

Abstract

The bachelor thesis deals with the linguistic field of semantics and with the semantic shifts which are illustrated on the selected words of the Ancient Greek vocabulary. The development of these words from Ancient to Modern Greek is studied. The thesis is divided into two main parts – theoretical and practical. The theoretical part deals with the history of lexical semantics and the approaches that this scientific field has brought and created. Furthermore, space is also given to the description of classification of semantic changes and of the causes and mechanisms of such changes in accordance with the results presented by linguists at the beginning of the semantic research and in the present. The practical part of the thesis deals with the semantic analysis of the three selected Greek verbs, namely δουλεύω, θεραπεύω and κηδεύω. The semantics of these verbs are compared on the basis of research in the dictionaries of Ancient, Medieval and Modern Greek. The analysis focuses mainly on two stages of the development of the Greek language, specifically on Ancient and Modern Greek. It also takes into consideration the meanings of the verbs in the Medieval Greek period. In addition, the brief etymology is stated for each verb, which uncovers the origin of the verbs and sets them in the original semantic context. Finally, the hypothesis of the continuity of the Greek language from Ancient Greek to the present day and the state of the Greek vocabulary is presented.