Abstract

The theme of this bachelor thesis is the subjunctive and its erroneous uses in contemporary Italian. The thesis initially presents the mood in connection to other verbal categories. It moreover introduces modality, since the subjunctive often serves as a means of expression of this category. The thesis then presents a survey of the recent approaches to the subjunctive in contemporary Italian and the different opinions regarding its function. To conclude the theoretical section of the thesis presents an overview of the morphological norms and of the use of subjunctive in contemporary Italian. In the following section the thesis examines the erroneous uses of the subjunctive, drawing from the corpus of spoken Italian Lessico di frequenzadell’italianoparlato and the web corpus tWaC. The mistakes are classified into three groups—incorrectly formed irregular verb forms, the replacement of the subjunctive by the indicative and the misapplication of the rules of the sequence of tenses. The thesis tries to present a motivation for the occurrence of the individual types of mistakes.

Keywords

Subjunctive; error; verbal mood; corpus; modality; contemporary Italian.