

Abstract:

This thesis analyzes and describes the use of finite progressive forms in Arts and Humanities university lectures. The finite forms are explored with respect to their lexical and grammatical properties, and the results are compared to those of Ute Römer (2005), who studied the functions of finite progressive forms in spoken British English. An overview of functions of the progressive, depicted in various grammars, is included. There is also a separate chapter dedicated to the character of a lecture as a specific type of spoken academic discourse. One hundred utterances excerpted from the *BASE* corpus have been analyzed. An overview of the functions and purposes of the progressive found in the university lectures is given in the analytical part of this thesis.

Key words: progressive verb forms, university lectures, functions of the progressive