Abstracts

Elena Antonova-Ünlü
Testing the Interface Hypothesis: The evidence from fossilized errors in the use of Turkish case markers
pp. 1-23.

Sorace & Filiaci (2006) proposed the Interface Hypothesis (IH), according to which interface structures requiring interface between syntax and other cognitive domains are more likely to be vulnerable to incomplete acquisition and fossilization than structures that involve syntactic knowledge only. The aim of this study is to provide a piece of evidence validating or rejecting the IH by investigating the use of case markers in Turkish by native speakers of Russian who are highly proficient speakers of Turkish and have been residing in Turkey for a long period. Fictional narratives are used in the study as the tool for data collection. The findings reveal that the participants demonstrate native-like use of Turkish case markers the production of which does not involve external interface. The use of case markers of direct objects, which involves the activation of external interface, is marked with fossilized errors and/or incomplete acquisition in the production of the participants. The findings of the study can be used as a piece of evidence in favor of the IH.

Keywords: Interface Hypothesis, case markers, Turkish, native speakers of Russian

Martina Gračanin-Yüksek
A Note on –mAdAn (önce)
pp. 25-42.

The paper discusses the morphological make-up of the converbial ending *–mAdAn* in Turkish adverbial clauses denoting temporal antecedence (*before*-clauses) and negative manner (*without*-clauses). In clauses denoting temporal antecedence, the converbial ending is optionally followed by the postposition *önce* 'before'. The argument presented in the paper is that the converbial ending *–mAdAn* contains a negative marker *–mA* only in clauses where it is not followed by *önce*, while when the postposition follows, it contains the homophonous nominalizing suffix instead. Evidence for the claim comes on the one hand from the fact that *–mAdAn önce* clauses do not license negative polarity items (but *–mAdAn* clauses do), and on the other, from the fact that

–mAdAn önce clauses allow an addition of a negation marker to the converb (but *–mAdAn* clauses do not).

Keywords: *–mAdAn (önce),* temporal adverbial clauses, converb, negation, NPI's

Aysun Kunduracı
Possessedness as a Category and its Morphological Expression in Turkish
pp. 43-62.

In this study, I argue that possession or "possessedness" is a grammatical category in Turkish, and that the function of the so-called "3rd singular possessive" suffix *-(s)I* is not to mark person and number but to mark only possessedness. This makes *-(s)I* a possessive suffix without either person or number information. The analysis proposed for the function of *-(s)I* also involves the suffixation of this suffix, possessive constructions (where *-(s)I* appears in), and the structural, morphological, and semantic properties of possessive constructions in Turkish. The analysis is based on the assumption that morphology is an autonomous component, and is framed within a process-based approach to morphology, in which form and meaning are treated as separate but mapping processes. The study also addresses agreement and a set of interesting data from other languages, supporting the current argumentation.

Keywords: Turkish, morphology, possessedness, person, agreement, possessive constructions

G. Songül Ercan, Özge Can
A Proposal for the Pragmatic Categorization of Idioms: Turkish idioms referring to "man"
pp. 63-83.

Idioms are expressions with a sense different from their compositional meaning. With their own idiosyncratic meanings, idioms reflect the cultural richness and the thought patterns of the society in which they are used. In this study, first a discussion is presented on how idioms should be represented in idiom dictionaries and then a pragmatic approach is proposed for sorting idiom entries in dictionaries as an alternative way to alphabetical ordering. The data of this study is drawn from three top-selling dictionaries with idiom entries either containing the word "erkek" (man) or those invoking the sense of *man* implicitly. The findings of the research reveal that studies which use syntactic

and semantic classifications cannot provide a fully comprehensive picture of the idioms under discussion; therefore, it is suggested that idiom dictionaries should be reorganized based on pragmatic criteria. The results of the study may shed light on material development for teaching Turkish as a native or second/foreign language. Furthermore, using such pragmatic criteria for classifying idioms considering their cultural and conceptual aspects can also have implications for preparing a mind map of Turkish within the framework of computational linguistics, which also deals with semantic networks, a popular area of research today.

Keywords: Idiom, idiom dictionaries, syntactic categorization, semantic categorization, alphabetical ordering, pragmatic categorization