

## **Abstract**

The main intention of this study is to describe the pluperfect verbal tense and its evolution in European Portuguese. This study consists of two parts, theoretical and practical.

The theoretical part starts with a short description of the portuguese language. The following chapter is focused on description of portuguese verb and its gramatical categories, portuguese modotemporal system and classification of portuguese verbs. There is an explantaion of how the verbal tenses and nominal forms are constructed in portuguese, using the example of constructing the imperfect and participle. The next chapter deals with the pluperfperfect in contemporary portuguese. It describes its forms both simple and compound and explains the use of auxiliary verbs. There is also a description of the functions of pluperfect on different levels of the portuguese language (standard, colloquial, literary etc.). The next chapter is dedicated to pluperfect in classical and vulgar latin. The last theoretical chapter deals with stages in the evolution of Portuguese and includes a list of the most significant linguistic changes occured in each stage.

The practical part consists in analysing the portuguese texts from the 14th till the 19th century, using the corpus *Corpus do Português*. There are approximately 300 examples of pluperfect analysed for each century. The examples are classified according to their function. In the last chapter the results of the analysis are summarized and there is a comparison of the percentage of pluperfect functions in each analysed century.

**Key words:** pluperfect, European Portuguese, diachrony, corporal linguistics