

- La pragmática es abordada por D.Lepesant y G. Petit en *La dénomination des genres discursifs*, y por M. Sahnoun en *Esthétique de la dramatisation*.
- la terminología cuenta con un trabajo de Pierre Lerat: *L'importance des sources en terminologie*; y otro de M. Saïd: *La transposition et la vulgarisation de la terminologie grammaticale: lecture à partir d'un traité de traduction arabe-français*.
- La fraseología también está representada, por el propio Salah Mejri (*Les adjectivaux ambivalents*); Pedro. Mogorrón (*Les expressions figées gestuelles en français et en espagnol*), e Inés Sfar: *Les énoncés formulaires: contenu pragmatique et problèmes de traduction*).

Un denominador común de todos los artículos, aparte del vínculo humano de sus autores con el maestro, es su convergencia con la peculiar línea de trabajo del laboratorio de Gaston Gross en los últimos 25 años: el acopio de trabajos especializados esencialmente contrastivos sobre diversos aspectos lingüísticos que plantean serios problemas de formalización computacional, y en muchas parejas de lenguas: el significado contextualizado, la ambigüedad semántica y la fijación idiomática. Inesperadamente, la incorporación de la lengua árabe a los objetivos prioritarios del grupo aportó una dimensión hasta entonces inexplorada: los dialectos -algunas veces incomprensibles entre sí- únicos representantes "tangibles" de la realidad de la lengua árabe. Una de las consecuencias de esta original convergencia de intereses es una saludable modernización metodológica para los dialectólogos y arabistas, y la incorporación de la dimensión diacrónica y variacionista a una corriente investigadora tradicionalmente ultra-sincronista. Una muestra más de la intensa actividad de Salah Mejri como líder de dos proyectos aparentemente tan dispares como el *Atlas Lingüístico* (multimedia) de Túnez y los trabajos computacionales del Laboratorio de Lingüística Informática de París.

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SIEBOLD, Kathrin (2007), *Actos de habla y cortesía verbal en español y en alemán. Estudio pragmalingüístico e intercultural*. Frankfurt: Peter Lang

(Studien zur romanischen Sprachwissenschaft und interkulturellen Kommunikation. Band 42.) (257 pp.) ISBN 978-3-631-57191-043

This book, product of the author's doctoral thesis at the University of Seville, presents a contrastive pragmatic study of the use of politeness strategies in German and Spanish, focusing specifically on requests, compliments, responses to compliments and apologies. As the author rightly notes, few contrastive pragmatic studies exist for this language pair. The author aims to contrast the language and strategies employed by speakers of German and Spanish when performing particular speech acts with a view to encouraging the incorporation of contrastive material into language teaching contexts. Siebold argues that responding to the demands of an increasingly globalised world (and labour market) requires specific intercultural input in the language classroom. Many employers now place intercultural competence on a par with other professional abilities.

Comprising seven chapters, the study's central contribution is found in chapters four to six. In chapter one, the author provides a detailed description of the concept of intercultural communication (which she breaks down into communication, cultural norms). She acknowledges the difficulty in distinguishing between cultural norms and individual personality traits, and indicates the manner in which pragmatic transfers (also known as pragmatic failures) occur. Siebold makes the point that pragmatic transfers are rarely recognised as such, which generally results in a negative evaluation of the interlocutor. The chapter finishes with a literature review of intercultural communicative differences. She complements examples taken from the literature involving European, Asian, North American and Australian interlocutors with data from her own investigation.

After a summary of the central tenants of Austin's work on speech acts and Brown and Levinson's work on politeness theory in chapters two and three, the author provides an overview of academic disciplines (in particular, the social sciences and linguistics) which have contributed to the body of available research on intercultural communication. Siebold continues with an outline of her methodological approach and a description of the compilation of her corpus, which comprises data from three communicative events in both German and Spanish: a request, a compliment and response, and an apology. Data was collected through staging open role plays (recorded on video)

involving 18 Spaniards and 20 Germans (between the ages of 20 and 67), which produced a total of 126 transcribed conversations.

The results of Siebold's analysis of data are presented in chapter five. The speech acts she has selected for her study are usually associated with positive politeness strategies, and the author considers the value which is attached to positive and negative politeness in each culture. Through a detailed analysis of the language used in requests in two different contexts (in a shop and in an office), Siebold concludes that German native speakers make far greater use of negative politeness strategies than Spanish native speakers. In addition, the author identifies differences in the moves performed by speakers of each language during the act of requesting.

In the case of compliments, the author finds that in German the speech act is performed by a broader range of syntactic structures and lexemes than Spanish. The author surmises that this may be due to the greater frequency with which this speech act is performed in Spanish, which has led to a greater degree of conventionalisation. Similarly, when examining responses to compliments, the author finds that Spanish speakers are more likely to accept a compliment than German speakers. In the final speech act studied, the apology, the author's results show a greater tendency among speakers of German to express an explicit apology, while Spanish speakers often employ a variety of indirect strategies and attempt to detract from the gravity of the infraction committed. The author concludes that German speakers place less importance on positive politeness, and fewer strategies are undertaken to preserve one's social image. The analysis of each of the three speech acts concludes with a summary in table form of the language used in each move. Interested readers with experience of living in either Spain or Germany are bound to find the linguistic behavioural patterns illustrated in the transcribed data to be engagingly familiar.

In chapter six, the author considers the place of intercultural communication in pedagogical contexts and methods of intercultural training. She sees language teaching contexts as being especially suited to this purpose, due to the opportunities provided through text analysis to contrast behaviour, language and perceptions. Data from intercultural misunderstandings, or model performances of particular speech acts in the target language may be analysed in classroom contexts with a view to identifying cultural behavioural differences.

The conclusions Siebold draws from the comparison of data in her study invite further consideration of the implications of intercultural communication for language learning. Needless to say, the study should be of particular interest to people involved in language teaching and translation studies. The text ends with the transcription of all exchanges in German and Spanish from the author's corpus. Siebold makes ample use of secondary literature in German and Spanish (and to a lesser degree in English) throughout her study, and although knowledge of German would help interested readers, this is by no means essential.

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ČERMÁK, František (2007), *Frazeologie a idiomatika česká a obecná. Czech and general phraseology*. Praha: Univerzita Karlova (720 pp.) ISBN 978-80-246-1371-0

František Čermák es, sin duda alguna, uno de los grandes de la fraseología europea. En su larga carrera ha publicado numerosos e importantes trabajos, alcanzando especial notoriedad con su libro *Idiomatika a Frazeologie Cestiny* (1982) y su célebre diccionario fraseológico de la lengua checa en 4 volúmenes, con definiciones, contexto sintáctico y equivalencias en inglés, alemán, francés y ruso (*Slovník české frazeologie a idiomatiky*, 1994) y de un diccionario holandés-checo (*Nederlands-Tsjechisch Woordenboek* 1997). Autor también de un manual de lexicología junto a J. Filipec (*Ceská Lexikologie* 1985), y de otro de lexicografía junto a R. Blatná (*Manuál lexikografie*, 1995). Escribió también un manual de lingüística general (*Jazyk a jazykověda*, 2001) y tradujo al checo el *Cours...* de Saussure. Es actualmente director del Corpus Nacional de la lengua checa (por cierto bastante adelantado al nuestro en algunos aspectos), ganador de muchos premios y galardones científicos, miembro del reconstituido *Círculo Lingüístico praguense* (*Lingvistický kroužek*), y está trabajando en el primer gran diccionario de los proverbios checos así como el diccionario de frecuencias del checo.