

ABSTRACT

This doctoral thesis is concerned with particles in modern Vietnamese. Although Vietnamese particles form a small group of synsemantic words, they play a very important role in expressing the attitude of the speaker to the hearer/listener and to the message content as well as expressing grammatical and modal relationships within the sentence. The group includes particles positioned at the end of the sentence, particles appearing before a word as well as at the beginning of a phrase or a sentence.

Despite their important function, particles in Vietnamese still are a scarcely explored topic. Particles have been explored usually as part of grammar books; so far, there are only few monographs on the topic of particles. Almost all works deal with a small number of particles and focus especially on those appearing at the end of the sentence.

This work is concerned with particles at the end of the sentence as well as particles preceding a word, a phrase, or a sentence. It examines whether particles in Vietnamese are a part of speech at all; it sets forth criteria for classification of particles; it performs their analysis based on actual situations where they appear and describes their semantic characteristics; furthermore, it offers a chart of particles including their possible combinations. Besides, the work offers possible Czech equivalents of each particle which might be used for translation into Czech.

This work is grounded in several manuals by French and American authors as well as works by Vietnamese scientists. The subject matter for the analysis lies in dictionaries of Vietnamese language as well as works of fiction by Vietnamese authors from the period of 1930-1945.

Keywords:

Vietnamese – parts of speech – synsemantic words – particles – modal particles – emphatic particles – particles in Vietnamese