

ABSTRACT

This MA thesis is concerned with dependent imperative clauses, more specifically with verbs and adjectival constructions expressing request, suggestion, order, or necessity, as well as with variant alternation of competing variants of expressing the predicate. In these types of sentences, there are three forms in competition that are used to express the predicate: the subjunctive, the putative *should* construction, and the indicative; e.g. *We insist that the negotiations be conducted/should be conducted/are conducted.*

Calling on established grammar books and previously conducted studies or analyses, the theoretical part of this MA thesis provides a general overview of the issue under scrutiny and describes key terms. Moreover, it primarily serves as a background for the following analytical part. The research tasks and their goals are described in detail in the subsequent section.

The first research task was to examine the overall distribution of the above-mentioned competing forms by our selected adjectival constructions (i.e. *it is essential that, it is advisable that, it is necessary that*) and verbs (e.g. *insist, recommend, request + that*) using a specific register consisting of legal documents featured in the EUR-Lex corpus (accessed by Sketch Engine). The distribution was checked using 240 examples extracted from this corpus. All forms of competing constructions were noted and characterized. The second research task was to check our working hypothesis concerning the presence of similar constructions in both English and French: "When translated from French to English, the source language construction, i.e. French, influences the translated construction in the target language, i.e. English, thus the subjunctive has priority over the competitive forms, given the obligatory use of the subjunctive in such sentences in French." This hypothesis was checked by gathering 144 examples demonstrating the usage of our selected phrases and verbs with a similar form in both languages (e.g. *vital, urgent, recommended, important, necessary, essential + that*), all by creating a subcorpus featuring respective concordance lines.

All gathered data was subject to detailed analysis in order to present our obtained results leading to the conclusion.

keywords: subordination, dependent imperative clauses, indicative, subjunctive, putative *should*, variant alternation, corpus, Sketch Engine, EUR-Lex, British English, American English, French