

Golková, Eva

[Siegrist, Leslie. Bibliographie zu Studieren über das deutsche und englische Adverbial]

Brno studies in English. 1979, vol. 13, iss. 1, pp. 167-168

Stable URL (handle): <https://hdl.handle.net/11222.digilib/118088>

Access Date: 29. 11. 2024

Version: 20220831

Terms of use: Digital Library of the Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University provides access to digitized documents strictly for personal use, unless otherwise specified.

REVIEWS

Leslie Siegrist: *Bibliographie zu Studien über das deutsche und englische Adverbial*, Forschungsberichte des Instituts für deutsche Sprache, Mannheim; Bd. 33. TBL Verlag Gunter Narr, Tübingen 1977, pp. 244.

The book under review offers bibliographical data on works dealing with the German and the English adverbial and a number of subjects that more or less bear upon adverbials: prepositions, negation, the structure of the sentence and parts of speech, sentence semantics, intonation, word order, and others. Each subject is dealt with in three parts: (A) German, (B) English, (C) other languages, part (C) being only marginal.

The period covered by the Bibliography is 1877—1972. The compiler obtained the information on the latest items (from 1971 and 1972) directly from journals, and on the others from nine bibliographies, which he lists in the Introduction (they include: Scheurweghs, G., *Analytical Bibliography of Writings on Modern English Morphology and Syntax 1877—1960*, Louvain 1968, 4 vols.; *Jahresbericht über die Erscheinungen auf dem Gebiete der Germanischen Philologie*, Leipzig 1877—1939; *Bibliographie Linguistique*, Utrecht 1939—1970).

The 2,162 items of L. Siegrist's Bibliography are broadly representative of the linguistic production in the field concerned, containing works from various parts of the world, in both the West and the East. This really wide geographical range makes it especially important for the reader to know the place of publication of all the journals given in the Bibliography; it is to be regretted that in many cases this has not been provided. In the case of miscellanies, on the other hand, the place of publication is nearly always listed, but four of them (on p. 238) lack the date of publication.

Section V of the Bibliography, dealing with verb and adverb, could be enriched with Dwight Bolinger's work *The Phrasal Verb in English*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts 1971, 187 pp., and Section XIII with Karel Hausenblas's article on ways and means of expressing the syntactic dependence of the adverbial, entitled "Syntaktická závislost, způsoby a prostředky jejího vyjadřování", published in *Bulletin Vysoké školy ruského jazyka a literatury* 2, pp. 23—51, Prague 1958. The title itself does not explicitly indicate that the article deals with the adverbial, but other such titles are, quite rightly, included in the Bibliography and brief German annotations are added, as well as German translations of the titles if they are Slavonic (see, e. g., item 48).

The cross-references in the Bibliography are useful, too, though not absolutely consistent (item 728 makes no reference to item 713, i. e. of Žluktenko to Schluktenko, nor is there any in the index). Item 1887 — Dwight Bolinger's "Linear Modification" — does not mention the republications of the article in Bolinger's *Forms of English*, Harvard University Press, Cam-

bridge, Massachusetts 1965, pp. 279—307, and in *Syntactic Theory 1* (ed. by F. W. Householder), Harmondsworth 1972, pp. 31—50.

The transliteration of Slavonic (esp. Russian) names and titles is probably the only problematic matter in the whole book. In the Introduction the compiler explains why he transliterates in different ways: if he takes an item from Scheurweghs' bibliography, he preserves his system of transliteration, which differs from that used by (among others) B. Hansen and K. Hansen in their "Bibliographie sowjetischer Veröffentlichungen zur englischen Sprache", (in: *Zeitschrift für Anglistik und Amerikanistik*, 1966 ff.). Hence the transliteration is not uniform. Slavonic titles and names are also rather frequently misprinted in the book: in 36 "gramtická" should be "gramatická", in 84 "v soceatanií" should be "v sočetaníí", in 273 "opredelneik" stands for "opredelenj", in 281 "Křížková, H.: Adverbiální..." for "Křížková, H.: Adverbiální...", in 448 "besprekložnaja" for "bespredložnaja", to point out only a few of the misprints. These technical shortcomings could be easily corrected should there be a new edition of the book.

Taking everything into consideration, we may say that all linguists whose field of investigation is the adverbial in German and/or English will certainly appreciate the comprehensiveness of the Bibliography and find the publication a most useful and indeed indispensable help in their work.

Eva Golková

Piera Smuts Santi: *Inglese e italiano — particolarità e differenze*, Cluet Trieste 1977, pp. 143.

I do not think there are many linguists in this country whose main interest is a comparison of the particulars and differences of English and Italian, so the book under review may be welcomed by everybody who contrasts the surface structure of these two practically unrelated languages and keeps to the famous method so well established by V. Mathesius and his followers. In spite of the fact that Santi's book is meant for the students of the Faculty of Political Sciences and for those of the School of Modern Languages as well as for translators and interpreters, the material of it and its more or less traditional treatment of grammar makes the book good and clear reading as a reference one.

In the introduction Santi stresses the aim of her publication: it is also a guide for further research into the characteristics of the two grammars. She could not avoid some enumeration of rules, but these are purely functional and serve to explain the correct translation of an Italian sentence into English. The principle of confronting the two languages from the point of view of traditional grammar is very attractive because it drives home what you may have forgotten and shows an unusual insight into grammatical problems.

The book starts with the uses of articles, referring also to the partitive one (*articolo partitivo*) and the ways of translating it into English (*some, any, no, not any*).

The second chapter deals with the uses of tenses. Again the same system of rules and examples in two columns, beginning with the Present, where much space is given to its Continuous form (naturally, because it does not exist in Italian; *I am writing* does not see eye to eye with *sto scrivendo*) and then to cases in which the Simple form is required. Other tenses, too, are examined, e. g. the Present Perfect, the Simple Past, the Past Continuous, the Future and the uses of *shall* and *will*, the Conditional, which gives full attention to *if*-clauses, not forgetting "the Future-in-the-Past": *He told us that he would come. Ci disse che sarebbe venuto*, the Coniunctivo (Subjunctive) and the ways of translating it into English with the corresponding supply of rules (the Subjunctive with *should* is illustrated by excellent examples), and the Infinitive.

The third chapter is dedicated to the -ing form and in the title asks the question: Gerundio, Participio Presente or Sostantivo Verbale?

The fourth chapter is all about the verb *to get*, the fifth about the verbs *fare (to do, to make)* and *dovere (must)*, then comes the verb *potere (can)* and *volere (to want)* and finally the two verbs *dire (to say)* and *parlare (to speak)*.

The sixth chapter focusses attention on the uses of prepositions in an extremely clear and systematic way.

The seventh chapter compares the English personal construction with the impersonal one in Italian.

The last chapter is really very well done. Its subject is word-order, and I feel quite sure that a better treatment of this problem does not exist in the Italian literature. The final heading of the last chapter, Special constructions, refers to inversion in detail.