BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

English and I: Literary and Cultural Encounters

Fourth ASSE International Conference

on British and American Studies

8-10 June 2017, University of Vlora "Ismail Qemali",

Vlore, ALBANIA

Albanian Society for the Study of English

English and I:
Literary and Cultural Encounters

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on British and American Studies**

*Organized in collaboration with the
University of Vlora "Ismail Qemali", Vlora,
Albania*

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KEYNOTE SPEECHES

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An Intermedial Encounter between Layers of Culture: The Case of Film Adaptations

This talk will address the topic of the conference: "English and I" by taking the audience on a professional—and at the same time personal—intermedial and cultural historical tour in the realm of film adaptations that may have some methodological conclusions as well. The question of film adaptations will be primarily approached from a theoretical point of view, and some aspects of how a postmodern Neo-Victorian novel: John Fowles's *The French Lieutenant's Woman* was adapted to screen will be explored, with passing references to other adaptations. The analysis will move away from fidelity criticism in the direction staked out by Linda Hutcheon, refuting the primariness of the "original" literary text as a basis for comparison and evaluation. Considering adaptations much rather as translations (or code-switching) and intertextuality, the adaptability of the narrative technique and that of the literary allusions will be analysed, with a special focus on the intermedial encounter between fiction and film, and on the emerging intermedial and intertextual space that is the adaptation. While exploring these apparently formal and technical aspects, I will also comment on the rich layeredness of culture and cultural representations that structure this adaptation (ranging from the Victorian to the

postmodern and the Neo-Victorian) that also comprises a major part of my own professional field of interest, and thus contributed to my sense of identity as a scholar. In addition, I will also raise questions concerning the deployment of adaptation in teaching culture to a generation that is more visual than literary.

Keywords: film adaptations, Fowles, translations, intertextuality

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A Radiography of English Elements in Romanian

A Radiography of English Elements in Romanian aims to offer some insight into manifestations of language contact in the particular case of the two languages mentioned in the title. The starting point of my analysis is the conspicuousness of elements of English based cultures and language which, during roughly the past twenty years, have penetrated Romanian culture and language at a pace and in a manner that makes this phenomenon a very striking one. After briefly talking about areas in which the influence of the two is manifest and after reviewing potential reasons why Romanian has been such a welcoming host to them, the presentation focuses on lexical, morpho-syntactic, semantic and discourse-related aspects of the influence of English on Romanian. Particular attention is paid to: a) common means by which English nouns, adjectives and verbs have been adapted in order to fit Romanian syntactic

patterns; b) code switching and its functions—a contextual or lexical facilitator, a means of conveying a sense of foreign originality to a Romanian text, a way of obtaining humorous effects or a euphemism-like function, etc.; c) semantic aspects, such as the users' peculiar employment of anglicisms whose meaning they consider clear and well-known, or, on the contrary, vague or opaque; zero semantic change as opposed to the restriction of meaning of English polysemantic words borrowed into Romanian or the extension of the meaning of some Romanian words, under the influence of their English counterparts; lexical-semantic calques; d) patterns of English written genres imposing new standards for the equivalent Romanian genres.

Keywords: anglicisms, adaptation of anglicisms to Romanian, code-switching, anglicisms and semantic change, English written genres standards

PARALLEL SESSIONS

AMERICAN LITERATURE

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Where is America?—A Reading of Yezierska's "America and I"

Yezierska's "America and I," a short essay about the writer's attempts to adapt herself to America, problematizes cultural encounter in America, the land of dreams, as thought of by the Americans and the immigrants alike. Filled with such high hopes at having reached the new country, Yezierska describes her hardships to cope with the new environment, especially her frustration to find some decent employment, which will help her find the way to cherish her dream of becoming a writer.

The paper discusses how the essay presents cultural encounter as a form of self-realization and self-awareness. I will try to argue how the writer's initial failed expectations and the ensuing disappointment at not finding the land of dreams culminating in the exclaimed "There is no America!" lead to an understanding that self and its potential cannot be assumed or taken for granted but can always be geared in connection to and by understanding other selves. I will draw mainly on the understanding of language and culture for my arguments.

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Identities in the Making amidst Linguistic and Cultural Clashes: A Literary Contemplation

The everlasting movement of people from one country to another, imposed by historical transitional periods as well as the globalization trend in contemporary society has transformed various aspects of peoples' coexistence and interaction with each other. In the course of these occurrences, the concerned entities have always tried to define and explain such individual, national, or even international human relations, which can vary from assimilation to multiculturalism by means of language.

Social issues spanning a broad range of complex discussions on involved religious, racial, or ethnic groups are often part of this direct, mutual and interactive relation between language and society. Consequently, the emergence of dominant and minority groups becomes a feature of these cultural encounters where the dominant group is able to set the standards of what is worthy and respectable in cultural values and social behavior. Unsurprisingly, it chooses its own styles while the stereotypes minorities create of the dominant group typically make reference to their own victimization.

It is curious how all of the abovementioned clues can serve as milestones in this present contemplation with literary reference to two twentieth century short stories by two contemporary American Jewish writers; Grace

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Paley's "The Loudest Voice" (1959) and Cynthia Ozick's "Envy; or Yiddish in America" (1969). In both these writings, the authors' concern with the nature of language unfolds the need to transcend alienation, as well as the preoccupation to express belongingness in some American- English lingual premises which in turn will impose and instil a certain way of thinking and understanding of the world in the characters striving for identification and recognition.

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Ekphrasis in "Portrait of a Lady": A Wonderful Dialogue between Poetry and Painting

"Portrait of a Lady", a short poem written by William Carlos Williams, an American modern poet, is not so well known as his other poems such as "The Great Figure" and "The Red Wheelbarrow". However, we can find the unique charm and beauty in this poem, if we read it side by side with the French painting "The Swing". Approaching the poem from the perspective of inter-art poetics, the paper intends to explore the ekphrasis from the painting "The Swing" to the poem "Portrait of a Lady", with the comprehensive and detailed analysis of the dialogue in the poem, paying attention to aesthetic feelings and experience that combining poetry and painting brings, and thus argues that this poem is a

wonderful dialogue between poetry and painting and unravels some puzzling issues in previous studies.

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"Stop the Train and Go Thither":
Seeing the Unseen in Some of Vladimir Nabokov's Works

Using trains has become an oft-recurring symbol in literary history and a somewhat invisible energizing force in the works of authors. In Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*, trains are seen as instruments of fate, the catastrophic accidents of which portend the heroine's plot. The symbols of trains can be manifold: in literature, trains can be associated with optimism (for example, Arnold Munk's *The Little Engine That Could*), but on the negative side, they are seen as instruments ruining the landscape, exert damaging consequences on the city, and even cause social upheaval (for example, Elizabeth Gaskell's Cranford).

The aim of this presentation is to explore the omnipresence of trains in some works of Vladimir Nabokov, who was known to have been infatuated with railroads and locomotives since his early childhood. Trains possess a variety of thematic functions in Nabokov's works. In several instances, Nabokov uses trains to cast a nostalgic glance at his idyllic past and present a recollection of seemingly disjointed images in one still

point in time. The concept of "cosmic synchronization" in Nabokov is always connected with moments of epiphany, during which bliss and freedom experienced by his characters.

In *Glory*, an early novel originally written in Russian, Nabokov reveals that trains are not simply objects of one's youthful obsession and romantic glamour, but constitutes a fundamental aspect of the hero's life as an émigré, who must find an existence proper far from his roots. Similarly to the figure of the Wandering Jew, Nabokov also considers the train journey as an adequate locus for his emblematical migrant characters that are unable to settle down and find peace. In my analysis of "Cloud, Castle, Lake," it will be claimed that the distance from and fleetingness with which the traveller perceives outside reality through his windows do not offer lasting contact with his surroundings. The landscape, the objects, and the people, which are left behind, remain unidentifiable and mysterious.

Nabokov's use of the trains and the metaphor of the journey are to portray how the passengers are incarcerated in time despite their infinite progress through space, while trains also shed light on the alienation and dislocation of his protagonists, who are always on the move, either escaping from a force of circumstances (wars, revolutions, etc.) or embarking upon a quest for the unattainable. Whenever mention is made of trains, Nabokov subtly suffuses the whole story with the subliminal suggestion of the evanescence of life and the inevitable fate of loss and death. It will also be argued that the discovery of the landscape serves as a textual discovery, which, due to the train's speed, can never be grasped in its entirety, and the fragmentation of the text

brings no satisfaction both to the reader and the writer: memory thus becomes blurred and one's holistic knowledge of existence eventually remains patchy. In this way, Nabokov uses trains differently from other authors who were less prone to highlight their importance in metaphysical ruminations and spiritual musings as Nabokov does. Throughout Nabokov, the train and the railroad have become a functional and structural part of a plot and narration.

Keywords: *Nabokov, train, metaphor, alienation*

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Door and Table: Significant Images in *What We Talk about When We Talk About Love*

What We Talk about When We Talk about Love is a 1981 collection of short stories by American writer Raymond Carver. Carver specializes in writing the ordinary life of the blue-collar workers. This paper concentrates on the alienation and communication among the whole society through the study of images. By analysing the image of door, this paper intends to reveal two implications of it. One is the alienation and defence among people. Another is the guardian of responsibility and love for family. By discussing the image of table, this paper aims to prove that table which is supposed to be a bridge for communication does not play its role effectively in many cases, and explain how it finally works. But only when people take a step to communicate and develop

responsibility and love for family can they eliminate alienation and misunderstanding. Warm the cold surroundings with love and words. Do not neglect the amazing power of communication. Attaching great importance to expressing ourselves appropriately is the task of everyone.

Keywords: *What We Talk about When We Talk about Love, images of door and table, alienation, communication*

BRITISH AND COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE

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Identit(ies) in the Making: Hanif Kureishi's
The Buddha of Suburbia

The Buddha of Suburbia, winner of the Whitbread Prize for Best First Novel, raises a number of issues ranging from cultural and racial fragmentation to spiritual quest for acceptance and self-identity in a multicultural British society. More specifically, the novel depicts the struggles and endeavours of immigrants from South Asia in the 1970s, which are widely known for social unrest, the raise of racial consciousness, violence, and search for identity, to name a few. The purpose of this paper remains the depiction of the spiritual journey of its main character Karim from innocence to maturity as a typical example of identit(ies) in the making. The paper further analyses the

impact that various ethnic groups have had on English language and culture at large.

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If We Offend, It Is With Our Good Will: Malapropisms, Mispronunciation and Garbling of Language in Shakespeare's Plays

This paper will focus on how Shakespeare often introduces characters with language challenges or difficulties in his plays. These come in a range of forms and include to name but a few: the Nurse in *Romeo and Juliet* or Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing* who constantly utter malapropisms with unintentional comic effect, the non-native English speakers Fluellen in *Henry V* and Dr. Caius in The *Merry Wives of Windsor* whose mispronunciation of English provides much amusement and various other garblers of the English language.

These verbal failings are usually viewed as Shakespeare poking fun at the ignorance of commoners or foreigners, in contrast, of course, to the more eloquent voices of their social superiors. One can, however, view these utterances as a subversive means of ridiculing or deflating the pompous language of the rich and powerful. Perhaps these garblers are yet another kind of wise clown or fool, used by Shakespeare so effectively in the comedies in

particular, to comment insightfully on the events transpiring on stage.

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'Neither Fish nor Flesh:' Translations in Brian Friel's *Translations*

Over the past couple of decades perhaps much ink has been spilled into political and cultural criticism of empire and its backwash broadly labelled as 'postcolonial'—a term which has received various definitions. What made such diverse views counteract was their insistence on a common trait: a preoccupation with "experiences of exclusion, denigration, and resistance" under the mechanism of colonial power which asserted itself in the engagement, usually and in its simplest sense, between "the West and the non-West" (Boehmer 340). For Brian Friel's characters in *Translations* post/colonialism refers to a certain renaming and remapping process which is both beyond the limits of geographical intention and is also within their reach and will not remain untouchable. This conundrum-like situation is actually much more to do with the distressing experience of facing the desire to construct their broken identities in the shadow of improbabilities, which the present study aims to present and probe. In *Translations*, Friel's panorama of the Irish town Bally Beag in its moments of transition, in the process of being renamed and remapped provides the

reader with a picture of the townspeople in their moments of translation; either moving from one plane to another; or resisting to *translation*, that is clinging on to their native land.

Keywords: identity, language, post-colonialism, drama, Brian Friel

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"*Dar*-link, do you vant a *kavitchka*?" Language and Identity in Charlotte Mendelson's *Almost English*

How many generations does it take to blend into a culture as someone having outlandish origins? For how long is the offspring of immigrants considered as an nth-generation immigrant? When does a foreign past stop defining you and let you pass as a native? From a non-native point of view, Marina, the protagonist of *Almost English* (2013), is the embodiment of a stereotypical English identity: impeccable, RP English is her mother tongue, her boyfriend is the heir of an ancient mansion, and she wears the uniform of a prestigious boarding school. Yet, the above mentioned questions keep haunting her: being the granddaughter of Hungarian grandparents hinders her integration into the English cultural environment and traps her on the threshold of Englishness, she remains "almost English."

Her Hungarian heritage is not a constructive part of her identity, she is not stuck in-between two different

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cultures: she does not speak Hungarian and she is quite ignorant about her ancestor's Carpathian past. Hungarian culture is an inclusion in her life and identity, which does not have to be incorporated, only preserved, protected, objectified as a fascinating segment of history, preferably sealed up in the museum-like house of her grandmother, which Marina calls home.

I argue that on a textual level, the language of *Almost English* embodies this objectifying, even fetishizing attitude towards the foreign past. The grandmother's half Hungarian, half-English discourse penetrates the text, preserved in its original form, spelt in a way that English readers could vocalise the exotic curiosity. In other words, Hungarian and imperfect English languages serve as the imprint of temporal, historical and cultural otherness.

Keywords: *Contemporary British fiction, Englishness, immigrant identities*

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City of Broken Promises: A Romance of Cultural, Religious, and Economic Encounters in Macao

City of Broken Promises is a historical and romantic novel written by the British writer Austin Coates and was first published in 1967. The novel is set in Macao and was received as "the English foundational fiction" (Brookshaw 2014: 48) about domestic romances in Macao and Hong Kong. It is recognized as a significant narrative about Macao by readers and scholars in both Macao and

abroad. The novel offers a unique and striking picture of Macao through a historical reconstruction of the British presence in the city during the late 18th century. It constitutes one of the few comprehensive literary depictions of Macao in English. Literature and research on Macao from an English perspective has been somewhat neglected so far in Macao studies, which tends to focus mainly on Chinese and Portuguese sources.

Due to its specific colonial history, Macao exemplifies a unique mixture of multicultural coexistence and mutual cultural ignorance. In my paper, I will present a picture of the historical encounters between the British, Portuguese and Chinese in Macao. In particular, I will shed new light on *City of Broken Promises* by analysing how it represents different religious faiths and their attributes. I will look at how it reveals tensions between Protestant values represented by the Englishmen in Macao, the Roman Catholic beliefs of the Portuguese, and the Chinese local "temple culture". I hope to illustrate how *City of Broken Promises* provides a unique glimpse into the history of Macao from a religious point view and shows how different faiths mingled with one another to shape a hybrid Chinese colonial city.

Key words: *Austin Coates, Macao, colonialism, historical fiction, intercultural encounters*

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Tracing the Original Sin in William Golding's *The Inheritors* and *Free Fall*

William Golding's novels are based on similar structural lines and his main characters perfectly embody the imperfection of human nature. A recurring idea in his novels is the inside darkness or evil part of the human being, in his view, man is a savage, eternally doomed by his original sin and incapable of suppressing the inner savagery. Thus man cannot escape his primitive nature, but this evil is indispensable for it is seen and presented as a sign of development and the bases for existence. By carefully examine the human being from the genesis up to the present; Golding tries to present to the reader the connection between the past and the civilization, the influence of religious belief and rational thought upon the individual's soul. In his novels *The Inheritors* and *Free Fall*, although the different setting and timing, we, as readers, cannot disregard the similar concepts and ideas found in them. We realize that for Golding the original sin is the root of all evil inherited from the past, indivisibly and invisibly linked to the present, with the passing of the time it evolves and develops with man's reasoning abilities and is strengthened by progress. This paper focuses on the connection between the religious concept of the sin and how it is intricate with the characters and Golding's ideas on both books.

Key words: original sin, knowledge, pre-history, innate, alternative view etc.

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"Egyptian Dancer at Shubra": A Dancing Ekphrasitic Poem

Bernard Spencer became an outstanding Cairo poet thanks to his self-imposed exile in Egypt. His poem "Egyptian Dancer at Shubra" is a verbal representation of an Oriental Dance show at Shubra from the perspective of a western spectator. This poem reveals the cultural implications embodied in the Egyptian Oriental Dance: as a hybrid of Egyptian traditional culture and the western imperialism and commercialism, it is a proper emblem of Egyptian modernity and urbanization. With the help of the inter-art poetics, the paper intends to explore the ekphrasis of Spencer's poem, the transformation and fusion of poetry and dance by which the poet absorbs the art and the spirit of the Oriental Dance to unfold the Egyptian daily life and the unique cultural landscape in the process of its modernization and urbanization in the early 20th century, thus transcending the Orientalist boundary constructed by Edward Said.

Keywords: Oriental, Spencer, Said, modernity

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"Things are Changing under the Skin of England": Representation of Immigrant Encounters in Hanif Kureishi's *Borderline*

As Kureishi indicates "it is the British, the white British, who have to learn that being British isn't what it was. Now it is a more complex thing involving new elements" ("The Rainbow Sign" 55). With the ever-increasing multiculturalism and cosmopolitanism in England, it is inevitable for English society to remain intact, hence diasporic writers have produced a literature that is "necessarily transplanted, displaced, multilingual, and simultaneously, conversant with the cultural codes of the West" (Boehmer 230). An imperative of this kind of literature is interaction among diverse cultures. In *Borderline* (1981), Kureishi addresses the issue of Englishness and depicts how the idea of Englishness is being challenged by the immigrants who are engaged in the racist politics, suffering from identity crisis, and striving to gain a sense of belonging. Both the first generation and second generation immigrants, unable to belong completely to one place, are depicted as occupying an in-between space and feeling neither there nor here, thereby taking on assumed and constructed identities. A portrait of an immigrant Pakistani family, each member of which goes through different stages of adjusting themselves to the society they have joined has been presented along with other immigrant characters in the play. Although it is implied that England and English people are not yet ready to embrace other cultures, especially the second generation immigrants endeavour to make England "habitable." In the play, both Pakistani immigrants and the English people are portrayed as subjects to some certain changes during the integration process, which in the long-term will have permanent effects on English culture and society.

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The Loss of Identity in John Banville's
The Book of Evidence

The Book of Evidence is the self-confession of the protagonist Freddie Montgomery to the crime he has committed. Freddie is an Irish scientist who has been imprisoned for stealing a painting and murdering a young maid named Josie Bell. When Freddie sees the picture of the gloved woman for the first time he is somehow attracted by her, hypnotized by her mere presence. The picture has a strange power over him. As he himself says only he can understand the 'pathos of her presence', only he 'has come upon her suddenly in a golden room on a summer eve' and only he is capable of killing for her. While reading Freddie's account on the murder we become witnesses of his gradual degradation and loss of identity. He hesitates on the verge of reality and fictional world, of ordinary and extraordinary, of art and life. While Freddie is looking and admiring at the picture the maid enters and startles him. That is the reason why Freddie assumes her as an intruder, the one that stands between him and his woman with gloves. He tears the link with ordinary world through murdering her. But yet he manages to identify himself by doing this act and become 'the centre of attention'. The picture is in the centre of the narrative. This motif, namely the use of

visual representation in literature, is called ekphrasis. In my article I will analyse the impact of that ekphrasis on the narrative and its protagonist and how it is related to the loss of the self and depersonalization of the character.

Keywords: *ekphrasis, art, identity, depersonalization*

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A Cultural Encounter: Chaucer and Arabic Alchemy. A Study of an Obscure Reference

Geoffrey Chaucer in his *Canterbury Tales*, in "The Canon's Yeoman's Tale" has the yeoman recount a story within the general framework of tales. Thus he renders among other digressive bits bearing on alchemy a dialogue between Plato and one of his disciples discussing the four elements and the enigmatic stone called Titanos. This disciple quotes a mysterious Book of Senior, which turns out to be "Senioris Zadith Fil. Hamuelis Tabula Chemica", whose author was also known as Ibn Umayl, an Arab alchemist writing his work somewhere in the 10th century. The study unfolds as a mini-thriller of ideas unravelling the riddle of Chaucer's allusion to this alchemical work and elaborates on the sources informing Chaucer's knowledge and ambiguous attitude towards alchemy as it is represented by the two failed "alchemists" in the tale: the sly canon and his companion, the upright yeoman.

Keywords: *Chaucer, alchemy, allusion*

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

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Destruction of Wars on Humanity through the Image of "enemy" and "warm meal and wine" in the Poems *Enlisted at the Age of Fifteen* and *The Man He Killed* with Different Perspectives

By the entry point of "enemy" and "warm meal and wine" in two poems entitled *Enlisted at the Age of Fifteen* and *The Man He Killed*, respectively from collection of famous Chinese Yue-fu Folk Songs in Han dynasty and Thomas Hardy, this paper is aimed at pointing out that both of the poems have expressed the idea that wars have no meaning in itself as well as in human individual; soldiers' freedom and free will is deprived of, and the destruction of wars on humanity. However, there also lies difference. Chinese poem *Enlisted at the Age of Fifteen* emphasizes more on the possible absence of real enemy wastes soldier's life. The old veteran returns home sixty-five years later, only to find that his beloved and cherished family has gone, he is left lonely and at a loss and hard to live on just as his warm meal left cold. In *The man he killed*, the poem emphasizes on narrator's guilt and sympathy for the enemy he killed and his self-identification with him, indicating war destroys ordinary lives. And his imagination that they may be friends drinking in the inn demonstrates the fact that war destroys beautiful life. The

imagination and the reality contrast the cruelty of the war. The Chinese poem emphasizes more on the destructive effect of war on family whereas Hardy's poem on the individual psyche.

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A Same Nature, Two different Cultures—A Comparison between Chinese and English Nature Poetry

Tao Yuanming and William Wordsworth, two representative poets of Chinese and English nature poetry, whose poetry seems to echo from each other across time and space. In some degree, they are describing and extolling a same "nature" in a similar way. They both prefer to write poems in an artless and common language. However, there are also differences between Chinese and English nature poetry due to their cultural difference. By comparing the state and the attitude of their nature poems, this thesis will explore the difference of Chinese and English poetry and the different culture behind it. The difference between Chinese and English nature poetry is reflected mainly at two aspects: First, Chinese nature poetry depicts "nature without poet himself/herself " while English poetry is always about "poet within nature"; Secondly, Chinese poets regard nature as a friend while English poets worship nature as a God image. The difference of

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Chinese and English nature poetry is deeply rooted in their cultural difference. Chinese nature poets, influenced by Taoist, see nature as their brother or sister; whereas English poets, due to their world views of dualism and Christian ideas, often deify and worship nature in their works.

Keywords: nature poetry, Tao Yuanming, William Wordsworth, cultural difference

CULTURAL STUDIES

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Cultural Encounters in Tourism: Constative Parallels in English and Macedonian

The idea for undertaking a research in the field of tourism discourse derives from the fact that a special research dedicated completely to the problem of ethnographic description of tourist communication in the English and Macedonian language hasn't been done. The research of tourist communication reflects the interdisciplinary aspect of the objective in this paper—on the one hand, tourism, as a significantly important and strong agent and channel of globalization, and on the other hand, the ethnography of communication, with its basic principles present in the tourist communication. Both disciplines, joined together, at the same time reflect change and

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transition, thus growing into treasures of different discourses since the existence of tourism.

The accent is put on differences and similarities of both cultures that have their own realization through language interactions, where the subcultures and individual variables that motivate people to speak as they do, are deeply integrated. An attempt to separate them is not possible or desirable, especially for the fact that their interrelations are culturally interwoven. It is of great importance to make a difference between realization of a culture in a certain language and its realization through the language that belongs to that culture.

DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

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Depicting Strategies of Political Apologies in American Presidential Speeches

Similar to the apologies of everyday life, political apologies share the same principles of establishing good relations between members of a society in the narrow sense and, to a larger extent, between members of different societies. The political apologies help political actors to practice apologies nationally and internationally. To get the offended person/s to accept the apology, the

apologizer tries to follow or apply different strategies to mitigate the offence she/he has caused to others depending on the severity of the damage. In our case, the political actor tries to follow a strategy as a method used by him/her to perform an apology. Therefore, the present study focuses on depicting the strategies of using the speech act of apology by American politicians (presidents). The aim of this article is to investigate whether we can depict different strategies of apologizing in the field of politics (having as a case study some American presidential speeches) as distinct from other strategies of apology as it will be given as models of comparison. For the purpose of our study, six expressed apologies by presidents Bush, Clinton and Obama have been selected and will be analysed.

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Aggressiveness in the Discourse of Women Politicians

The social, economic and political development at the end of XX century was accompanied by increase of the successful integration of women in leading and political positions. However, politics is still considered "males' domain" and women are still subjects of the "double bind". When they speak in a natural, feminine 'ladylike' manner, they are not taken seriously and are denied access to power because of their incapability to

withstand political pressures. On the other hand, when displaying typical masculine linguistic features, such as expertise, authority and rationality, they are accused of being aggressive, or insensitive. Based on a large corpus of political speeches delivered in three different political contexts, namely, in the context of power, opposition and personal interview, this paper aims at analysing the political discourse of women politicians in Albania and the USA, focusing particularly at linguistic aggressiveness in political discourse. By means of a comparative approach, this paper attempts to investigate the political discourse to analyse the form in which the linguistic aggressiveness appears, the context, its purpose and to provide explanations for eventual cultural differences.

Keywords: political discourse, women politicians, double bind, linguistic aggressiveness, political context, cultural differences, English, Albanian

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Encountering Self-mentioning in Trump's and Clinton's Presidential Debates

Self-mention is considered an important and powerful rhetorical strategy for marking the speaker's authorial presence and identity in discourse. This short talk looks into some issues related to Trump's and Clinton's identities in the 2016 US presidential debates. Based on numerous examples, the analysis clearly shows that self-mentioning is a strategic interactional process which

helps both candidates take on the roles of authoritative arguers. It also shows that both Trump and Clinton adopt this strategy to attract the electorate and enrich their (meta)discourses.

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Memes as a Viral Phenomenon in Pop Politics: The Rise of a New Digital Genre

This paper explores the use of memes in the Internet as units of imitation and replication in an attempt to understand their cultural, political and textual significance. Dawkins (1987) invented the neologism "meme" after the Ancient Greek word *μίμημα* (*mīmēma*), meaning "something imitated", to characterise how cultural information spreads both diachronically from generation to generation and synchronically through exchanges between peers and media. In keeping with previous research (Arizzi 2013, Shifman 2014, Wiggins & Bowers 2015), this paper views digital memes as hybrids which, once generated from an original matrix, will circulate on social media in ways that respond to Darwinian laws of natural selection. They typically incorporate features of traditional textual strategies such as satire and parody but adapt these to the needs of today's digital context of culture.

Building on Barthes' (1967) work on authorship, the also paper suggests that the affordances of social media have changed traditional notions of authorship: however, meme analysis is a tool well suited to making sense of shared authorships in today's digital texts in which the roles addressors and addressees, readerships and writerships need careful analysis. With its brief analysis of political memes and meme generators relating to the 2016 American Presidential Election, the paper also focuses on the politicization of memes (Ross, Rivers, 2017). This special focus provides both a suitable field in which to test out the validity of digital meme analysis and a chance to reflect on the relevance of memes in interpreting the ties between political participation and grass-root movements.

Keywords: memes, digital genre analysis, authorship, political memes

ELT/EDUCATION

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The impact of MALL on English vocabulary learning of EFL Albanian learners

The widespread use of technology nowadays offers learners and teachers different tools which can facilitate language learning. Mobile assisted language learning

(MALL) has evolved as new way combined with computer assisted language learning to support student learning in different environments. One of the main advantages is that MALL can access learning materials, search for different information, and communicate with their teachers and peers. In 2001 the Stanford University (USA) integrated mobile phones in a Spanish learning program while Duke University in North Carolina in the USA provided all freshmen with free iPods with voice recorders and they are being used for learning purposes.

The present study is conducted at South East European University during academic years 2016/2017. It investigates the impact of mobile dictionary on EFL students' learning during English classes. There are 60 student involved in the study.

The first instrument used is a student questionnaire which is used to find out student opinions about the use of mobile devices in the learning. The second instrument is test, pre-test and post-test used with two groups, experimental group and control group. There were two groups 30 students in each group where the experimental group used a dictionary installed on their mobile phones to do the classroom activities while the control group worked with the printed version of the same dictionary.

The overall study results show that majority of the participants have positive perceptions of the mobile use for their learning. In addition to this, based on the experimental group which used mobile phones to do the classroom activities outperformed the control group. The findings of the study reveal a positive role that MALL might have in learning English as a foreign language.

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Uniqueness within the Team – A Key to a Successful Teaching

In the field of English teaching, eight major approaches are well known. Despite the fact that they share a common main goal, their minor aims are radically different, thus leading to various content and practice—what to teach and how to teach it. The current article 'Uniqueness within the team—a key to a successful teaching' is a brief overview of these same approaches and an attempt to extract the most useful from each of them. The article mainly focuses on practice—or how a teacher should teach in order to elicit, to motivate the best possible students' performance. I realize that this is a broad, well developed and deeply researched topic and every now and then books, articles, guides, research papers, etc., spring, attempting to help us, teachers, teach in the best way possible. But like many other teachers I struggle, sometimes, to choose and absorb the most useful information available. It is for the fact that we are all different and have unique approaches towards our students – due to our own purposes. That is why it is essential to clarify this same personal purpose and after that to look for specific techniques that will bring it to life, will transfer it to the classroom. Teaching is a team 'sport', so asking other teachers, borrowing ideas, lesson plans, attitude, teacher talk, etc., is the key to a successful

teaching. This article describes my perception of a perfect lesson and I want to share it, believing that it will be of a great help—whether to show others how to facilitate their teaching, or how not to behave. Because the only fruitful way to become a good teacher is to observe—both appropriate and inappropriate teachers' methods.

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Hypercorrectness Transfer in the Interlanguage of Bulgarian EFL Speakers

The realisation of the lateral consonant in Bulgarian is not that different from RP phonetically, though the two allophones have a different phonological distribution. With some speakers the pronunciation of the lateral is influenced by bilabial dislambdacism in both Bulgarian and English. For Bulgarian this bilabial realization of the lateral consonant is a dialect feature and appears to be a regional variety of western dialects. It does not cause any ambiguity as there is no bilabial approximant in Bulgarian. Being aware that the bilabial consonant is unacceptable in the standard pronunciation, i.e. "wrong", a number of Bulgarian speakers of English as a foreign language tend to use the alveolar lateral as a substitute for the bilabial approximant in English. This case of hypercorrectness gets fossilized and the problem persists even with advanced speakers if left untreated, causing a

variety of errors ranging from problems with initial literacy acquisition to specialised translation.

The paper offers an analysis of both English and Bulgarian lateral consonant allophones and of the reasons for the hypercorrectness transfer. It also suggests an algorithm for the treatment of bilabial dislambdacism in the Bulgarian/English interlanguage so that errors in speaking, writing and listening comprehension could be avoided.

Keywords: *Bulgarian/English interlanguage, hypercorrectness transfer, bilabial dislambdacism, alveolar lateral, bilabial approximant*

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Sex Education in China: Pornography or Science?

Who am I? How did I come to this world? Most children are curious about these questions, but they will not be given the truth directly, neither did I. In China, a large number of parents will avoid these questions or merely beat around the bush, because it is embarrassing for them to talk about everything regarding to sex which, in their mind, is an out-of-bounds area for children to step in. Therefore, sex education is still a taboo in Chinese education, let alone the LGBT sex education. This year, the appearance of a sex education textbook given to primary school students irritates most of the parents blaming the straightforward phrases and explanation in this book, which results in the withdrawal of the book.

However, the advent of school-based sex education began in the late 19th century in North America, which will shock most of Chinese parents, due to the progressive education movement. Sexuality is an important aspect of human's life including children. Proper sex education can provide better protection to the individual, especially children, as a human and the family as a social institution. Therefore, it is a necessity and a science rather than a shame to teach children sexual knowledge, to teach them how to protect themselves and to teach them to take responsibility. The reason behind the different attitudes towards sex education between China and other countries may lie in culture as Chinese people are deeply influenced by Confucian values - See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil, do no evil.

Keywords: *school-based sex education, pornography, science, Confucianism*

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Storytelling and the EFL context

Studies on foreign language teaching show that this process is based on old and new methodologies used in different ways by teachers. Teaching children is not a simple thing. The base of everything is the text that sometimes from teacher's experience is 'boring' dealing with a lot of exercises and sometimes neglecting the purpose of language: interaction. These learners need to

learn and acquire English in the most natural way being exposed to English outside the school and as teachers are aware that sometimes learners lack such kind of opportunity.

Storytelling is an old way of teaching since the ancient times. It can be used with children or teenagers in EFL classes to foster communication. Teachers have the opportunity to choose and to adopt it for different teaching purposes. In this study, it is attempted to give some answers to questions like Why using storytelling? How to use storytelling? What kind of practical and communicative activities should we use? Storytelling promotes language learning by enriching learners' acquisition and communication. It motivates, encourages and enhances culture through different types of materials. Through storytelling, teachers can apply group and pair work, role- plays and lowers barriers of anxiety in the context of learning. If the traditional ways of teaching and textbooks are sometimes less appropriate for young foreign language learners than storytelling would be fine. Being used at the proper time and suitable to language level and age of learner's children and teenagers would enjoy and find it interesting; it would stimulate imagination and promote communication.

Keywords: motivation, storytelling, interactive tasks, skills, communication

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English language as a mean of enhancing the internationalization of higher education. Case study: Romania

The spread of globalization and multiculturalism has challenged the higher education all over the world. The intensification of the free movement of ideas, persons and products has led to changes in the structure of the academic stuff and students' profile, in the content of the curriculum and of the teaching methods, as well in the criteria of developing academic cooperation projects. This dynamic perceived at the higher education level received a name: internationalization.

In a context where everything became interconnected, we saw the need for a common language, a language able to enhance the internationalization process in order for higher education to fulfil its new role in a globalized and multicultural world. Can the English language represent this bridging language also in the field of higher education, as it is in so many other fields? Our hypothesis is that indeed, the English language can be considered a mean of enhancing the internationalization of higher education. In order to test our hypothesis, we will illustrate our assumption by using the Romanian case. In the first part of the article we will present the historical background of the usage of English language in the Romanian higher education institutions, while in the second part we will focus on its present utilization as a means of heighten the internationalization process.

Keywords: *English language, globalization, higher education, internationalization, multiculturalism*

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Teaching and learning foreign languages in Macedonia

This paper explores the teaching and learning foreign languages in the educational system of the Republic of Macedonia and outside it, in particular the teaching and learning of English as a foreign language. It specifically tries to reveal which foreign languages have been taught in the educational system in the Republic of Macedonia, in particular in some elementary, secondary and tertiary educational institutions in the area of Tetovo and Gostivar and Skopje in various periods of time, that is over three periods of time, before the independence of Macedonia (1992), from 1992 to 2002 and after 2002. Moreover, it explores the views, attitudes, preferences and perceptions of various categories of people within and outside educational institutions with regard to learning foreign languages in the Republic of Macedonia. As regards the research methodology this research paper will use qualitative and quantitative research methods to collect relevant information from various categories of people with regard to foreign language learning and teaching within and outside the educational system of the Republic of Macedonia.

Keywords: *teaching and learning, foreign languages, English as a foreign language, educational institutions*

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The Didactic Potentials of Using Films and Contemporary Media in TEFL

It is important for teachers who work with children and teenagers to be aware of the role of media and popular culture in young people's lives. It is a challenge to have an open and flexible approach to film, TV and other media products. The real experiences of teenagers have to be considered as equal in importance to the experiences and ideas of the teacher. The teacher has to help students to place their experiences in a larger perspective.

In this study, the didactic potentials and the use of film and media are studied in relation to the learning and teaching of English as a foreign language. Our personal experience shows that film is sometimes regarded as valuable teaching material and at other times only used for amusement or as a time-filler. The starting point for this study was, therefore, the curiosity to find out if our personal view is correct. The main questions at issue for this study are:

• What didactic potentials are there of film and media in English teaching? How do teachers use film and contemporary media in the classroom?

• How do teachers regard film and media as teaching resources?

The possibilities of using media in teaching are immense. It is, for example, possible to watch a movie with subtitles in English or find an interesting video-clip

within seconds. However, there is no guarantee that contemporary media is being used to its fullest potential.

Keywords: *films, contemporary media, valuable teaching material, teaching resources, educational development*

FILM STUDIES

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Steampunk Dystopia in Hayao Miyazaki's *Howl's Moving Castle*

Japanese film director, screenwriter, and animator Hayao Miyazaki created an intricate adaptation of Diana Wynne Johns's fantasy novel *Howl's Moving Castle* (1986). Both the 2004 eponymous Japanese anime movie and the novel seem to be set in the Edwardian era. The latter operates more as a fable carrying traditional tropes of European folklore, while the former is closer to a dystopian alternate history.

I intend to examine the film as an adaptation which operates with vastly differing plot elements: war and the exploitation of one's magical powers obtain much more important, sinister roles as subsidiary themes, especially in light of the fact that the Iraq war started a year before the movie's release.

My talk aims to investigate how the adaptation, even though Japanese, manages to rework the story as a steampunk fantasy. Steampunk can be seen as a

repurposing of Victorian culture and the Age of Steam. The anime ties together the technological advancement that brought the overconfidence of the Edwardian era with the fantasy element of magic in a dystopian setting. The examination of the visual aspect of the anime will also be in focus: the comparison of the source material and the film reveals a cross-cultural phenomenon, an engagement of typically Japanese animation components and an essentially British setting. I intend to investigate how a Japanese adaptation of a British novel manages to represent a steampunk story.

Keywords: steampunk, adaptation, cross-culture, anime, Japanese, British

LINGUISTICS

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Where Do Terms to Name Concepts in Albanian Linguistics Come From: A Detailed Analysis of the First Albanian Dictionary of Terms in Linguistics

The terminology of Albanian linguistics has made steady progress since the initial compilation of the first Albanian dictionary of terms in the field of linguistics (1975). The compilation of such a dictionary is a linguistic achievement in itself in terms of providing a common tool for researchers to conduct comparative studies on foreign languages. This would be the case for researchers

working on languages descending from a common root or languages sharing points of contact because of their territorial vicinity. It would be just as relevant to undertake a comprehensive analysis into the way how terms have arisen, emerged and evolved in the field of linguistics. It is interesting to note that a large number of terms have made their way into the dictionary from the general lexicon by taking on specialized meanings such as *zë/voice*, *varg zanor/soundchain*, *temë/stem*, etc., or by creating neologisms including terms like *shkronjë/letter*, *rasë/case*, *zgjedhoj/conjugate*, *rrokje/syllable*. There is a large chunk of terms in the field which have been borrowed from other fields of science into linguistics like *huazim* (*loan* as from a *bank*) into *huazim kuptimor* (*sense-loan*); *përkim* (*agreement*) as in *grammatical agreement*. A considerable effort has been expended by the authors of the dictionary to do away with foreign terms and use Albanian forms through a process known as *albanianization* including terms like *eptim* for *fleksion* (eng. flexion); *dysor* for *dublet* (eng. doublet); *hundorëzim* for *nazilizm* (eng. nasalisation), *zanore* for *vokalik* (eng. vocalic); *bashkëpajtim* for *konkordance* (eng. concordance); *mjetore* for *instrumental* (eng. instrumental) etc. In some cases we are confronted with terms that appear in two forms like *kohë themelore* or *kohë parësore*/*primary tenses*, *pyetje e zhdrejtë* or pyetje e tërthortë/*indirect interrogation*. It should be noted that this study is far from being complete and a detailed analysis into the composition of such terms is called for in the future.

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A Comparative Study of English and Russian Intonation Patterns

How often do we hear a phrase: "It is not what you said, it is how you said it"? This simple sentence demonstrates why the understanding of intonation in communication and meaning transmission is decisive. The aims of this paper are divided into general and specific ones. The general aims are to present and compare intonation patterns and their usage in English and Russian, i.e. different approaches to the study of intonation according to various authors, all substantiated with respective examples. Comparison of intonation patterns of the two languages will point out their similarities and differences. The specific aim of the paper is to provide pragmatic data for the EFL and RFL (Russian as a Foreign Language, i.e. РКИ - Русский язык Как Иностранный) students, the ones that both student groups could benefit from in learning and understanding similarities and differences of intonation patterns, all presented and discussed by using descriptive and comparative methods. While, on the one hand, the English language uses only four different intonation patterns, the Russian language, according to Bryzgunova (Hobzová 2011), differs between the seven of them. The examples used in the paper show that the English language, in the majority of cases, uses only two

basic tone movements (falling and rising) in all types of sentences, while variations (fall-rise; rise-fall) are used only to give special emphasis to the text, or to change the style from formal to less formal and vice versa. Furthermore, this paper shows that English syntax allows the free exchange of the intonation patterns, while its usage in the Russian language is extremely restricted.

Keywords: intonation, intonation patterns, English, Russian, description, comparison, EFL, RFL

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An Approach from Antiquity to Albanian Proverbs in the Semantic Field

In our paper, we will have an approach about proverbs in general and the semantic field of Albanian Proverbs in particular. Proverbs absolutized space and time and, therefore, appear consistent in many cultures of the world. These lines are numerous, even more numerous than the comparative methods used for observation. Moreover, proverbial segmentation of the same vital phenomena is presented equally to all peoples and has marked their poetic achievements, but all the material could be richer to population than perhaps to the other people of each nation and each environment, because each nation has its own specific disposed options and their specific experience, e.g. historical conditions and

circumstances for all peoples of the world have not always been the same and do not always provide rich material and have not always been the same or similar. So, in every nation proverbs have existed, which are semantically incomparable and are regularly successful examples, which the comparative method has not taken into account.

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English beyond English

The English language has gone through a history of cyclic expansions, fragmentations, contacts, overlappings of internal and external factors. This has made of it the most widely spoken and taught 'exchange language' in the world.

Globalization "has exerted profound influence on varied dimensions (economic, political, cultural, etc.,) of any social entity involved. This rapid globalizing process stimulates the promotion of the English language which in turn results in its localization and nativization" (Mckay 2012, 28)

Linguistic contact has therefore been influencing the English language itself and its status, also creating hybrid forms, pidgins and creoles. This complex situation is also reflected in teaching practices.

This paper describes how English has been penetrating linguistic and cultural realities in which communities of

speakers in multilinguistic and multicultural environments recognize it as a medium of communication at various levels. Examples of such communities will be given.

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Elements of English in the Italian Language

The presence of foreign words is a linguistic phenomenon occurring in the Italian language as in every other foreign language. But why does this phenomenon happen? How has this process developed and which are today the most present English elements in the Italian language? It is exactly this important linguistic aspect that we will try to give our opinion on focusing more on the actual today's stage.

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A Morphological Contrastive Study of Prefixation in English and Albanian

The fact that the Albanian and English languages belong to the family of Indo-European languages leads to the appearance of both differences and similarities in their morphological structures, word-formation systems, derivation and especially the type of prefixation, which is also the focus of our study. The unequal volume of lexical, semantic and phraseological wealth is closely related to the differences and distinguishable features in the morpho-semantic structures between the English language as an analytical-synthetic language and the Albanian language as a synthetic-analytical one.

This paper aims at comparing and contrasting the differences and similarities in the paradigmatic group of formations with prefixes in both languages English and Albanian. The study analyses the linguistic, morphological and semantic features they share and the ones which make them different by comparing and illustrating. Also, we come to conclusions about how the Albanian prefixes react to the multiplicity of the English prefixes by analysing both their differences and similarities.

Keywords: *paradigmatic group, word-formation, prefixation, morphological and semantic features*

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Modals in Agreements

The purpose of this paper is to analyze the way modality

is expressed in two sales agreements written in English (totalling about 9000 words).

In analysing the use of modality in the two English legal texts, I will restrict my interest to two categories, i.e. *(a) grammatical modalizers* and *(b) lexico-gramatical modalizers,* with a more detailed approach to modal verbs since they constitute an important and definitory feature of the English legal discourse.

The fundamental use of legal language is to impose rights and confer obligations upon individuals or groups of people. Thus, it is possible to say that legal language is directive – it expresses notions such as permission, order and prohibition. Directives in legal language are rather expressed by the modal verbs, among which *shall* has gained an important position and a high frequency of use, and is referred to as legal injunction. Wydick (1998, 66–67) says "that *shall* is a big troublemaker and many lawyers do not realize how slippery *shall* is, so they use it freely, unaware of the traps they are laying for their readers".

A*greements,* a subgenre belonging to the branch of Commercial Law, which are meant to establish clear relationships based on obligations, duties and rights, contain the largest percentage of modal verbs.

The analysis unfolds along two lines—quantitative and qualitative.

One can notice that the most frequent modals in agreements are *shall* and *may.* They represent a regulating mechanism which keeps the balance between the *obligations* and the *rights* of the parties involved in the agreement.

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'Boli, lugha and language, we use all of these words': Code-switching in Trilingual Speakers in Tanzania

In today's globalized world, competency in English is crucial in almost all societies worldwide. Much of code-switching research has focused on bilingual encounters in Western societies, while other bi-and trilingual communities around the world have not received equal attention from researchers. My PhD research focuses on code-switching in the Gujarati Indian community settled in Tanzania, East Africa, where English is usually acquired as a third language. The variables used are education and gender. I examine the role of socio-psychological factors in language from data collected through an ethnographic approach based on personal interviews on language acquisition and attitudes, and recordings of natural conversations. The data is transcribed and analysed employing a qualitative conversation analysis. This examination leads to valuable knowledge of language attitudes, cultural identity and the representation of English in this community. A clear link between code-switching and language attitudes is established, and whether they are dependent upon education levels. Additionally, insight is gained into the complex processes of implementation and representation. Preliminary data results have shown that participants of 2nd generation are more at ease with speaking English, yet not as quick when it comes to their

mother tongue, whereas more English words permeate the sentences. My interdisciplinary study encourages a relevant methodological discussion of the potentials for sociolinguistic research among populations which have not yet been saturated with research.

Keywords: English, trilingual, code-switching, Tanzania

LITERATURES IN ENGLISH/LITERARY STUDIES

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Form through History in *The Lonely Londoners*

Lonely Londoners written in 1956, brings a "new style and form" in the Standard English introducing a new "language", a mix between the Caribbean vernacular English and the Standard English. The narration takes a vis-à-vis form. Moses, the main character, represents a built-in progress narrator, whose role becomes fully recognized by the end of the novel. The author's writing proposes to the reader the everyday language as a form of literature using the direct speech as a narration instrument. To appreciate the form in Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* is necessary to know the history and the literary tradition before the writing of this book. Therefore, it is important to know how the author is one of the first West-Indian authors to write in Great Britain, and how his new writing finally expressed the living

conditions and concerns of a minority whose voice was never raised before, and never heard by the majority.

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English versus Southern Languages: A multidimensional meeting for 19th-century British Travellers in the Pyrenees

In the 19th century, lots of British travellers went to the Pyrenees and discovered both sublime mountainous landscapes with place-names belonging to either Romanesque, Basque or Celtic languages, and villages in which people spoke either French, Spanish, Basque, Bearnese or other dialects from the language of Oc. In front of that multitude of languages, the travellers' reactions were various: from the scorn of some rare travellers in front of people who could speak English but with a Pyrenean accent, to the deep, sometimes academic interest of those who integrated songs or poems in the language of Oc into their travel books, translated them into English, or studied those languages and their possible origins, those travel narratives offer an interesting survey of the meeting between languages and reveals a will of understanding the Other in most of those travel texts. Their narratives show an anthropologic and linguistic approach. Moreover the study most of them made of Pyrenean place-names reveals to what

extent landscapes may speak about human meetings. Travel narratives by Thomas Clifton-Paris, Louisa Stuart-Costello, Sarah Ellis, Mrs Boddington, Reverend Webster and other travellers, will be used to show that linguistic meeting.

Keywords: British travellers, languages, accent

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Multilingualism and Identity in Carmine Abate's *Shtegtimi i unazës*

Almost all of Abate's work focuses on migration. In this paper, I will discuss Abate's first novel *Shtegtimi i unazës* (*The Ring's Migration*), which is a continuation of his poetics on migration viewed from a teenager's perspective. More precisely, I will focus on issues of multilingualism and identity notable in and identifiable through the use of various words from different languages, which is typical of Abate's work.

Keywords: Abate, migration, multiligualism, identity

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Words I've never heard before: intralinguistic encounters in contemporary travel writing in English

In travel narratives, otherness initially operates on the basic principle of language. Not knowing the language of the country you are travelling in, makes you feel as if you have landed on a different planet; it is, in Michel Butor's words, like "learning to read once more." But language barriers may also turn into discouraging encounters during a journey abroad even if foreign speakers share the traveller's mother tongue. When trying to communicate with the locals, travellers are often confused and guideless in what seems to be a tangle of lexical and pronunciation differences that stress their feeling of displacement. By looking at the narratives of some of the great contemporary travel writers of the era - the polyglot Paul Theroux or the "Britishised" Bill Bryson, to name but a few-, this paper draws attention to the intralinguistic differences between British and American English encountered in their journeys abroad.

TRANSLATION STUDIES

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When Interpreting Might Go Wrong...

Consecutive interpreting entails a large number of almost concurrent cognitive, psychomotor and effective processes, which pose major challenges for the interpreter who has to deal with them simultaneously. The interpreter is constantly confronted with unexpected situations during his/her work which need to be dealt with at the prompt.

This paper focuses on some unexpected problems which might appear during consecutive interpreting, based on the author's experience as an interpreter who has interpreted in several activities where consecutive interpreting was required.

The research is based on two case study methods (interpreting in a legal seminar and a marine biology workshop) and it focuses on unexpected problems which appeared unexpectedly on these specific cases, along with strategies and tactics employed by the interpreter to overcome these challenging and unexpected situations during the process of consecutive interpreting. The issues discussed in this paper are personal and they refer to these cases only, although there may be some resemblance to the same problems faced by interpreters everywhere.

This paper considers the above mention unexpected problems in interpreting important to be studied carefully

by taking into account the fact that the research on Interpretation Studies is still in infancy in Albania. The author hopes to give a contribution in this field by presenting the actual Albanian situation in this respect.

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TV Series Subtitling: A Pragmatic Analysis of Speech Acts in the *House of Cards*

This presentation aims to study the speech acts in subtitling of the *House of Cards*. Subtitling is one of the most common Audiovisual Translation modes and by nature it involves the exploration of multiple semiotic systems consisting of signs like words, colours, images, sounds, gestures or objects (Bogucki, 2013). The function of speech acts in communication are essential for the subtitler who attempts to convey to the foreign audience the core meaning intended in the dialogues through these signs. Translation includes the transfer of both the linguistic and cultural elements used in the source text as it explores not only the world on the textual level but also makes associations with the physical and socio-cultural world beyond the utterances of the involved communicators. This perspective urges the subtitler's in-depth analysis of direct or indirect illocutionary and perlocutionary acts, having different functions such as representatives, expressives and declarations, during the

translation process (Austin, 1962; Searle, 1975; Doğan, 2014). In this study, selected episodes of a famous political American TV series the *House of Cards* will be analysed using the Speech Act Theory to emphasize and show the interpretative role of prevalent speech acts in the reformation of the original subtitles.

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The Unexplainable and Fathomable Signifiers of Chinese Prophecy in the English Carrier

Background: Many English translation of Chinese literature has been introduced to the English-speaking world in decades, but only very a few brought a significant and practical rewards to the literature as the English translations of the Chinese writer Mo Yan's work did. It helped Mo Yan win the Nobel in 2012. The translation was done in an absolutely non-traditional or invisible fashion, and transformed and reshaped a massive amount of signifying scenes in the novels, which were originally used as indicators of prophecy in Chinese language environment. The transformation clearly displayed its differences in ways of thinking and expressing, but successfully gained a great understanding and favour from its English-speaking readers.

Aim: When Chinese literatures are in need of going global, the Chinese symbolic factors such as the common signifiers of prophecy shall meet a choice of either keeping its originality or assimilating in the English-speaking style. In Howard Goldblatt's translated Big Breasts and Wide Hips, the signifiers took the latter way, and became the complete American creation of Goldblatt. My goal is to compare these changes in their American Chinese style, and evaluate the outcome and cost of the cultural influence of English in symbolic cultural factors in Chinese literature. The research is based on the case study of Mo Yan's Big Breasts and Wide Hips and its English Translation done by Howard Goldblatt.