

This thesis is dedicated to the use of the verbal paradigms *hablara* and *hablase* in contemporary Spanish. We demonstrate that due to historical reasons the usage of paradigm *hablara* is much wider than that of *hablase*, which can be used only in the subjunctive meaning. According to the valid linguistic norm, the paradigm *hablara* (and not *hablase*) can be used instead of the Past Perfect (although it is not recommended). The same is evidenced with the conditional tense of the modal verbs *querer*, *deber* and *poder* as well as with the main clause of the unreal conditional clauses in the present tense. This means that these two verb paradigms can be arbitrarily substituted only when used in the subjunctive function. On the basis of our own frequency analysis of twenty most used Spanish verbs in the language corpus CREA, we prove that the frequency of the *hablase* on average 18% in Spain and 10% in Latin America. Our analysis of this corpus material does not confirm the statement of some linguists that the frequency of –se form is generally slightly higher in negative sentences. However, our analysis of a parallel corpus InterCorp seems to indicate that it is higher (by 7%) after the conditional conjunction ‘si’.