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ON PROPER NAMES IN GERMAN:
AN ANALYSIS FROM THE COGNITIVE PERSPECTIVE

The aim of this paper is a cognitive grammar analysis of noun phrases in German which contain a proper noun. It is common for proper nouns in German, like first names, surnames, the names of cities and countries, to occur without an article. They can, however, also occur with the definite article, the demonstrative pronoun or with the indefinite article. There are also proper nouns in German, such as the names of rivers, mountain ranges, and some countries, which—according to many grammars—obligatorily occur with the definite article. However, it may happen that even those occur without an article. Whether there is an article before a proper noun or not is regarded as a grammatical phenomenon, without acknowledging its semantic aspects. The latter are only considered in a very few cases. A cognitive grammar analysis makes it possible to look at the abovementioned phenomena from the semantic-conceptual perspective, thus ensuring wider opportunities to explain and describe them. According to cognitive grammar, every use of any element should have a semantic-conceptual motivation. The cognitive grammar analysis of German noun phrases containing a proper noun carried out in this article allows us to conclude that the use of articles in the German language is in most cases determined by the speaker's intention. The analysis in this paper includes a description of noun phrases containing proper nouns selected from the German magazine Der Spiegel.
    KEY WORDS: cognitive grammar, noun phrase, proper names, German articles.

Introduction

The aim of this paper is a cognitive grammar analysis of noun phrases in German which contain a proper noun. It is common for proper nouns in German, like first names, surnames, the names of cities and countries, to occur without an article. However, there are proper nouns in German, such as the names of rivers, mountain ranges, and some countries, which, according to numerous grammar models (e.g., Helbig and Buscha 1993: 367–368; Engel 1999:

824–825), occur with the definite article. Whether there is an article before a proper noun or not is regarded as a grammatical phenomenon, without acknowledging its semantic aspects. The latter are only considered in a very few cases. A cognitive grammar analysis makes it possible to look at the abovementioned phenomena from the semantic-conceptual perspective, thus ensuring wider opportunities to explain and describe them. In this paper, examples of noun phrases containing proper nouns,

selected from the German magazine *Der Spiegel*, are analysed.

Noun phrases in cognitive grammar

In cognitive grammar, a noun designates a type of a thing, and a noun phrase profiles a grounded instance of some type. "The semantic function of a simple noun is limited to specifying a type, whereas a full nominal designates a grounded instance of that type, i.e., an instance distinguished from others and situated with respect to the speaker/hearer[1] knowledge" (Langacker 1991: 33). Both terms, *type* and *instance*, relate to mental entities. "[T]he referent of a grounded nominal is not some object out there in the external world, but an entity in a mental space" (Taylor 2002: 347). Type and instance differ in their level of abstraction. Every type is a schematization of all its instances (cf. Langacker 1991: 72). There usually exist multiple instances of a type. When a speaker constructs a noun phrase, an instance of the given type is picked out; the speaker pays attention to it and distinguishes it from other instances of the given type (cf. Langacker 1991: 51).

That an instance is grounded means that the speaker and the hearer are able to relate it to some external point of reference (cf. Langacker 1991: 89). The profiled instance can be identified from the ground[2]. The given instance might be mentally accessible to the speaker and the hearer. The profiled instance is mentally accessible if the speaker and the hearer are able to uniquely identify the designated instance in relation to the ground.

Analysis

As already mentioned, proper names like first names, surnames, and the names of cities and countries usually occur without an article, e.g.: *Steve Jobs, Florian Silbereisen, Hans Henrik Lund, Jesus, Claudia, Hubert, Merkel, König, Kalkbrenner, Helsinki, New York, Dresden,* and *Polen*[3]. According to cognitive grammar (cf. Taylor 2002: 359) a noun phrase without an article profiles a whole reference mass. The reference mass comprises all instances of the given type which could be referred to in the given communication situation. The same ought to be true of the abovementioned phrases containing proper nouns. In such cases, however, the reference mass should be limited to only one instance, as, based on our knowledge and the current discourse space, only one instance which could be referred to is taken into account. Proper names are not different from other German nouns.

What is distinctive about proper names is the fact that the abovementioned usually occur without an article. A German noun phrase without an article should normally profile an instance which is not uniquely identifiable in relation to the ground, while each instance profiled by the abovementioned noun phrases is identifiable as unique. After all, every instance profiled by the abovementioned noun phrases could be uniquely identified based on our knowledge and/or the current discourse space. The defi-

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[1] The terms are used by Langacker (1991) to designate the sender and the receiver in the given communication process.

[2] The ground consists of the speaker and the hearer, the time and place of the given speech act, the situational context, current discourse space, and shared knowledge of the speech-act participants (cf. Taylor 2002: 346). The current discourse space comprises "those elements and relations construed as being shared by the speaker and hearer as a basis for communication at a given moment in the flow of discourse" (Langacker 1991: 97).

[3] Each of the proper nouns in this list is illustrated, in context, in the examples in the Appendix.

nite article is unnecessary when followed by the abovementioned nouns.[4]

German noun phrases containing a proper noun like a first name, a surname, a name of a city or a country can also occur with the definite article *der*[5], the demonstrative pronoun *dieser*, or the indefinite article *ein*, e.g.: *die Claudia, die Renate, der Jürgen, der Roger, der Nico, die Angela Merkel, die Angela, der Helmut, der Helmut Schmidt, diesen Steve Jobs, ein Europa, ein Donald Trump,* and *ein Bill Gates*[6].

According to cognitive grammar, the definite article occurs before a proper noun if the profiled instance cannot be identified as unique without the use of the article. In other words, the article indicates that the hearer has to look for a reference point in the ground, that it is there and that on this basis he should be able to identify the given instance. For example, the definite article in the sentence *Die Renate zeigt Ja, der Jürgen Nein, der Roger ebenfalls... und der Nico sagt...* is used before each proper name to emphasize that each instance has a reference point in the current discourse space. This reference point is the instance profiled by the noun phrase *Kandidaten*. Similarly, in the phrase *die Claudia*, as in the above phrases, the article must have been regarded as necessary to enable the receiver to create a relation between the instance profiled by the phrase *die Claudia* and that profiled by the noun phrase *eine von 15 Kandidaten*.

Turning to an analysis of the meaning of other phrases, such as *die Angela Merkel*, *die Angela* and *der Helmut*, it is clear that the definite article (*die* or *der*) has, in the above examples, a meaning similar to that of the German demonstrative pronoun *dieser*[7]: this one, not any other, close to the speaker, apparent to the speaker and the hearer[8]. This proximity can be expressed by negative rather than positive emotional involvement (cf. Data-Bukowska 2005: 71–203). Indeed, the definite article in the noun phrases *die Angela Merkel* and *der Helmut* implies that the author of the given sentence is emotionally involved, angry or disappointed. The phrase *die Angela* implies that the given person used to be different, and that the author is referring to the one from the past. Proper names in German can also occur with the demonstrative pronoun *dieser*, e.g.: *dieses groß wirkende Berlin* or *diesen Steve Jobs*[9].

According to cognitive grammar (cf. Langacker 1991: 53; Taylor 2002: 352), when one adds an adjective to a noun, the type designated by the given noun is specified and the number of potential instances of the type is reduced. This is not the case with proper names, though. The number of potential instances of the type designated by a proper noun after adding an adjective is not reduced, but multiplied. Such is the case in phrases like: *das böse Deutschland, das gute Europa, das neue Berlin, das politische Berlin*, and *das heutige Berlin*[10], where for each of the types two instances exist. The noun phrase *das böse Deutschland* implies

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[4] Bisle-Müller (1991: 120) notes that noun phrases in German which contain a proper noun behave like noun phrases in articleless languages. Such languages as Polish have no obligatory elements for marking definiteness or indefiniteness. In spite of the lack of such elements, the unique identification of a given instance by Polish speakers is possible.

[5] Obviously, this applies to the article in all its gender and inflection forms.

[6] Each of the proper nouns in this list is illustrated, in context, in the examples in the Appendix.

[7] Concerning conceptual-semantic issues, the closest correspondence of the German demonstrative pronoun *dieser* is *this* in English.

[8] The meaning of the stressed definite article in German also corresponds with the demonstrative pronoun *dieser*.

[9] See the examples in the Appendix.

[10] See the examples in the Appendix.

there is a good Germany as well, while *das gute Europa* implies that there is also a bad one. In the phrase *das neue Berlin*, the adjective indicates that in relation to the cognitive time domain, the reference mass can be divided into more instances. Regarding the time domain, Berlin becomes apparently divided into two cities: one that was once different, and another that looks as it does now. Similarly, one can analyse the phrases *das heutige Berlin* and *das politische Berlin*. What is meant here are the areas of the city related to the political domain. The remaining ones also belong to the type designated by the noun *Berlin*. Those are not, however, profiled by the phrase *das politische Berlin*. Considering the phrase *der 20-jährige Michael*, the reference mass can be divided in relation to the cognitive time domain into different instances. The 20-year-old Michael differs from, e.g., the 10-year-old one, even if we still refer to the very same person. Considering its different properties, in this case *age*, the reference mass includes more than one instance.

The fact that the number of potential instances is multiplied when adding an adjective in front of a proper name does not mean that the proper name then refers to a bigger number of, for instance, people. A noun phrase containing a proper name, no matter whether it contains an adjective as well, usually profiles a singular object, existing only once in the world. Adding an adjective does not result in dealing with two objects. The reference mass we refer to is still a whole and a singular type. Even if we use an attribute, we still think of, for instance, the same country, which is the only one in the world. When we use an adjective in front of a noun phrase, the reference mass, which would consist of the

only one possible instance without an adjective, becomes somehow divided. In this case, the reference mass does not consist of one instance any more. Due to the use of an adjective, there are more instances one can refer to. It is so, however, only because of the different properties of the given type. In the case of a noun phrase containing a proper name and an adjective, we still refer to the whole reference mass, that is, as mentioned above, to the whole type. That is why an instance profiled by a noun phrase containing a proper name following an adjective could not be identified as unique if the definite article *das* or *der* were not used in the phrases analysed above. The use of the definite article indicates that a specified property of the type is profiled, and the property is unique in relation to the ground. The definite article's meaning is also in such cases similar to *dieser*. It is exactly this property that is profiled, and not any other. If the article had not been used, the noun phrase would implicate that not the given defined property, but the whole type had been meant.

Proper names in German can also occur with the indefinite article: *ein Europa*, *ein Donald Trump*, or *ein Bill Gates*. The indefinite article in German means "one of the many," so the instance profiled by a noun phrase containing *ein* is not uniquely identifiable in relation to the ground (cf. Langacker 1991: 103), whereas a noun phrase containing a proper name profiles an instance that is unique in relation to the ground. How then is it possible that *ein* can be followed by a proper noun while the phrase remains correct? The fact that a proper name means something unique is not a property of the proper name itself, but one of the meanings that this noun can acquire—but only when the noun phrase is

included in a text, in a defined communication situation.

In the above phrases it is, in fact, the case that one of many instances of the type is profiled. It is also here that we need to refer to a notion of a type and its properties. The type [EUROPE] was, in a way, divided, although is it still in reference, if indirectly, to one and the same continent. The given type has, however, different properties, and concerning these, the reference mass can be divided into different instances. In this way, the instance possessing the properties mentioned in the example is one of many instances of the given type.

As for the other examples, the instance profiled by the noun phrase *Wiktor But* has similar properties to the instances profiled by the noun phrases *ein Donald Trump* and *ein Bill Gates*. Again, the noun phrase *ein Donald Trump* is in reference to the properties of the type [DONALD TRUMP] and the noun phrase *ein Bill Gates* is in reference to the properties of the type [BILL GATES]. Concerning them, each type has been divided into instances of different properties. Despite the fact that we still refer directly to these types as a whole, the noun phrases *ein Donald Trump* and *ein Bill Gates* indicate some property of each of them. In both cases, one does not mean any property, but the receiver of the text is unable to identify it as unique. Therefore the analysed phrases profile one of many instances of the type [DONALD TRUMP] and one of many instances of the type [BILL GATES].

Conclusions

Some German proper names occur obligatorily with the definite article, according to many grammars (cf. Helbig and Buscha 1993: 367–368; Heidolph *et al.* 1981: 594). These are, for instance, the names of rivers and mountain ranges: *die Elbe, die Alpen*.

However, it may happen that even these occur without an article, e.g.: *zwischen Elbe und Rhein[11]*. As the above analysis shows, other proper names can behave similarly—they may occur with or without an article. Apparently, the strict rules stating that some proper names occur with an article and others don't may be applied with discretion. The definite article is used in a given noun phrase when necessary—when the speaker would like to emphasize what the article implies, when one cannot uniquely identify the profiled instance without the article, or when there is a doubt about the meaning of the noun phrase. In some cases, the use of the definite article before a proper name is more conventionalised, that is, some names of countries occur without the definite article while it is obligatory to use it before others: *Tschechien*, *Kroatien*, *die Slowakei[12]*. Based on cognitive grammar, we cannot explain why this is so. According to cognitive grammar, every use of any element should have a semantic-conceptual motivation. This motivation can sometimes be difficult to reveal, as the reasons why this or that linguistic element has been used lie deeply behind the history of the language.

The cognitive grammar analysis of German noun phrases containing a proper noun carried out in the present article allows us to conclude only that the use of articles in the German language is in most cases determined by the speaker's intention. The speaker chooses the article and thus creates, each time, a distinct conceptualization[13]. The total of all conceptualizations allows

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[11] See the example in the Appendix. In this case, as in the case of the other noun phrases without articles analysed in this paper, the whole reference mass is profiled, that is, the whole type and its properties.

[12] See the examples in the Appendix.

[13] It is a mental experience of the speaker. According to cognitive grammar, the speaker and the hearer construe mental representations of any situation, also of the given communication situation.

conceptual-semantic tendencies concerning the use of articles in the German language to be observed.

Appendix

1. *Steve Jobs, an Krebs gestorbener Apple-Gründer, war der Prophet unserer Zeit und einer ihrer Mächtigen, ein Verkäufer, ein Visionär [...].* (Der Spiegel 41/10.10.11, p. 68) "<u>Steve Jobs</u>, a founder of Apple, who died of cancer, was the prophet of our times and one of the influential, a seller, a visionary...."

2. *[...] antwortet <u>die Claudia</u>. [...]. Sie ist eine von 15 Kandidaten, die die Grünen im nächsten Jahr in die Bundestagswahl führen wollen [...]. Gut möglich, dass <u>Claudia</u> [...] es gibt eine starke Opposition, angeführt von Kandidat Patrick, [...] eine Mischung aus <u>Florian Silbereisen</u> und <u>Jesus</u>. [...] Die Kandidaten sollen Fragen beantworten [...]. <u>Die Renate</u> zeigt Ja, <u>der Jürgen</u> Nein, <u>der Roger</u> ebenfalls [...], und <u>der Nico</u> sagt [...].* (Der Spiegel 45/05.11.12, p. 24-27) "...replies <u>Claudia</u>.... She is one of the 15 candidates who The Green want to appoint to the election for the Bundestag next year.... Quite possibly <u>Claudia</u>... there is the powerful opposition led by a candidate Patrick... a mixture of <u>Florian Silbereisen</u> and <u>Jesus....</u> The candidates should answer the questions... <u>Renata</u> shows 'yes,' <u>Jürgen</u> 'no,' and so does <u>Roger...</u> and <u>Nico</u> says...."

3. *Wenn <u>Hans Henrik Lund</u> in der Nokia-Zentrale unweit von <u>Helsinki</u> sein neues Smartphone vorführt [...].* (Der Spiegel 45/05.11.12, p. 118) "When <u>Hans Henrik Lund</u> presents his new Smartphone in Nokia's headquarters not far away from <u>Helsinki</u>...."

4. *<u>Hubert</u> und andere Bürgermeister des Obstanbaugebiets "Altes Land" prüfen Klagen gegen das Projekt, das <u>die Elbe</u> für [...] schiffbar machen soll.* (Der Spiegel 15/07.04.12, p. 16) "<u>Hubert</u> and other mayors of the Obsanbau '*Altes Land*' region are checking the complaint against the project which should make <u>the Elbe</u> navigable for...."

5. *"Postdemokratie", so nennt Habermas das, was <u>Merkel</u> und Sarkozy im Zuge der Krise einrichten. [...] Was er da sieht, ist <u>ein Europa</u>, in dem Staaten [...], in dem das, was er an Europa so liebt und so leidenschaftlich verteidigt, einfach auf den Kopf gestellt wird. [...] Das ist nicht unwichtig, wenn man verstehen will, warum er die Sache mit Europa so persönlich nimmt. Es geht um <u>das böse Deutschland</u> von einst und <u>das gute Europa</u> von morgen, es geht um die Verwandlung von Vergangenheit in Zukunft [...].* (Der Spiegel 47/21.11.11, p. 134) "'Postdemocracy' is what Habermas calls what <u>Merkel</u> and Sarkozy are up to when facing the crisis.... What he sees here is <u>(a) Europe</u> where countries... where what he loves so much in Europe, and what he so passionately defends is simply put upside down.... It is not unimportant when one wants to understand why he takes these affairs of Europe so personally. The point is <u>the bad Germany</u> of the past and <u>the good Europe</u> of tomorrow, the point is the change of the past into the future...."

6. *Wann immer Ernst König zum Doktor ging, bekam er mehr Medizin [...]. "Warum mein Arzt mir die Sachen verschrieben hatte [...]", sagt <u>König</u>.*

(Der Spiegel 33/15.08.11, p. 116) "Each time Ernst König went to a doctor, he was given more and more medicine.... 'Why did my doctor prescribe those things for me...?' says <u>König</u>."

7. *Der Aufstieg des Berliner Techno-DJs Paul Kalkbrenner, 34, zu einem der aktuell größten deutschen Popstars [...]. <u>Kalkbrenner</u> wuchs in Ost-Berlin auf, und jahrelang war er einer jener zahlreichen Underground-DJs, denen <u>das heutige Berlin</u> [...] verdankt.* (Der Spiegel 23/21.11.11, p. 70) "The advancement of techno DJ Paul Kalkbrenner, aged 34, from Berlin, to become one of the greatest German popstars.... <u>Kalkbrenner</u> was raised in East Berlin and, for years, has been one of numerous underground DJs who <u>Berlin today</u> appreciates...."

8. *Mitten in <u>New York</u> erschießen Polizisten einen Schwarzen.* (Der Spiegel 42/15.10.12, p. 56) "In the middle of <u>New York</u> police officers shot a black man."

9. *In <u>Dresden</u> spazierte ein Waschbär [...] nutzt die Fassade des Bundesverwaltungsgerichts in Leipzig als Schlaffelsen. "Einzelne Exemplare haben sogar <u>die Alpen</u> überquert", berichtet Hohmann.* (Der Spiegel 31/30.07.12, p. 100) "In <u>Dresden</u>, a raccoon was walking... it used the elevation of the Federal Administrative Court in Leipzig as rocks where it sleeps. 'Single specimens even crossed <u>the Alps</u>,' informs Hoffman."

10. *"Alles ist möglich", sagt er. "<u>Polen</u> hat es geschafft. <u>Tschechien</u>. <u>Die Slowakei</u>. <u>Kroatien</u> auch."* (Der Spiegel 26/25.06.12, p. 148) "'Anything is possible,' he says. '<u>Poland</u> managed to do it. <u>The Czech Republic</u>, <u>Slovakia</u> and <u>Croatia</u>, too.'"

11. *[...], sagte Altmaier im kleinen Kreis: "<u>Die Angela Merkel</u> steht eben auf die schlanken jungen Männer."* (Der Spiegel 44/29.10.12, p. 34) "...said Altmaier to a narrow circle of people, 'It's slim young men who <u>Angela Merkel</u> will back.'"

12. *Und dann war da noch eine junge Frau in der Partei [...]. "<u>Die Angela</u>", erinnert sich ein Weggefährte, "die stand in der Küche und hat Schrippen jeschmiert."* (Der Spiegel 40/04.10.10, p. 34) "And then there was a young woman in the party.... '<u>This Angela</u>,' recalls one of the comrades, 'this one stood in the kitchen and spread butter on the bread.'"

13. *"<u>Der Helmut</u> hat uns das Versprechen gegeben, dass er wegzieht. Das Versprechen hat er noch nicht eingelöst", sagt einer.* (Der Spiegel 40/01.11.10, p. 56) "'<u>(This) Helmut</u> gave us a promise he'd move out. He hasn't kept the promise yet,' says one."

14. *Udo Lindenberg [...] war der Einzige, der hier rauchen durfte. Er ist <u>der Helmut Schmidt</u> des Deutschrock [...].* (Der Spiegel 46/15.11.10, p. 75) "Udo Lindenberg... was the only one who was allowed to smoke here. He's <u>the Helmut Schmidt</u> of German rock...."

15. *Zögernd betritt <u>der 20-jährige Michael</u> den steril wirkenden Raum [...].* (Der Spiegel 3/12.01.09, p. 40) "The <u>20-year-old Michael</u> doubtfully crossed the threshold of the sterile-looking room...."

16. *Wiederkehr einer Metropole: Aufgebaut von den Preußen, geschändet von den Nazis, zerstört von den alliierten Bombern, meldet sich Berlin auf der Weltbühne zurück. [...] <u>Das politische Berlin</u> ist ein Raumschiff, aber alle haben Zutritt. [...] <u>Das neue Berlin</u> ist*

mehr als nur ein Ort des Gedenkens und Trauerns [...] Das neue Berlin hat sich von den traumatischen Erfahrungen der Kriege und Diktaturen so weit befreit, dass niemand mehr auf die Idee kommen kann, hier würde neues Unheil ausgebrütet. [...] Dieses groß wirkende Berlin hat nun auch [...]. (Der Spiegel 12/19.03.07, p. 22–41) "The return of a metropolis, built by the Prussians, dishonoured by the Nazis, destroyed by the allied bombers, Berlin announces itself back on the political scene.... The political Berlin is like a spaceship, only everyone has access.... The new Berlin is more than just a place of memory or mourning.... The new Berlin has released itself so much from the traumatic experiences of wars and dictatorships that no one can think any more that new mischief could be done here.... This seemingly great Berlin has now also...."

17. *Mit einem fleischgewordenen amerikanischen Traum hat Barack Obama diesen Steve Jobs früher verglichen [...].* (Der Spiegel 41/10.10.11, p. 68) "Barack Obama has compared this Steve Jobs to a personified American Dream before...."

18. *"Wiktor But ist wie ein Donald Trump oder ein Bill Gates der Waffenschieberei [...].* (Der Spiegel 11/10.03.08, p. 114) "Wiktor But is like (a) Donald Trump or (a) Bill Gates of the illegal arms trade...."

19. *Für einen Blitzkrieg zwischen Elbe und Rhein [...].* (Der Spiegel 14/03.04.10, p. 111) "For a *blitzkrieg* between the Elbe and the Rhine...."

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Moksliniai interesai: germanų kalbotyra, kognityvinė gramatika, generatyviniai modeliai, vertimo teorija ir praktika

APIE TIKRINIUS VOKIEČIŲ VARDUS: KOGNITYVINĖS ANALIZĖS PROJEKCIJA

Santrauka

Straipsnio tikslas – tikrinių vokiečių kalbos daiktavardžių analizė kognityvinės gramatikos aspektu. Gana dažnai tikriniai vokiečių kalbos daiktavardžiai, pavyzdžiui, vardai, pavardės, miestų ir šalių vardai, yra vartojami be artikelio. Kita vertus, jie taip pat gali būti vartojami su žymimuoju artikeliu, parodomuoju įvardžiu arba su nežymimuoju artikeliu. Yra tokių tikrinių vokiečių kalbos daiktavardžių, pavyzdžiui, upių, kalnų, kai kurių šalių pavadinimų, kuriuos, pasak daugelio gramatikų, – privaloma minėti tik su žymimuoju artikeliu. Tačiau net ir jie gali būti pavartoti be artikelio. Atvejis, kada artikelis pavartotas prieš tikrinį daiktavardį arba ne, yra laikomas gramatiniu reiškiniu, neišryškinančiu jokių jo semantinių aspektų. Tokių atvejų labai nedaug. Kognityvinės gramatikos aspektas leidžia pažvelgti į minėtus reiškinius iš semantinės-konceptualiosios perspektyvos. Taip jie lengviau išaiškinami ir apibūdinami. Pagal kognityvinę gramatiką kiekvienas bet kurio elemento panaudojimas turi būti semantiškai-konceptualiai motyvuotas. Atlikus vokiečių kalbos frazių su tikriniais daiktavardžiais analizę kognityvinės gramatikos aspektu, galima teigti, kad artikelių vartojimą vokiečių kalboje daugeliu atveju nulemia kalbėtojo ketinimas. Tyrimo medžiaga rinkta iš žurnalo vokiečių kalba *Der Spiegel*.

REIKŠMINIAI ŽODŽIAI: kognityvinė gramatika, daiktavardinė frazė, tikriniai vardai, vokiečių kalbos artikeliai.

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Zainteresowania naukowe: językoznawstwo germańskie, gramatyka kognitywna, modele generatywne, translatologia

O NAZWACH WŁASNYCH W JĘZYKU NIEMIECKIM: ANALIZA Z PERSPEKTYWY KOGNITYWNEJ

Streszczenie

Celem niniejszego artykułu jest analiza fraz nominalnych w języku niemieckim, zawierających nazwy własne z perspektywy gramatyki kognitywnej. Nazwy własne w języku niemieckim, takie jak: imiona, nazwiska, nazwy krajów i miast, zwykle występują bez rodzajnika. Mogą one także wystąpić z rodzajnikiem określonym, zaimkiem wskazującym lub rodzajnikiem nieokreślonym. Inne nazwy własne, takie jak: nazwy rzek, łańcuchów górskich i niektórych krajów, występują z kolei według licznych gramatyk obligatoryjnie z rodzajnikiem określonym. Zdarza się jednak, że i te występują bez rodzajnika. W licznych gramatykach języka niemieckiego użycie rodzajników jest traktowane jako zjawisko czysto gramatyczne bez uwzględnienia jego aspektów semantycznych. Gramatyka kognitywna ujmuje wyżej wymienione zjawiska z perspektywy semantyczno-konceptualnej, dając tym samym szersze możliwości ich wyjaśnienia oraz opisu. Zgodnie z gramatyką kognitywną użycie rodzajników w języku niemieckim jest w dużej mierze zależne od intencji mówiącego. Używa on danego rodzajnika, gdy chce wyrazić to, co dany rodzajnik implikuje. Analiza w niniejszym artykule obejmuje przykłady fraz nominalnych zawierających nazwy własne, wybrane z niemieckiego magazynu „Der Spiegel”.

SŁOWA KLUCZOWE: gramatyka kognitywna, fraza nominalna, nazwy własne, rodzajniki w języku niemieckim.