

**Abstract:**

The present thesis is concerned with the issue of competition between prepositional expression *ad* + accusative and unsupported dative case construction in Latin, and on the possible explanations of their usage in expressing the semantic role of the Addressee. Initially, the thesis discusses the wider context of the subject, namely general relation between the case and prepositional system in diachronic perspective, focusing on changes occurring in the spoken variety of Latin and the causes of this phenomenon. Afterwards the thesis presents J. M. Baños' view on the usage of *ad* + acc. and dative in expressing the Addressee in Classical Latin texts, and a criticism of some of his questionable statements. The last part analyses these expressions based on the occurrences of verbs *mittere* and *scribere* excerpted from the chosen corpus (the letters of Cicero and Pliny the Younger), and applies the findings to specify the questionable parts of Baños' interpretation.