

Abstract

This bachelor thesis focuses on Inari Sami, an endangered and lesser-described language spoken by approximately 300 people in Northern Finland. All speakers are bilingual in Finnish. The aim of the thesis is to gather all the available information about the language and based on them provide the materials for elicitation, which are used as the basis for fieldwork and writing the grammar of the Inari Sami language in the future. In purpose of summarizing the so far known grammar of the language linguistic papers, paradigms, vocabularies and corpus are used. The summary of grammar is organized in a logical way in the same pattern as modern descriptive grammars are. The thesis contains several tables and examples with interlinear glosses, that show grammar rules of the language. The thesis also concerns about undescribed categories, which are the goal of the fieldwork in the future. The fieldwork should use the method of reverse translation elicitation, while the contact language is Finnish. This work also contains brief summary of pros and cons of the method of elicitation and in the end illustrates the process of creating the elicitation questionnaire. Each question from the questionnaire is briefly introduced and provided with an interlinear gloss and the explanation of its importance in the questionnaire. This whole work should be considered as the basis for the upcoming fieldwork and description of the grammar of Inari Sami.

Key words

Inari Sami language, Sami people, grammar description, language documentation, elicitation, modality