NINTH FORUM ON BULGARIAN GRAMMAR

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The Ninth Forum on Bulgarian Grammar titled, The Theory of Parts of Speech – Tradition and Prospects, was held on October 20 and 21 2022. The Forum was organised by the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Department of Bulgarian Language at the Faculty of Philology at the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv.

This edition was dedicated to one of the most distinguished Bulgarian linguists – Prof. D.Sc. Ivan Kostadinov Kutsarov.

The forum offered a discussion on a broad range of topics related to classical and novel approaches to grammar, encompassing (1) the traditional division of parts of speech and contemporary theoretical accounts; (2) the principles of the parts of speech distinction; (3) word classes with respect to morphology and syntax; (4) word classes in descriptive, structural and functional grammars.

The scholarly discussion was centred on (though not limited to) the following issues:

• Should parts of speech be viewed only as an instrument for description and classification, or can they be regarded as universal categories?
• Is it possible to establish common criteria for defining word classes across languages, or are such criteria necessarily language-specific?

The 2023 Supplement issue of Balgarski ezik features 23 papers based on talk presented at the forum.

Stoyan Burov’s paper, Core and Periphery within Parts of Speech, advances the idea that a core and a periphery may be distinguished within each word class and goes on to provide evidence in favour of the assumption that the core is
defined with reference to both the prototypical semantics and function and the prototypical grammatical category characteristic of the respective part of speech. In her study titled *On the Traditional Lexical Semantic and Grammatical Semantic Features of the Parts of Speech* Vera Marovska gives an overview of the traditional differentiation of the major parts of speech, defending the idea that the main criterion for constituting a part of speech is for it to possess at least one morphological category that distinguishes it from all other parts of speech. Konstantin Kutsarov presents *A New Classification of the Parts of Speech in Modern Bulgarian. Taxonomic Terms and Principles*. The central claim of the proposed classification is that a word class should consist of words with the same formative potential, expressing identical grammatical and morphological categories. *The Class of Adjectives in the Bulgarian Normative Grammar – a Formal Approach* by Ruska Stancheva and Milen Tomov deals with the description of the class of adjectives in Standard Bulgarian from a functional perspective. The authors outline the features employed in the differentiation of the class, the subclasses of adjectives, their functional paradigm and structural features. Galina Petrova poses the subject of *Pronominal Clitics as Particles*, focusing on clitics’ functional spectrum. The author’s account centres on solving two key issues: distinguishing the morphological status of the different uses of clitics and identifying the different functions of clitics as particles. In her study *Georgi Gerdzhikov’s Views on Parts of Speech and the Grammatical Dominant of Inflectional Languages* Krasimira Aleksova uses as a point of departure the classification of the parts of speech described by Georgi Gerdzhikov in order to propose an extended version of his theory. Krasimira Petrova’s contrastive study *The Functional-semantic Field of Interjections in Bulgarian and Russian* adopts the so-called field principle towards the internal organisation of the linguistic items that form the functional-semantic field of interjections. In her paper, *Parts of Speech within the Universal Dependencies Initiative: Status and Discussion*, Petya Osenova addresses the modelling of the parts of speech and their lexical and grammatical characteristics within the framework of the multilingual Universal Dependencies initiative. Maxim Stamenov’s study on *Subjectless Sentences, Impersonal Verbs, Predicatives and Subjectivity-expressing Forms in Bulgarian* analyses the predicative agreement mechanism and the possibilities for realising the category of subjectivity in Bulgarian subjectless sentences. *Parts of Speech as Clause Constituents, or Do Verbs Always Occupy a Separate Syntactic Position* presents Svetla Koeva’s account of the semantic and syntactic properties of Bulgarian modal and phase verbs, which answers the question whether they form a complex predicative unit with the verb they attach to or constitute a separate one. Verka Sasheva’s *Impersonal-predicative Words in Bulgarian and their Place among Word Classes* discusses the question of whether impersonal-predicative words may be considered an independent word class (part of speech). In her paper on *The Dif-
ferentia Specifica of Compound Prepositions in the Bulgarian Linguistic Tradition Laska Laskova offers a critical overview of the modelling of multiword prepositions in descriptive grammars, thematic studies and lexical resources.

In her study, Some Aspects of the Category of Voice in the Bulgarian Normative Grammar, Tatyana Aleksandrova deals with the grammatical category of voice as represented in the normative grammar of Bulgarian. The author illustrates the formal approach adopted in the description of the category through the study of simple syntactic groups consisting of voice-marked forms of different types of verbs. Krasimir Chakarova presents her paper On Two Controversial Concepts in Contemporary Bulgarian Linguistics: Modal Words and Modifiers, where she studies the terms modal words and modifiers. The author makes an analytical account of the main views on the two concepts to the end of answering the question whether these terms may be used to name independent parts of speech. Milena Videralska traces the evolution of pronouns as a part of speech, as well as the trends in the way they are defined in contemporary linguistics. Her paper on The Place of Pronouns among Parts of Speech and the Characteristics of the Category of Person addresses those pronominal features that have led to the pronouns’ unification into a single class of words despite the diversity of forms subsumed under it. Antoaneta Dzheleva and Maria Anastasova deal with The Old Bulgarian Demonstrative Pronoun съ as a Subordinate Element in the Verb Group and its Equivalents in Old English. On the basis of material excerpted from Old Bulgarian Gospel texts and the respective Old English, Greek and Latin translations, the authors outline a model for the analysis of pronouns based on two types of characteristics – a semantic-grammatical and a communicative-pragmatic one. Yulianna Chakarova’s paper Parts of Speech through a Cognitive Lens: Potential and Challenges seeks to answer the questions: Should parts of speech be viewed only as an instrument for description and classification, or can they be regarded as universal categories?; and Is it possible to establish common criteria for defining word classes across languages, or are such criteria necessarily language-specific? Velka Popova’s study on The Emergence of Word Classes in Early Bulgarian Language Ontogenesis. A Pilot Corpus Study focuses on the extraction, analysis and systematisation of data representative of the earliest evidence of the emergence of word classes in the process of children’s language acquisition. Krasilina Koleva-Kostova and Hristiana Krasteva explore the Prosodic and Intonation Features of Words Functioning as Different Parts of Speech in Questions in simple and complex sentences and focus on the differences in the prosody and intonation of question words when functioning as different parts of speech. Based on material excerpted from a bilingual parallel corpus, Ivan Derzhanski and Olena Siruk’s article Between Attenuative and Excessive: Bulgarian въз- and Ukrainian за- offers a comparison of the productivity and uses of the prefixes under consideration as expressors of attenuative and excessive meaning. The authors come to
the conclusion that the Bulgarian въз- adjectives and the Ukrainian за- adjectives rarely correspond to one another. Zhaneta Zlateva’s Typology of Doublet Adjectives (Based on material from the Official Spelling Dictionary of the Bulgarian Language, 2012) addresses doublet adjectives as reflected in the current spelling norms and analyses the manifestations of this phenomenon at each linguistic level. In her paper, On the Independent Status of Particles, Desislava Dimitrova regards participles as an independent word class on the basis of their morphemic structure, thus supporting the idea for their exclusion from both the verbal and the adjectival system proposed in the literature.

Below we give a concise chronology of the previous editions of the Forum.

**First Forum** *Meaning and Structure in Language: Means of Representation* organised by the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 27 November 2014.

**Second Forum** *Grammar and Pragmatics* organised by the St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 19 November 2015.

**Third Forum** *Functional Grammar – Achievements and Prospects* organised by the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 20 October 2016.

**Fourth Forum** *Interdisciplinary Studies in Bulgarian* organised by Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 26 October 2017.

**Fifth Forum** *The Dynamics of Ideas in Syntax at the Turn of the 21st Century* organised by the Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 18 October 2018.

**Sixth Forum** *Grammatical Systems in Synchrony and Diachrony* organised by the South-West University Neofit Rilski and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 17 October 2019.

**Seventh Forum** *Innovation Processes in the Grammar of Contemporary Bulgarian* organised by the St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 22 October 2020.

**Eighth Forum** *Predication, Predicates, Predicatives* organised by Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski and the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 21 and 22 October 2021.

The **Ninth Forum** *The Theory of Parts of Speech – Tradition and Prospects* brought together scholars from the Institute for Bulgarian Language Prof. Lyubomir Andreychin, the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv, the St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo, the South-West Uni-
A special session dedicated to Prof. D.Sc. Ivan Kutsarov was held during the Forum. Krasimira Chakarova and Vasil Stamenov from the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv offered a tribute to *The Scientific Legacy of Prof. Dr. Sc. Ivan Kutsarov and the Achievements of the Plovdiv Linguistics School of Morphology and Functional Grammar*. The authors presented Prof. Kutsarov’s contributions to the morphology of modern Bulgarian, functional semantic grammar and Slavic studies as well as his central role in the foundation of the Plovdiv school of morphology and functional grammar. A complete bibliography of the works by Prof. Dr.Sc. Ivan Kutsarov has also been published.

The talks given at the Ninth Forum on Bulgarian Grammar have been uploaded on the YouTube Channel of the Institute for Bulgarian Language *The written word remains. Write correctly!*

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