
This conference was organised by the Section for Specific Foreign Languages of the Society of Applied Linguistics of Croatia, and was held at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Zagreb.

The Section for specific Foreign Languages began operations in December 1977. In addition to LSP theme meetings, the first conference was organised in 1981 on the Role of Translation (with Croatian as SL and TL) in the teaching of Foreign Languages for Specific Purposes at academic level.

Here I should like to mention a circumstance which may be peculiar to Yugoslavia: a Foreign Language for a Specific Purpose (English, French, German or Russian) is a compulsory component in the curriculum of the first two years of any university course. The time allocation is 120 teaching periods, leading to an examination.

The strong goal-orientation of the courses is in the direction of the specialism - engineering, law, sociology, humanities, economics, etc.

The central problems of course materials in varying fields are focused on the text and the context, with the primary aim of improving the comprehension of scientific and professional data published in foreign periodicals or journals, and also of improving written and oral communication within the specific field. In this connection, we believe that our approach can only be successful if an adequate theory is coupled with practice. The current discussion around text linguistics seems to offer one possible theoretical framework within which our work could be further developed and elaborated. So we organized this Conference on text linguistics and its possible application to different branches of LSP.

The conference was tightly structured, lasting only one day, and starting with theoretical papers:

Prof. J. Silić, of the University of Zagreb, presented a theoretical and methodological paper on the scientific discourse of text.

Prof. P. Mrazović of Novi Sad introduced textlinguistics, with definitions of texts and textual units, on the basis of Serbo-Croatian example material.

D. Horga and G. Mikulić, of the University of Zagreb, examined the rhetorical devices which ensure a continual flow of information within the conceptual paragraph, and the means of its delimitation. Their examples were drawn from written scientific discourse in English and Russian.

Mirna Velčić spoke on the state of the art of different schools of text linguistics.

Ljerka Bartolić, head of the LSP section, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and naval Architecture, and one of the organisers of the conference, presented an analysis of the macrostructuring of some characteristic English technical encyclopedic texts in the special
field of engineering, and outlined the pedagogical implications of such an analysis.

Marija Simek, Senior lecturer of the Faculty of Metallurgy, Sisak, discussed the structure of technical texts (German, Serbian, Croatian) from the point of view of socio-communicative function.

Mirjana Bonadić, Senior lecturer of the Faculty of Law, Split, examined the pedagogical application of Teun van Dijk's textlinguistic model on the basis of first-hand examples from the teaching of legal language.

Susan Sarcević, of the Faculty of Law, Rijeka, spoke on the thematic structure of legal texts.

Alka Krvavac and Gordona Milulić of the Centre for Foreign Languages and Speech Problems, the University of Zagreb, presented the course material devised for social and human sciences.

Tamara Jovanović, of the Centre for Foreign Languages, Zagreb, described an approach to writing ESP text books.

ALCA KRVAVAC LJERKA BARTOLIĆ