



Supplementary Notebook (RTEP - Brazilian academic journal, ISSN 2316-1493)

VOCABULARY SYSTEM AS A REFLECTION OF THE NATION'S LINGUOCULTURAL PECULIARITIES

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Abstract: *The article is devoted to the solution of several issues. The first one is the consideration of cultural linguistics as a modern science studying features of culture, which are reflected in the specific language of the specific country, on all levels of the language systems, especially in vocabulary. The second issue concerns studying and analyzing the correlation of the standard language system vocabulary specific features and the vocabulary features of the language variant system in another country. The article presents some cases of cultural influence on linguistic units chosen by the authors who uses standard variant of the language and variant, which is used in another country. The reason for the choice is explained by the high level of cultural influence on the language system development. The scientific research has revealed the cultural features of two different cultures that have a serious impact on the way the vocabulary system develops and is being used in the two countries. The article shows some particularities of the vocabulary variation and provides some information on the possible reason for that fact. Contrastive-comparative, contextual analysis, lingo-stylistical, continuous sampling and content methods were used in the research.*

Keywords: *standard national variant of the language system, language system variation, vocabulary peculiarities, word formation.*

INTRODUCTION

There are two definitions of 'variation' given by encyclopedia edited by V.N.Yartseva. According to prof. Yartseva 'variants' refer to different means of expression of a language entity that show its modification, version or deviation from the norm. 'Variation' refers to the "mode of existence and functioning of language units and language system generally" (Yartseva, 1998, p. 80). 'Variants' can be described as fundamental property of language system and functioning of all language entities. There is an opposition 'variant' – 'invariant'. 'Variants' are different expressions of the same subject,

such as modifications of the same entity, that despite all alterations keeps its meaning. 'Invariant' is an abstract meaning of the same subject (e.g., one and the same entity) abstracting from its specific modifications – 'variants' (Yartseva, 1998, p. 80).

Dictionary of Linguistic Terms [Slovar' lingvisticheskikh terminov] by O. S. Akhmanova (1969, p. 43) specifies 'variation' referring to different types of speech: "variation is a variety, different types of speech, which are defined by different conditions of its use as well as differences in social and territorial belonging of speakers". Glossary of Linguistic Terms [Slovar'-spravochnik lingvisticheskikh terminov] by D. E. Rozental and M. A. Telenkova comes up with the idea of differentiated description of different level entities variants of language system. Phonetic alternant is defined as "nonparallel interchange of sounds". Morphemic alternants are cognate and have identical meaning, but they are different phonemically. Variant forms of a word are alteration of words which are different from each other in some ways but morphemically identical. Variants of phraseological units (idioms) are fixed phrases with variable components, but identical meaning and semantic similarity (Rozental & Telenkova, 2001, pp. 48-51).

A.I. Domashnev (2005, p. 862) in his working "About a relation type "system – norm – variant" in sociolinguistics [Ob odnom tipe otnoshenii "sistema – norma – variant" v soziolingvistike"] suggests to set up an integral theory of language variation, that according to the linguist has its own common patterns and specific character: variation ontology; factors which provide emerging of variants, its role in development and functioning of language system; typology of variation in different elements of language system.

METHODS

This article is based on systematic approach to the cultural linguistics analysis. Due to the cross-disciplinary approach, it is taken into account the anthropocentric factor, linguistic and extra-linguistic data. To reach all the aforementioned goals of the research the following scientific methods have been used: continuous sampling method on the first stage. Then, after detecting all the contexts of linguistic units used in contextual analysis, lingo-stylistical analysis and content analysis methods were applied. At the final stage of the research all the obtained results have been analyzed with the help of contrastive-comparative method and have undergone linguistic and cultural linguistic interpretation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Special features of Austrian German language can be seen in different language systems, the most changeable are lexical and phonetical. Morphology is the most fixed system which shows less differences. To show particularities of Austrian German we referred to the topic of word formation in two languages considering word idioms used in Austria – Austriacisms or in German - Austriazismus, der (Singular), Austriazismen, die (Plural). DUDEN dictionary defines it as follows: 'nur in Österreich übliche Variante der deutschen Sprache (z. B. „Melanzane“ für Aubergine)' (variants of German used only in Austria (e.g. „Melanzane“ for aubergine). Heinz Dieter Pohl (1998, p. 23) categorizes 4 groups of austriacisms:

1. National austriacisms (administrative language, mass media language and words used for food products description: *Oberskren, der* ("horseradish cream sauce"), *Apfelkren, der* ("horseradish apple sauce"), *Most, der* ("fruit wine");

2. South-east austriacisms (Austrian vocabulary that is also being used in the south of Germany, e.g. *Brösel, der* “bread crumbs”);

3. Bavarian austriacisms (words used both in Austria and Bavaria, e.g. *Kren, der* (“horseradish”), *Einbrenn(e), die* (“dressing to soup made of flour”);

4. Regional austriacisms (specific features of writing language of east, west or south part of Austria, e.g. east – *Obers, das* (“cream”), *Nachtmahl, das* (“dinner”), west and south – *Rahm, der* (“cream”).

In this article we refer only to the first group of austriacisms – national austriacisms.

VARIATION IN GERMAN

Jacob Ebner (2009, p. 7) defines language variation as form of expression of language standard with appropriate for its specific variants. Such variants with different rate of expansion can be called national or regional. National variant is an official language used in a country (Ebner, 2009, p. 7). According to this definition German language spoken in Austria is a national variant of German. Such linguists as E. G. Riesel and A. I. Domashnev made indispensable contribution to research into the topic of varieties in German. Elise Riesel (1962) was one of the first who started to use a term ‘national varieties’. Her scientific work in study of Austrian German language laid theoretical foundations for further work both Russian and foreign scientific schools. Riesel specifies difference between the Austrian German and standard German in the article “National varieties of contemporary German language” published in 1962. Above all these differences refer to vocabulary and phonetics. Riesel emphasizes that topic of national varieties is not only linguistic, but also political because it is related to national self-determination. Riesel’s ideas further were reflected in works of many linguists among others A. I. Domashnev and Ulrich Ammon – prominent scientists in linguistic theory, sociolinguistics and Germanic studies. More than 30 years A. I. Domashnev devoted to research of national varieties in German. His most popular works on this topic are “Essay on the contemporary German language of Austria [Ocherk sovremennogo nemetskogo yazyka v Avstrii]” (Domashnev, 1967) and “Modern German language in its national variants [Sovremennyj nemeckij jazyk v ego nacional'nykh variantakh]” (Domashnev, 1983).

In the article “Essay on the contemporary German language of Austria” Domashnev (1967) compares semantics of Austrian German and standard German. He specifies 7 groups of lexical-semantic differences in two languages. The groups include comparisons of quantitative and qualitative character, common form, but different meaning, common meaning, but different form, differences in word-building (common root morpheme or common component of the word), differences in stylistic nuance (Domashnev, 1967, p. 22). In his work “Modern German language in its national variants” Domashnev (1983) described characteristics of national language varieties in Austria, Switzerland and Luxemburg in aspect of each language subsystem (morphology, word-building, syntax and semantics). One of the chapters is devoted to word-building of nouns, where the author refers to some features of word-building forms of nouns in Austrian German (Domashnev, 1983, pp. 89-93). Apocope is a very popular model in Austrian German, more specifically it is non-use of *-e* at the end of the word. A. I. Domashnev considered this particularity as one of the first in Austrian German, he noticed this tendency not only in the foreign words, but also in the words of German origin. Another particularity is – *en*

ending of Austrian forms (*der Karren* (“cart”), *der Scherben* (“sherd”), *der Schranken* (“barrier”); in German: *die Karre/der Karren*, *die Scherbe*, *die Schranke*).

Use/non-use of umlaut – German word forms *Komissar* (“commissioner”), *Missionar* (“missionary”) are used in Austrian German as *Komissär*, *Missionär*, while word forms with umlaut in German (*Bütte* (“water butt”, *Lüster* “lustre”) in Austrian German are used without it (*Butte*, *Luster*). Umlaut is not used in Austrian usage in root vowel of diminutive form, with that German suffix *-chen* is being replaced with Austrian diminutival – *erl* (e.g. Austrian *Palmkatzlerl* and German *Palmkätzchen* “palm tree”). The most common suffixes in Austrian German are such diminutives as – *(e)l*; – *erl*; – *ndl*. According to A. I. Domashnev and Austrian Germanist Anton Sieberer (1950) diminutives identify not only such characteristic as diminutiveness of an object but also convey feelings and mood of the speaker.

SUFFIXAL WORD FORMATION

Suffixal word formation is distinctive in that word-formative part is being added after the root morpheme. Suffix relates lexical unit with semantic category. Dictionary of Word-forming Units in German Language [Slovar' slovoobrazovatel'nykh elementov nemetskogo iazyka] describes different meanings of suffix *-er* (Zuev et al., 2000, p. 133). However, suffixes *-l*, *-erl* are not included in the dictionary. Dictionary Varianten Grammatik when analysing national varieties of German language indicates the following suffixes for existing language varieties: *-chen*, *-lein*, *-erl*, *-(e)le*, *(e)l* u *-li* depending on the area where they are used. Common suffixes for German are *-chen* and *-lein*, with that root morpheme gets umlaut. Suffix *-li* is typical for Switzerland and nouns with *-erl* ending are common both for Austria and south part of Germany. Form *-le* is being used in south-west of Germany and west of Austria.

Suffixes have different stylistic functions. They are mostly used for diminutive forms and in children’s vocabulary in standard German. In German language in Austria they are used to add meaning of cosiness, that is more typical for food products, e.g. word form *Kriecherl*, *das* (“plum”) is made by adding to the root form *Krieche*, *die* typical for Austrian German suffix *-erl*. The same for *Bohne*, *die* (“bean”), in Austrian German is used another word *Strankerl*, *das*, so it is not only to root morpheme that is different, but also different word formation by adding suffix *-erl* (Bondarenko & Radovich, 2017, p. 7). Jacob Ebner (2009, p. 38) in his introduction to the Austrian Dictionary published by DUDEN points to different functions of diminutive *-erl*:

1. Diminution function in colloquial language where root morpheme does not get umlaut (e.g. *Tascherl* (“small bag”), *Sackerl* (“small sack”), *Wagerl* (“small wagon”), *Schaferl* (“small lamb”), *Hauserl* (“small house”).

2. Emotional colouring in colloquial language (*Enkerl* (“little grandson”), *Flascherl* (“small bottle”).

3. In standard Austrian German language suffix is used only in words that exist in one form – with suffix *-erl*, such as *Zuckerl* (“bonbon”, standard German “Bonbon, der”), *Pickerl* (“sticker”, standard German “Aufkleber, der”), *Stockerl* (“stool”, standard German “Hocker, der”).

Professor of University of Warsaw Reinhold Utri (2017) gives different reasons for differences between two national languages and not all of them fall within linguistic field. There could be reasons within national mentality, culture patterns and linguistic interference.

1. National mentality. Austrian psychotherapist Erwin Ringel was engaged in analysis of Austrians mentality. In his book “Austrian soul” (“Die österreichische Seele”) he makes the following statements: as a country Austria did not get over its past still identifying itself with national socialism; there are more crimes (including road accidents) in Austria than in Germany; 40% more suicides (one of the reasons is alcoholism. 10% of people are addicted to alcohol); low self-esteem, xenophobia; human creativity.

2. Culture patterns. Comparing with Germany the following differences could be stated: indirect communication style, ignorance of rules, focus on person in society.

3. Linguistic interference. Throughout its history Austria was in contact with its neighbouring countries. The Austro-Hungarian Empire (1867-1918) was a multinational country where such nations as Germans, Czechs, Hungarians, Slovaks, and Bosnians had to live together. Because of such close linguistic contacts Austrian German has got many borrowed words (*Golatsche* (“small white loaf”, “calatch”), *Havarie* (“accident”), *Palatschinke* (“pancakes”) *Powidl* (“jam”).

In his work Reinhold Untri does not make any assumptions about the connection between the factors mentioned above and use of diminutives in Austrian German. There are many borrowed words due to linguistic interferences, but how can we relate national mentality and cultural patterns with word-forming in Austrian German? We can suggest that Austrians want to glamorise their reality through the language, that abounds with diminutives and their creativity helps them in it. In the following we analyse lexical units typical for Austrian German with meaning of alcoholic drinks. Word ***Obstler, der*** (‘fruit spirit’) has suffix *-l* and ending *-er*, which is typical for masculine. Most of nouns with meaning of alcoholic drinks in German are masculine. Another word for it in standard German is ***Obstwasser, das***, that literally means “fruit water”. DUDEN Dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) and Dictionary of Regional Language Variants (Variantenwörterbuch des Deutschen) (Ammon et al., 2004) both indicate that word is typical for Austrian German. Word ***Kranewitter, der***, that means alcoholic drink from juniper berries is also formed with suffix *-er*. Root morpheme in word *Kranewitter, der* stands for a component from which a drink is made – *Kranewit, der* (“juniper berries”). ***Wachholderschnaps, der*** is a synonym used in standard German, where *Wachholder* is a word that stands for juniper berries and *-schnaps* a word that means alcoholic drink.

DUDEN dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) marks the word *Kranewitter, der* as a typical for Austrian German as well for Bavarian. Dictionary of Regional Language Variants (Ammon et al., 2004) specifies that word is used in Austria except for Vorarlberg region. Dictionary of Word-forming Units in German specifies that suffix *-er* among other meanings stands for some alcoholic drinks, where the name of a city or a region stands in as a root morpheme, e.g. *Burgunder* (“Burgundy wine”), *Pilsener* (“Pilsener”) (Zuev et al., 2000, p. 139). In contrast with this statement our examples as a root morpheme have components from which they are made.

There is another drink that formed with a suffix – ***Orangeade, die*** (“orange juice”). Dictionary of Word-forming Units in German specifies that suffix *-ade* relates to the borrowed words feminine (Zuev et al., 2000, p. 40). The synonym in standard German is ***Orangenlimonade, die***, which formed by two words “orange” and “lemonade”. All three examples (***Obstler (der), Kranewitter (der), Orangeade (der)***) show that while lexical units in standard German are formed by compounding (***Obstwasser (das), Wachholderschnaps (der), Orangenlimonade, (die)***), words in Austrian German are formed by terminational manner of derivation. Another austriacism that defines alcoholic

drink is ***Dirndlschnaps, der*** (“gin made from cornel berries”). It consists of two morphemes: typical Austrian word *Dirndl, das* and standard German word – *Schnaps, der*. In standard German it is known as ***Kornelkirschen-Likör, der*** or ***Kornelkirsche Destillat, das***.

DUDEN dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) specifies that *Dirndl, das* derives from Middle High German *dierne* that means *Mädchen, Jungfrau* (“girl”), Old High German *thiorna* with the same meaning. Another meaning according to DUDEN Dictionary is short for *Dirndlkleid, das* (national Bavarian and Austrian dress) and *Kornelkirsche, die* (“Cornelian cherry”). The word is marked as ‘österreichisch’, what means that it is typical for Austrian German language. It becomes diminutive *-l* in Austrian German language. DUDEN dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) does not include lexical unit *Dirndlschnaps, der*. Dictionary of Regional Language Variants (Ammon et al., 2004) includes this lexical unit in vocabulary entry for word *Dirndl, das* as derivative word.

Despite the fact that the lexical unit *Dirndlschnaps, der* was not included in the dictionaries mentioned above the word is still used in literature written in German:

Lotte mochte *Dirndlschnaps* und kochte Dirndlmarmelade, weil sie keinen Schnaps brennen konnte (Weidenholzer, 2011, p. 62). (“Lotte liked *Dirndlschnaps* and cooked cornel jam because she couldn’t distil schnaps”).

There are other alcoholic beverages made from cornel berries: ***Dirndllikör, der*** (“cornel liqueur”) and ***Dirndlbrand, der*** (“cornel brandy”). DUDEN dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) documents only the second part of compound words:

1. Likör, der (“sweet alcoholic beverage”) with a note that origin of the word is French language – liqueur (liquid), the word was adopted from Latin – liquor;

2. Brand, der (“brandy, wine spirit”) – origin of the word is Middle High German, Old High German *brant*, Middle High German *brinnen*, Old High German *brinnan, brennen*.

Dictionary of Regional Language Variants (Ammon et al., 2004) does not include mentioned above compound words. However, these lexical units are used in contemporary literature:

“Und dann fand er ein Mitbringsel für die Geburtstagsfeier, zu der er am kommenden Sonntag eingeladen war, einen *“Dirndllikör“*. Die Nachfrage ergab: Kornelkirschen in Trebernbrand angesetzt, eine Rarität” (Blassnig & Ladstädter, 2006, p. 100). (“And then he found a treat for birthday party where he was invited next Sunday – *“Dirndllikör“*. Inquiry was made: berries of cornel put in brandy, a rare object”).

The fact that the word was written in quotes and its further clarification shows that the word is not quite common. However, *Dirndllikör* as well as other products made from cornel can be bought on the website with specialities from Austria - Aus-oesterreich.at. It is recommended to consume *Dirndllikör* with deserts, ice cream, to add it to salad dressings or to enjoy it as it is: *Dirndllikör übers Dessert, übers Eis, zur Verfeinerung von Dressings, oder einfach pur genießen* (Aus-Oesterreich, n.d).

Dirndlbrand, der is mentioned on the official web-site of Ministry of Agriculture, regional development and tourism of Austria – *Original Pielachtaler Dirndlbrand* (“original brandy made from cornel berries from Pielachtal region”). There is a description of the beverage on the website:

“Traditionell hergestellter österreichischer Qualitätsobstbrand aus den Früchten der Kornelkirsche (*Cornus mas L.*) aus der Region Pielachtal, Niederösterreich” (Bundesministerium Landwirtschaft, Regionen und Tourismus, n.d). (“Traditionally produced Austrian fruit brandy from cornel berries from Pielachtal region, Lower Austria”).

Another national non-alcoholic herbal drink is a registered trademark - *Almdudler, der*. It is a compound word that consists of two morphemes: *Alm, die* and *Dudler, der*. According to DUDEN dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) *Alm, die* means a “mountain meadow”. It derives from the word *Alp* (“the Alps”) – from Middle High German *alben*, derived from *albe, Alp*). DUDEN Dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) explains the lexical unit *Dudler, der* as jemand, der dudelt (“someone who blows”). In this example suffix *-er* is a word forming element of the second part of the noun *Almdudler, der* – *Dudler, der* and used to determine kind of activity.

As specified in DUDEN Dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) and Dictionary of Regional Language Variants (Ammon et al., 2004) *Almdudler, der* means a “herb-infused drink”. DUDEN Dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) refers to the use of the word mostly in Austria, while Dictionary of Regional Language Variants (Ammon et al., 2004) refers to the territory of Switzerland and Germany.

Austrian advertising society (Österreichische Werbewissenschaftliche Gesellschaft) as a special edition devoted to trademarks published a book in the year 2000 “Almdudler – nur eine Limonade?” (Almdudler – is it just a lemonade?). Master of philosophy Martina E. Maurer analysed the success story of the trademark. First of all, she finds the causes in origin of the drink, referring to Austrian traditions and quality (Maurer, 2000, p. 32).

DUDEN Dictionary (DUDEN online – Wörterbuch, 2020) does not specify neither the noun *Dudler, der* nor the verb it is derived from – *dudeln* as typical words for Austrian German language. However, in her study Martina E. Maurer refers to the Dictionary of Vienna dialect (Wörterbuch der Wiener Mundart) where the verb *dudln* is explained as a kind of throat singing. In addition to this Martina E. Maurer (2000, p. 32) compares the lexical unit *dudeln* to the words from foreign languages that contain the same root, e.g. *dudlati* in Czech Republic, *dudy* in Poland and *doedelen* in Holland.

CONCLUSION

Vocabulary is the most changeable part in language system. There are many borrowed words in Austrian German due to its linguistic interferences with neighboring countries in the period of Austro-Hungarian Empire. But this is not the only one difference that allows Austrian German to be officially recognized national variant of German. Word building in Austrian German also has its particularities and extensive use of suffixes is one of such specific features.

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