

Abstract

This thesis deals with a question of the competing grammatical forms, namely whether the German preterit and perfect tenses are interchangeable in spoken texts. German interviews and talk-shows were used as a source for this study.

The first part is theoretical and gives an outline of the most important views of the linguists, confronted with the German grammar books. It also provides the definitions of the key features of the interview and talk show. Based on these grounds, a thesis of this work is defined, the validity of which is tested in the second part.

The second part is therefore practical and concentrates on the individual examples of the tenses in German interviews and talk shows. The sections chosen by listening include verbs both in preterit and perfect forms relevant for this thesis, which means that they deviate from the rules described in the first part. These sections have been analyzed.

The thesis ends with a conclusion, where the answer is given, whether these two tenses are interchangeable or not, and whether the exchange has an impact on the meaning of the utterance.