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ABSTRACTS (alphabetical order)

The semantics of semi-auxiliary verbs in English: the case of *be supposed to*

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The aim of this paper is to analyse and illustrate the semantic characteristics exhibited by the verb *be supposed to* in the Late Modern English period (LModE). This study is divided into two major sections. The first one explains the major semantic features of this verb in Present-day English, currently analysed as a semi-auxiliary (cf. Quirk et al. 1985). Special attention is paid to the fact that this verb can express up to four different modal meanings depending on the context: obligation, unfulfilled obligation, prohibition and logical necessity. Additionally, *be supposed to* fulfils a group of semantic tests proposed by Westney (1995) to identify semi-auxiliary status. The second section of this paper summarises the main conclusions of a semantic analysis of *be supposed to* in LModE. This analysis is based on two computerised corpora of historical texts, the *Lampeter Corpus* and the *ARCHER* corpus, which comprise c. 1.1 million words for LModE. *Be supposed to*, which originates in the verb *suppose* (cf. the *Oxford English Dictionary*), emerges as a semi-auxiliary in Early Modern English (cf. Biber et al. 1998, 1999) and is recorded only with the epistemic modal meaning of necessity in the corpus. This fact suggests that *be supposed to* was mostly used epistemically in LModE, as was the case in the preceding period, where the epistemic senses appear first (see Agrafojo, forthcoming). These findings contravene the general tendency of modals to develop epistemic meanings out of deontic ones. However, the similarity existing between epistemic *be supposed to* and the sense of its lexical source, *suppose*, is what explains this early emergence of the epistemic meanings (cf. Mair, forthcoming). Finally, the corpus also reveals that *be supposed to* was very infrequent in LModE, probably because it was a relatively new creation in the language.

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On the verge of scientific thought: the rhetoric of eighteenth-century texts on witchcraft

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In this paper, I explore the language of eighteenth-century texts on witchcraft in the context of the contemporary approach to science through reason, i.e. the traditional view of 'the matter of fact' characteristic of the experiments carried out by the Royal Society members (Taavitsainen 1995, Atkinson 1996). My intention is to describe the discursive practices in a corpus of books such as *The Belief of Witchcraft Vindicated* (London, 1712) and *The Impossibility of Witchcraft* (London, 1712), in order to understand the construction of a formal debate both for and against witchcraft. I shall follow a pragmatic methodology to analyse aspects such as politeness (Brown and Levinson 1987, Myers 1989) and solidarity (De Fina 1995), referential devices, expression of involvement (Biber 1988, Biber and Finegan 1997) and detachment (Chafe 1982); and to unmask linguistic strategies aimed at persuading and convincing members of the same textual community.

With this in mind, the main objectives of the present study can be summarised, as follows:

1. to describe the structure of eighteenth-century witchcraft texts, and
2. to analyse the (meta-)discursive practices in these works.

Hopefully, the conclusions drawn from the present study will help scholars to determine whether writings on witchcraft can be characterised as a type of text in itself, or if they merely represent examples of argumentative texts.

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The development of *it*, *that* and *this*: a case from drama texts in Late Modern through Present-day English

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A considerable number of studies have been produced on referring expressions (e.g., Chafe 1987, 1994; Givon 1983a, 1983b; Gundel, Hedberg & Zacharski 1993; Lambrecht 1994; Prince 1981, 1992). However, it seems that only a few have so far addressed differences among *it*, *that* and *this* used pronominally from a diachronic point of view (e.g., Greenberg 1985; Himmelmann 1996). In this presentation, we focus on *it*, *that* and *this* used in pronominal reference in English prose drama texts written between the late eighteenth century and the late twentieth century, and examine how the three forms have developed over time.

First, on the basis of Himmelmann (1996), all instances of *it*, *that* and *this* are grouped under three uses: situational, discourse deictic and tracking use. Next, with respect to each use, change in popularity of the three forms over time is examined. On the basis of the result of the data analysis, it is argued that the functions of the three forms have come to be specialized: the function of *it* has become specialized in tracking a referent, that of *that* in discourse deixis, and that of *this* in situational reference. We will further consider what this suggests in terms of the degree of accessibility to which their referents are available to the addressee, or their referents' *accessibility* (Ariel 1990). We will argue that *it* has become the highest accessibility marker, followed by *that*, and that *this* has become the lowest accessibility marker of the three pronouns.

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**'To explain the present': eighteenth- and nineteenth-century antecedents
of twenty-first-century levelling and diffusion**

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Studies of variation and change in late 20th and early 21st-century British English have paid a great deal of attention to the processes of 'dialect levelling' and geographical diffusion. It is suggested that a number of phonological and phonetic changes involving these processes are 'leading to the loss of localised features in urban and rural varieties of English in Britain, to be replaced with features found over a wider region' (Kerswill 2004: 223). These studies use the 'apparent-time' methodology, whereby the speech of different generations recorded at one point in time is assumed to represent different stages in the development of the language, such that older speakers provide evidence of 'older' variants. Foulkes & Docherty (2000) and Kerswill (2004) make some use of 19th-century sources to provide greater time-depth to their apparent-time studies. However, there has been to date no sustained attempt to find real-time evidence to support the generally-held assumption that consonantal changes in particular have been diffusing from London, and from South to North, in the later 20th century.

In this paper, I provide evidence from a range of 18th-and 19th-century sources, including pronouncing dictionaries, popular periodicals and guides to usage, which indicate that the set of consonantal variants associated with 'Estuary English' - labiodental /r/, 'th-fronting' and glottalisation, were present and /or salient in this period, and that, in some cases, they were attested in Northern dialects in this period.

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What's more: the development of pragmatic markers in the modern period

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Diachronic studies of English pragmatic markers have often focused on forms such as *well, like, then, or in fact*, which have adverbial sources and follow the path of development from adverb > conjunction > pragmatic marker or from predicate adverb > sentential adverb > pragmatic marker (see Traugott 1982, 1995). These forms can generally be traced back to the Old or Middle English period, though pragmatic uses may have developed quite recently. More characteristic of the Early and Late Modern English periods are pragmatic markers of finite clausal origin, that is, parenthetical disjuncts which Quirk et al. (1985: 1112ff.) term "comment clauses", identifying three types: (1) those resembling matrix clauses, (2) those resembling adverbial clauses, and (3) those resembling nominal relative clauses. The purpose of this paper is to examine the adequacy of these syntactic subcategories from a diachronic perspective (see also Brinton in press).

The development of parenthetical pragmatic markers belonging to Quirk et al.'s first category, including "epistemic parentheticals" such as *I think, I guess* (see Thompson and Mulac 1991; cf. Brinton 1996) and other first-person clauses such as *I say (> say), I mean, I pray (>pray)*, second-person clauses such as *you know*, and imperative clauses such as *say, look, mind* and *let's*, involves a syntactic reversal of the original matrix clause and the original subordinate *that*-clause. In contrast, the development of pragmatic markers belonging to Quirk et al.'s second category, such as *if you please > please, as far as, as it seems*, does not involve such a reversal.

Quirk et al.'s third category —nominal relative clauses, including forms such as *what's more serious, what's very strange, what annoys me*— has received little attention historically. Again, Quirk et al. suggest (1985: 1117) that these forms undergo a syntactic reversal of main and subordinate clause. As a case study, this paper will focus on the development of the listing/additive/reinforcing conjunct (Quirk et al. 1985: 635) *what's more*, the earliest examples of which appear in the seventeenth century.

It will be argued that the syntactic development of comment clauses is more complex than suggested by the synchronic facts.

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Coordination in the Late Modern English period and in Present-day English

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The present paper aims to describe the characteristics of the coordinating constructions in Late Modern English. It will show that, although the behaviour of coordination in this period is similar to that in Present-day English, there are still some differences, some of which remind us of earlier stages in the evolution of the English language.

The paper analyses the features shared by the elements conjoined (syntactic category, syntactic function, etc.), the behaviour of asyndetic coordination, the meanings of the coordinators *and*, *or* and *but*, some questions related to Case and agreement, and the characteristics of subject deletion and gapping. The analysis is carried out from a merely descriptive point of view.

All the Late Modern English data offered in this paper are taken from the Chadwyck-Healey electronic collection. I analysed 2,396 instances of coordination extracted from fourteen novels, seven written in the eighteenth century (1,253 instances analysed) and seven written in the nineteenth century (1,143 instances analysed).

The spread of *for...to*-infinitives in Late Modern English

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In recent synchronic studies of the English complementation system, a great deal of attention has gone to the semantic factors that underly/motivate the distribution of different types of complement clauses, such as the infinitive clause, the gerund clause or the *that*-clause (Wierzbicka 1988, Langacker 1991). Though highly successful in many respects, the idea of synchronic motivation is sometimes difficult to reconcile with the fact that the distribution of grammatical variants such as the various types of complement clauses is the outcome of a historical process and is therefore subject to change (see e.g. Visser 1963-73, Fanego 1996, Rudanko 1998).

On the basis of 18th, 19th, and 20th-century corpus material, the present paper explores the diffusion of the *for...to*-infinitive in the English system of verbal complementation (as in *I'm waiting for them to arrive* or *She would like for him to settle*) – a construction that came into existence through reanalysis of a *for*-phrase as part of an infinitive clause (Fischer 1988, Rudanko 1988). It is shown that two mechanisms are responsible for the propagation of *for...to*-infinitives as complements to an increasing number of verbs:

(i) The association of *for...to*-infinitives with phrasal verbs containing a *for*-element (*wait for*, *long for*, *send for*, etc.) (cp. Jespersen 1940, Erdmann 1993).

(ii) Semantic analogy (esp. in AmE), causing *for...to*-infinitives to be used with verbs that express similar meanings (e.g. the extension from use with *long for*, *yearn for* to use with *would like*, *would love*, *want*), or creating new uses of verbs (e.g. transforming *announce* into a verb of commanding when combined with a *for...to*-complement).

Both these mechanisms eventually lead to the emergence of a distribution of the *for...to*-infinitive that can be considered semantically regular from a synchronic point of view. On the one hand, the association between *for...to*-infinitives and the *for* found in phrasal verbs leads to a distribution that is semantically motivated in the same way as the use of *for* in the phrasal verb is semantically motivated; on the other, analogy naturally causes *for...to*-infinitives to be used with verbs expressing related meanings (e.g. verbs of volition, anticipation, commanding, permission), further systematizing the use of *for...to*-infinitives.

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**Relating the internal to the external language history of early Canadian English:
examples from the *Corpus of Early Ontario English, pre-Confederation section***

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The study of Canadian English has so far been heavily biased towards synchronic phenomena. This paper will explore aspects of the early development of Ontario English between 1776 and 1850 with the help of the pre-Confederation section of the *Corpus of Early Ontario English (CeOntE)*, a machine-readable, three genre, stratified corpus.

The presentation will relate the historical development and settlement of Ontario with linguistic features gleaned from previous research on the one hand and new data from the *CeOntE* (pre-Confed.) on the other hand. This synthesis of language internal and external sources should allow us to re-assess two general questions of CanE:

1. How far has early American English influenced early Canadian English? Traditional views have usually allowed some —or even considerable— American influence, especially through the channels of schooling and textbooks (Parvin 1965: 15). Recent research (Gold forthc.) has produced evidence that this influence may have been exaggerated. The two views will be assessed in the light of new data, which indicates that the more recent approach may be more appropriate.

2. Canadian English is usually considered, on mostly external reasons, to be the most conservative former colonial variety of English (Chambers 1998: 253). Preliminary historical studies which have produced internal evidence for this assessment (Dollinger 2003) will be complemented by new data from the meanwhile completed pre-Confederation section of the *CeOntE* to arrive at a clearer picture of this phenomenon.

Among the variables employed to help re-assess these questions are some of the staples of Canadian English, such as the usage of *chesterfield/couch/sofa* or the variation in the past tense morphemes. Some previously unexplored variables, which are mainly from the lexical and grammatical levels, will also be considered.

The presentation therefore aims at re-assessing two more general statements about CanE by (a) adding a diachronic dimension to some typical Canadian English variables and (b) discovering new variables from the earliest periods of mainland CanE.

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Prescriptivism 100 years ago: business correspondence taught to emigrants, a case study

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This paper discusses the letters presented as an appendix to a grammar book (also including a thematic dictionary) published in 1905, ostensibly for the benefit of prospective emigrants to the United States. The aim is to outline the typology, textual and discourse structure of such letters and their correspondence to actual business letters circulating in the late nineteenth early twentieth centuries in English-speaking countries; the latter are currently being transcribed from original manuscript or typescript sources for inclusion in the *Corpus of Nineteenth-Century Scottish Correspondence* (Dossena, forthcoming). Special attention will be given to politeness strategies and to an analysis of the extent to which the structure of Italian is imitated in the English texts.

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Forms of tri-alternant verbs in early American English (1662–1720)

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The majority of publications in the field of ablaut verbs finish their analyses at the turn of the fifteenth century. Only scant mentions are given to strong or irregular verbs in later periods in the history of English, frequently in discussions of a broader scope. It must also be pointed out that primarily the verbal system of British English is discussed, with American English being largely neglected.

The aim of the present paper is to fill this void, at least partially, by shedding some light on the 'leveled forms' of verbs with vowel gradation for tense (for instance, *begin - began - began*) in the period 1662-1720. The article also aims at examining whether the alleged conservatism of the American variety of English –presupposing that the colonists nurtured the older usage longer than their Mainland contemporaries– holds true in the case of ablaut verbs. Finally, an attempt is made to observe the diverging or converging tendencies which might have arisen in the period during which the transoceanic variety of English was undergoing a gradual split from the language of the mother country. Therefore, the results obtained from the corpus of early American writings are compared with the outcomes gathered from a contemporary corpus of early British texts (since the current study is corpus-based, the two corpora consisting of a collection of parallel texts have been compiled to provide material for comparison).

The choice of the time span 1660-1720 is by no means accidental: one can assume that fully-fledged American English commenced with the first generation born on the American continent when the new offshoot of English started to depart from the language of the mother country. By 1720, the initial period in the development of American English was more or less over.

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Sentential complementation in British and American English: 1800 and beyond

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Sentential complementation, i.e. the situation that arises when a subordinate clause functions as an argument with respect to a governing element or head, has been a prolific area of research for many years among English historical linguists; cf., among others, Warner (1982), Fischer (1995), Los (1999), Fanego (1990, 1992, 1996a-b, 1997, 2004a-b), Rohdenburg (1995), Rudanko (1998, 1999, 2000), Vosberg (2003a-b), or, more recently, De Smet (forthcoming), and De Smet & Cuykens (forthcoming). Many of these studies have focused on Old, Middle and Early Modern English, while comparatively little work has been done on nineteenth- and twentieth-century English.

In my presentation I will examine the development of sentential complements in British and American English between 1800 and 1990. Special attention will be paid to instances of convergence and divergence in usage between these two varieties, and to the increasing grammaticalization of *-ing* clauses in a number of clausal functions. Alleged semantic differences between *that-*, *to-* and *-ing* clauses in terms of the type of 'construal' imposed on the complement scene by a given conceptualizer, as suggested for instance by Langacker (1991) and other cognitive linguists, will also be considered.

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Worser and lesser in Modern English

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According to the standard view (Kytö 1996, Kytö and Romaine 2000), double comparatives are marginal comparative forms that disappeared in the LModE period due to the influence of standardisation and prescriptivism. This view of the evolution of double forms is, however, based on the authors' impressionistic knowledge rather than on the analysis of actual data.

Through a corpus-based analysis of the development of *worser* and *lesser* in Early and Late Modern English, the present paper provides both linguistic and social evidence against the standard view.

In terms of linguistic distribution, the paper demonstrates that double comparatives cannot be portrayed as a homogeneous group with a single evolutionary pathway. It shows that, unlike double periphrastic forms (i.e. forms like *more better*), *worser* and *lesser* never conveyed a more emphatic comparative load than their simple counterparts *worse* and *less* but rather, that they always were syntactic variants of these latter.

In addition, the paper reveals that the socio-stylistic distribution of *worser* was notably different from that of *lesser* throughout the Modern English period. This may have had an influence on the historical social downgrading of *worser* (as opposed to *lesser*). Moreover, the process of stigmatisation that restricted *worser* to the non-standard registers in which it is found nowadays had begun much earlier (around 1630) than is suggested by the standard view.

On a more general level, the paper constitutes a warning against exaggerating the impact of standardisation and prescriptivism on the language and points to the advisability of reassessing the (supposed) influence that these factors may have had on processes of linguistic change.

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A fresh look at Late Modern English dialect syntax

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In this talk what little is known about syntactic variation in 18th and 19th century English dialects will be evaluated in light of the qualitative and quantitative analysis of selected high-frequency phenomena (pronouns, agreement, negation, relative clauses) in two major sources of traditional dialect data, namely the Survey of English Dialects (SED) and the computerized Freiburg English Dialect Corpus (FRED). The bulk of the SED informants was born between 1870 and 1890, while the majority of the FRED informants was born between 1890 and 1920. Among other things, this approach will allow us to pass judgement on the reliability of 19th and 20th century studies of LME dialect syntax, and to determine which of the morphosyntactic features of 20th century dialects in the British Isles are innovations and which are conservatism compared with the situation in LME dialects. On the basis of the SED and FRED material, on the one hand, and what is known about morphosyntactic variation in the non-standard varieties of English around the world, on the other hand, the possibility will be explored to what extent it is possible to reconstruct the dialect grammar of LME beyond the currently known fragments.

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When English replaced Persian: relinquishing an 'entangled' linguistic legacy

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When English was first made the official language of India in 1835, replacing Persian, it was viewed as an act of British dominance and forcible imposition of an alien culture and language on the natives. The motives may not have been otherwise, but the outcome were drastic and exemplary in positively transforming the linguistic landscape of India. The very introduction of English language replaced with it the age-old stranglehold of sectarian and autocratic nature of linguistic legacy of the preceding Muslim rules. Sociopragmatic changes brought in by English language is what we intend to examine here.

Development of English language in India is in effect a course which introduced multilingualism and strengthened further the inherent linguistic diversity of the country. In contrary to the notion of 'strategy of discursive appropriation', English language enriched the native languages with the import of western knowledge of science, philosophy and literature, and gave voice to languages which were earlier languishing within respective geographic and regional boundaries. English functioned "as the main agent for releasing the South Asian languages from the rigorous constraints of the classical literary traditions" (Kachru 1994).

To presume an India without English is a good supposition today to assess its significance not only in contributing to the making of a modern nation but also in finding the mutual suitability of the language in question and the country. Dismissing these aspects under allegations of Anglicism is easy, but it is difficult to deny that English came as a much needed language of *lingua franca* and larger communication in a country which presumably was in the need of walking out of the years of subservient linguistic policies, if at all any, and needed a language which did not carry with it a religious baggage.

Nineteenth-century English: an age of stability or a period of change?

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It is often claimed that the central features of Present-day English developed before 1800 (see e.g. Fennell 2001: 146). As a result, 19th-century English is regarded as comparatively stable. The present paper examines this view critically, and argues that 19th-century English is in fact characterized by tension between stability and change. This claim is largely based on our and other scholars' contributions

to the CONCE project; these comprise factor score analyses as well as research on linguistic features such as plural quantifiers, the progressive, and the comparison of adjectives (see e.g. Kytö, Rudanko and Smitterberg 2000; Kytö, Rydén and Smitterberg forthcoming).

One reason why 19th-century English gives a modern impression is its relative lack of qualitative change: compared with earlier periods, few linguistic variants emerged or disappeared. However, the results of the CONCE project refine this impression by showing that significant quantitative changes took place within many variant fields, while other fields exhibit qualitative as well as quantitative stability. Some of the changes can be related to grammaticalization theory and the long-term change from synthetic to analytic structures in English. As regards extralinguistic factors, genre and gender are relevant parameters. Processes implied by the results, such as the colloquialization of some genres and changes from below led by women, are most likely connected to contemporaneous societal changes, e.g. the increasing levels of literacy.

In recent years, linguistic stability and constraints on language change have received more scholarly attention (see e.g. Milroy 1992, Raumolin-Brunberg 2002), and it is clear that a comprehensive account of linguistic change must include constraining as well as promoting factors. In this light, the availability of a wide variety of primary sources and the combination of stability and change that characterize 19th-century English make this period worthy of close attention.

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Development of a vernacular primitive: YOU WAS/WERE variation in eighteenth-century English correspondence

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Present-day empirical sociolinguistic research has shown that certain linguistic variables are so common in English dialects that they have been identified as vernacular primitives (Chambers 2003: 265-266). Such variables often include the invariant use of BE. This study examines the singular use of YOU WAS/WERE in English correspondence in the 18th century. The work is a corpus-based study, and the data are drawn from *the Corpus of Early English Correspondence Extension*, a 1,5 million-word corpus covering personal correspondence between 1680 and 1800.

The study approaches YOU WAS / WERE variation from two perspectives. Firstly, previous studies have suggested that the rise of YOU WAS was an 18th century phenomenon (Tieken-Boon van Ostade 2002, Nevalainen 2002). The variants will be examined in informal language use, personal correspondence, from which many of the innovations typically originate. The writers' selection of the two variants will be correlated to both language internal as well as social factors. The aim is to shed light on the actuation of the emerging YOU WAS usage, as well as the social diffusion of it. The corpus allows us an access to a wide range of sociolinguistic information, making both real and apparent time analyses of the variant selection possible. Secondly, the influence of the emerging normative grammar movement on language use will be discussed. YOU WAS forms continue to be used today (Anderwald 2001), but they remain stigmatized. Based on the corpus data, it will be suggested that the stigmatisation of YOU WAS was indeed a conscious reaction to the proliferation of the form in early and mid-eighteenth century English.

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Auxiliary and negative cliticisation in Late Modern English

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Cliticisation has been a recurrent feature of English throughout its history. Cliticisation of the proclitic type, i.e. that in which the clitic precedes its host, can be traced back to the Old English period (cf. the contraction of the negative particle *ne* with certain verbs, as in *ne is > nis*), and it became fairly common in later stages in forms such as *'tis < it is*. By contrast, cliticisation of the enclitic type, i.e. that in which the clitic follows its host, seems to be a more recent development in the language. It is generally agreed (cf. Lass 1999: 179-180, among others) that it is not until the seventeenth century that the first clear orthographic signs of both auxiliary cliticisation (e.g. *he is > he's*) and negative cliticisation (e.g. *is not > isn't*) can be found, although it seems likely that such enclitic forms were actually used in the spoken language long before they were recorded in writing.

The Late Modern English period, especially the nineteenth century, witnessed a considerable increase in the use of enclitic forms in published material, in spite of their widespread condemnation by prescriptive grammarians (cf. Haugland 1995). The present paper intends to assess the impact of auxiliary and negative cliticisation on the written language of Late Modern English through the analysis of a representative sample of texts. The discussion will focus on verbal forms which allow the two contractions of the enclitic type in addition to the non-cliticised variant (e.g. *he is not* vs. *he's not* vs. *he isn't*). In our analysis of the variation between the competing forms, special attention will be paid to (a) the conditioning factors favouring the selection of one alternative at the expense of others, and (b) potential diachronic changes in the patterns of distribution of the variants at issue.

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The historical development of *take/have a walk*

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In researching the historical development of Composite Predicates (CPs; Cattell 1984) such as *give an answer*, *make a call*, *have a drink*, or *take a guess* (Brinton & Akimoto 1999), I have explored the use of CPs in Early Modern English (EModE) through an initial investigation of 'take a walk' (Matsumoto 2000), as well as the use of a variety of CPs in Middle English (ME; Matsumoto 1999). Further inquiry into 'take a walk', which does not occur in ME, affords additional insight into the development of fixed CPs. Early variants of 'take a verb' cited in the *Oxford English Dictionary* (*OED*; *take one's walk* [1581] and *take a walk* [1660]) and in the Chadwyck-Healey Early English Prose Fiction (*take a walk or two* [1660]) and English Verse Drama (*take a walk* [1640]) databases show that the formation of 'take a walk', commencing in the late sixteenth century, had not yet fully settled by the late seventeenth century. 'Have a walk' followed a similar pattern of formation, first appearing in 1576 according to the *OED*, and in 1692 according to the Chadwyck-Healey databases, in such forms as *have your fine walks* and *have no shorter as walk than*; evidently early usages of *have a walk* were also not yet fixed. In this paper, I investigate the historical development of *take/have a walk*, in particular considering the transition in the frequency of occurrences of *take/have a walk*, from EModE through Late Modern English (LModE). The corpus analyzed in this paper includes the Chadwyck-Healey Early English Prose Fiction, English Verse Drama, Eighteenth Century Fiction, and All English Drama on-line databases (accessed during a one-month free trial), the *OED*, and other published works.

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Scientifically-marked style (1700-1900): linguistic conventions and social implications

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This workshop presents a project that is being carried out in the University of A Coruña and that aims at compiling a corpus of English scientific texts in the history of the language. It is somehow intended to

complement other corpora that seem to pertain to the scope of what we nowadays call ESP. The project will be presented as a work in progress since it has been going on only for one year. Before even initiating the process of compilation itself, several decisions had to be made such as the delimitation of the concept of Science as this has a direct consequence on textual selection. Different considerations have been made for texts produced before and after the emergence of empiricism and the scientific method since they entailed also a change in the philosophy of science. Other preliminary decisions will be also detailed in this paper: this is the case of the relationship between the concept of Science and type of text, type of text and register (a scientific text may be written in a register/style different from the scientific one), the length of texts samples, their coding, etc.

Different possibilities of analysis will be dealt with in the ensuing papers in this workshop so that Modern English semantics, derivational morphology and syntax will be approached as they appeared in scientific texts.

External influences on the use of cognitive verbs (1700-1900) by Ana Montoya Reyes

This paper will explore the relationship between the different cultural movements and scientific texts through the use of verbs. From the emergence of empiricism onwards the methods of analysis of reality changed together with the way in which knowledge was presented and transmitted. The exploration of verbs used in mathematical texts will reveal what kind of verbs is preferred now in scientific expository texts. To this end, the study of different semantic classifications of verbs will be considered.

Make-collocations. A diachronic approach by Inés Lareo Martín

Collocations of verb plus noun can be traced back in the history of English to very early periods. However, not all verbs have been equally productive in this type of structure. The study of collocations of *make* plus noun will be approached in this paper where we will analyse some scientific texts of the Modern English period in order to ascertain whether collocations display a different behaviour depending on the type of text where they are included. Our survey will, at the same time, shed some light on the possible varying degree of use of collocations according to register or text-type.

Periphrastic do in Late Modern English scientific texts by Leticia Regueiro Naya

The language of science is nowadays easily distinguishable from other languages for specific purposes. Though some authors have defined register in terms of vocabulary (Trudgill 1983), other aspects of linguistic analysis different from the lexical ones have been also claimed as idiosyncratic of specific registers and styles (Halliday et al, ...). This paper aims at analysing the use and behaviour of the newborn periphrastic *do* in scientific texts as compared with non-scientific ones produced during the modern English period.

Scientific vocabulary revisited: some morphological issues by Gonzalo Camiña Riobóo

Though when dealing with word-formation processes it seems that all of them work all the time, it is a fact that some of them are not found in certain periods in the history of the English language and in particular registers or types of texts. It is the aim of this paper to examine those morphological processes and establish which of them were at issue in the production of the new vocabulary required for the emerging scientific register in English from the eighteenth century onwards.

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The pragmatics of reported speech: a case study of eighteenth-century letters

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Reported speech means transposing an utterance belonging to someone else into the utterance of the writer who reports it in a meaningful way (see Holt 1996 & 2000, Collins 2001). In this process the reporter is likely to alter the original speaker's wording and even express her own attitude to what is being reported. Such a situation might occur, for instance, when the writer builds rapport with her addressee complimenting her by conveying the admiration expressed by others:

Daniel was not the only Person at Liverpool who enquired much for you: *the Kembles said every sweet and respectful Word in the Dictionary* when you were mentioned.

(A letter by Hester Lynch Piozzi to Sophia Byron, 1789)

We intend to study the occurrences of reported speech from a pragmatic perspective in eighteenth-century letters. Our analysis pays attention to not only to the role of the reporter, but also to the form of the reporting frame, the topic of the report, the identity of the person whose speech is reported. Our purpose is then to study the communicative role reporting has in eighteenth-century written communication.

The material used for this study comes from the eighteenth-century extension of the Corpus of Early English Correspondence (see Laitinen 2002 for details). Personal correspondence provides interesting material for our study as it is real communication between people. The letters chosen are from the correspondence of Hester Lynch Piozzi, who belonged to the social circle of such famous eighteenth-century figures as Samuel Johnson, Edmund Burke, Fanny and Charles Burney, and David Garrick. Her letters are directed to various recipients who range from family members to acquaintances.

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Aspects of the use of the progressive in the eighteenth century: a preliminary approach

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Although the progressive has been the focus of attention of many linguists and grammarians, both from a synchronic and from a diachronic perspective, its use in the eighteenth century has so far been neglected. However, this century constitutes a crucial stage in the consolidation of progressive periphrases in English, since *be + -ing* is said to have become an obligatory category for active verbs by the early 18th century (cf. Rissanen 1999). Moreover, this century witnessed changes that resulted in the establishment of the Present-day English verb system, one of them being the complete development of the progressive paradigm. The aim of this paper is, therefore, to provide a descriptive account of the use of progressive constructions in an eighteenth-century corpus, namely *The Century of Prose Corpus (COPC)*, which offers extensive data of British English from the period 1680-1780. Several parameters as regards the use of *be + -ing* in this corpus will be analyzed and discussed, such as frequency, paradigm, clause-type and text-type distribution, among others.

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"What we do còn amore": code-switching in eighteenth-century personal letters

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Code-switching, generally regarded as a feature of informal spoken language, is also encountered in writings from past periods. Most historical analyses of code-switching consider medieval texts (see Schendl 2002), but studies by e.g. Wright (1998), Dossena (2000), Pahta (2000), and Nurmi and Pahta (2004) have shown that the phenomenon also occurs in later texts representing various genres.

This study focuses on code-switching in eighteenth-century letters. The material comes from the Corpus of Early English Correspondence Extension (1681-1800) that is being compiled by the Historical Sociolinguistics team at the Research Unit for Variation and Change in English, at the University of

Helsinki; Arja Nurmi is a member of the compilation team. The corpus has been compiled with sociolinguistic research in mind, and the selected letters represent all literate social strata as far as possible, taking into account social variables like gender, age and education.

For this study, we have included all currently available eighteenth-century material: approximately one million words. Our aim is to see whether code-switching in eighteenth-century correspondence differs from the practices in medieval letters studied in Nurmi and Pahta (forthcoming). In the analysis, we shall pay attention to structural and discursive aspects as well as sociolinguistic variables.

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The semantic field of manners in eighteenth-century English

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The present paper has as its main objective to carry out a detailed analysis of the semantic field of *manners* in England for the 18th century. People's behaviour and manners gained great social importance in the period of Late Modern English (LME) due to the profound socio-economic changes that took place then. The emphasis on manners and courtesy that sprang up in the era of LME was reflected in language and led to major developments in the ways of addressing people in order to adapt to the new situation. In fact, there were many changes affecting the field of manners such as the adoption of new terms from other languages and the development in meaning of the existing ones.

In order to carry out our analysis we have adopted a semantic-cognitive approach. This approach has enabled us to offer a clear and coherent explanation of the way this semantic field is organised at a conceptual level. We have established the relevant categorisations needed to understand how the semantic field works at a cognitive level and how we could organise the 131 words that we studied.

To verify our categorisation schema, we have used the 18th century newspaper *The Spectator* (1711-1712) as corpus. This newspaper was considered an ideal collection of data due to the fact that its contents were very representative of the habits, ideas and moral principles existing at the time.

Finally, we present the final conclusions to which we arrived with regards to the evolution and development of the semantic field of *manners* and we point out the need of redefining the term "*manners*" in a new and more precise way, offering our own attempt of definition.

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Re-reading deixis from 1700 to 1900

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There is much ongoing research in linguistic territories which are considered new. I specifically refer to domains such as Socio-Historical and Historical Pragmatics. However, these two areas have been overcrowded with contrastive synchronic approaches to language which result in misreading the link between the past and the present.

The aim of this paper is to examine how Pragmatics works in a historical diachronic perspective by analysing the pragmatic marker through the periods in question (1700 through to 1900). I will look at deixis in order to understand both its referential and inferential uses within different discourse practices which date back to 1700 until 1900. These discourse practices will be extracted from a common *corpus* – *The Bible in English* (CD-ROM version, published by Chadwyck-Healey Ltd., 1996).

The deictics *this* and *that*, *here* and *there* will be carefully examined, not on a descriptive basis, but rather through both quantitative and qualitative analyses, so that not only their surface but also their underlying meanings can be explored. This will enable us to reach a type/token frequency and, consequently, establish a ratio for the occurrence of such deictics from 1700 to 1900.

The purpose will be to discover how these deictics developed and with what range of frequency did their uses expand. These findings will then allow us to question: a) the present typologies on deixis (cf. Fillmore's [1982: 35] notion of deixis as a mere "socio-spatial-temporal anchoring"); b) the current definition of deixis (cf. Elizabeth Traugott's [1982: 245] grammaticalization of the demonstratives). They will also open up new frontiers within Historical Pragmatics.

We shall use Andreas Juckers' *Historical Pragmatics* as a model for working on the material. As far as the *corpus* based analysis is concerned, our study is based on prior studies conducted by Matti Rissanen and his team which clearly establish a close link between science and technology.

Fisher's *Spelling Dictionary and Expositor of the English Language* and John Entick's *The New Spelling Dictionary (1745): a case of piracy?*

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In the eighteenth century, codifying the language had become a priority for English scholars, who saw themselves as the tools to carry out the attempts to purify and ascertain the language through dictionaries and grammar books. A real flood of these works –over two hundred– were published only in the second part of the century (Pooley 1963: 253). The high number of these books favoured a more or less covert plagiarism. Many authors copied from each other grammar rules, exercises, lists of words, definitions, etc. without acknowledging their sources. This situation caused problems of authorship, as in the case of Priestly, Buchanan and Dyche (Smith 1998), and of piracy, as in the case of Fisher's *The Pleasing Instructor* (Wallis 1969). In this paper we will focus on two dictionaries, those written by Entick, *The New Spelling Dictionary* (1765), and by Fisher, *Fisher's Spelling Dictionary and Expositor of the English Language* (1788⁶). In a small set of letters written by Ann Fisher and some draft copies of the preface to her dictionary she defends herself against a charge of piracy brought against her by Entick and his publishers, Edward and Charles Dilly. In these documents she not only denounces the falsity of these accusations but also tackles on the question of authorship/originality in the production of dictionaries. The aim of this paper is to check Fisher's line of defence by, first, comparing both dictionaries and, second, briefly revising the 18th-century lexicographers' practice of using an array of sources to devise their dictionaries.

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Progressives in the letters of Mrs. Elizabeth Montagu and her circle in 1738-1778: a social network approach to language change

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The topic of my study is language use in the social networks of Bluestockings in 18th century England. The term *bluestocking* refers to men and women primarily of the gentry and upper classes, who gathered informally in the pursuit of intellectual improvement; gradually it came to refer to learned women only (Pohl and Schellenberg (eds.) 2003). The central figure of my study is Mrs. Elizabeth Montagu, a prominent bluestocking and social hostess. I have reconstructed her Bluestocking network of the decades 1740 to 1780 and compiled a corpus of personal correspondence within the circle including also Mrs. Montagu's family letters, which altogether amounts to c. 100,000 words. On the reconstruction of social networks and historical language studies, see e.g. Tieken-Boon van Ostade (2000).

This case study concerns the progressive and its occurrences in the letters of Mrs. Montagu, her Bluestocking friends and her family from 1738 to 1778. In the 18th century, the rules of the progressive *be + -ing* were established (Strang 1982: 429). My aim is to look for the possible connections between the network members in the development of the *be+ -ing* construction as shown by their letters. The analysis takes into account the ties between correspondents in order to discover any influence the ties may have had in the use and development of the *be + -ing* over the years. Arnaud (1998) studied the progressive in private letters of 1787-1880, and his results show that during this period the use of the progressive extended considerably and steadily in private letter-writing (see also Wright 1994 and Killie 2004 on studies on the progressive in Early Modern and Late Modern English.)

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How to say "Please!" in eighteenth-century English

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"Do please get the child to read to us," one of the characters in Beryl Bainbridge's *According to Queeney* (2001: 37) entreats Mrs Thrale. ("She cannot read," was Mrs Thrale's response.) If this sentence were based on actual spoken English, this would be the first instance of the use of *Please!* as an "imperative or optative", as the *OED* describes it. The use of *Please!* as a politeness marker, however, does not occur in eighteenth-century English, and this is not the only anachronism in the novel. "Bainbridge gives [her characters] words that entered the language much later", according to John Mullan in his review called "Queeney's English" (*The Guardian*, 1/9/2001, <http://books.guardian.co.uk/reviews>). Yet if pragmatic markers such as *Please!* have not been analysed in detail, it is not Bainbridge who is to blame, but us, historical sociolinguists. In this study I will describe the ways in which people did say *Please!*, and I will do so on the basis of an analysis of Robert Lowth's correspondence, which consists of two hundred letters written by Lowth (ca. 79,000 words) and seventy by a variety of correspondents (ca. 32,000 words), thirty in all. It will be shown that there were various ways in which people could say *Please!*, and that choice of a particular formula depended closely on the nature of the relationship with the addressee.

Prescriptivism and preposition stranding in eighteenth-century prose

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We have all been taught in school that sentences like those in (1) are incorrect: "we should not end a sentence with a preposition" because it is colloquial, inelegant and even ungrammatical (Sundby et al. 1991: 208, 426-427). Being aware of this prescriptive norm, those who read many books will carefully and consciously avoid the use of stranded prepositions by means of other alternative constructions, like those in (2), despite the natural tendency to place the preposition in final position.

(1a) Who are you talking to?

- (1b) That is the book I wrote a review *about*.
(2a) Can you see that tiny hole? That's the place *through which* the mouse escaped!
(2b) The law *whereby* murderers are condemned to death is not applied in all states.

Two main topics will be discussed in this paper. First, I will examine the historical context in which the rule against preposition stranding was laid down, i.e. the Authoritarian England (Nist 1966: 269-300, Baugh & Cable 2002: 253-295), in order to shed more light on the strong influence of eighteenth-century grammarians who overtly condemned the vernacular idiom (e.g. Lowth 1762). The results of my study will testify to the responsibility of prescriptivism for the historical shift attested in the use of the construction and, particularly so, for its stigmatization. Secondly, this research will contribute to previous work in (historical) sociolinguistics by providing new empirical evidence on syntactic variation in different text types. The material under investigation consists of approximately 120,000 words of running text retrieved from six main genres documented in *The Century of Prose Corpus*, namely educational treatises, essays, history, fiction, travelogue and letters&memoirs.

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