

Abstract

This bachelor thesis deals with borderline cases. The subject of analysis are modal words with partially identical form. In total, three analyses are carried out. The examined pairs are: *zweifellos* – *zweifelsohne*, *sicher* – *sicherlich* and *anscheinend* – *scheinbar*. The aim of the thesis is to determine whether the pairs are to be considered as so-called *Zweifelsfälle* (borderline cases), if so, what is their difference, as well as to determine their typical usage. The pairs are analysed by means of dictionaries, German reference corpus DeReKo and the cooccurrence databank CCDB.