses a subset of Polish phraseology constituted by mythology-based phrases; special attention is given to the analysis of these in fourteen lexicographic works (including bilingual dictionaries, dictionaries of quotations and a combination of encyclopedia and dictionary). The research area (a definition of the term 'mythology-based phrase') is delineated and then the diagrams presenting the contribution of various sources to the collection of units under consideration are produced. The group of expressions forming the canon of Polish mythology-based phraseology is selected and characterized on the basis of their frequency in excerpted reference works. Finally, with reference to the studies confirming that Polish lexicographic works contain incomplete lists of such expressions and revealing downward trends in the number of items listed, an attempt at describing the situation is made.

BOGUSŁAW SKOWRONEK

### **Multimodal Borrowings from English: A Linguistic and Cultural Analysis**

In the article, the author discusses words borrowed from English, such as hello, sorry, wow and babe, existing in students' spoken language. Their usage illustrates changes in modern culture, demonstrates characteristic cultural tendencies and reveals the influence of the media on young people's language. The main communicative and cultural tendencies focused on in the analysis include: creativity, togetherness, media communication (mostly the emphasis on phatic and performative aspects of exchanges), multimodality, pragmatic multifunctionality and co-functionality.

KINGA DUSZYK

### **Trends in Modern Animal Naming against the Background of Polish zoonymy**

Zoonymy is a relatively young branch of onomastics which deals with animal names. It is increasingly popular among scholars given the growing importance of pets in human life. No longer seen predominantly as sources of food, now more than ever animals are people's best friends. This is reflected in the names which their owners give them which, in turn, are investigated by linguists. The article presents tendencies in modern animal naming and sets them against the background of Polish zoonymy.

EWA HORYŃ

## **Where the Past Meets the Present: Male First Names in Miechów at the Beginning of the 21st Century**

The article concerns first names given to the male residents of Miechów in the years 2001–2010. Miechów's public register of baptisms records 475 boys with, essentially, 106 different names. The names are presented and analyzed, with a particular focus on the influences from various traditions which inspired their choice. Despite constant changes in baby names, continuity and deference to tradition can be found amongst the names analyzed, especially with respect to the local tradition of binomialism.