

On discourse markers in Lithuanian argumentative newspaper discourse: a corpus-based study

Anna Ruskan, Vilnius University

Functional distribution and variation of discourse markers have been investigated widely in argumentative newspaper discourse in Germanic and Romance languages (Dafouz-Milne 2008; Speyer, Fetzer 2014; Breeze 2016). Attention has been paid to textual and interpersonal functions of discourse markers, their co-occurrences in sequences and contribution to argumentative patterns. The studies reveal a number of universal as well as language and culture specific features of discourse markers while developing authorial argumentation. The aim of the current study is to explore the textual and interpersonal functions of discourse markers in Lithuanian argumentative newspaper discourse by comparing their formal and functional distribution in editorials and opinion articles. Although both argumentative genres represent a subjective authorial opinion and appeal to the reader, they may differ in the choice of discourse markers, characterised also in terms of (inter)subjectivity (Traugott 2010). The functional profile of discourse markers is identified by analysing their position, scope, co-occurrences and (inter)subjective dimension. The study combines qualitative and quantitative methods of analysis. The data have been drawn from the self-compiled corpus of editorials and opinion articles obtained from the Lithuanian newspaper *Verslo žinios* 'Financial news' in the years 2016-2017. The argumentative dimension of discourse markers is also explored through the analysis of their English translation correspondences found in the *Europarl Corpus*. The combination of monolingual and parallel corpora allows for identifying the formal and functional versatility of discourse markers. References Breeze, R. 2016. Negotiating alignment in newspaper editorials: The role of concur-counter patterns. *Pragmatics*, 26 (1).

References:

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