

This study is aimed at the genre of personal, informal, exclusively British e-mails. I analyze this extremely progressive field multi-aspectually. The aspects I concentrate on are graphic, morphological, lexical and pragmatic. Additionally, a separate chapter is dedicated to ellipses. Furthermore, I include analysis based on Biber's conception of dimensions. Most of the linguistic features are statistically evaluated and subsequently interpreted. My results demonstrate the tendency of written e-mails to share many characteristics with the spoken English language. My data seem to suggest that this genre is hugely affected by the contemporary trend of economizing the language. Simultaneously, this research reveals that what permeates the written media of personal emails considerably is orality.