

From the Editor

This second issue of our journal includes fine contributions on linguistics and oriental languages, beginning with formal phonology (Savoia and Baldi, Bafile) and formal syntax (Salles) and the latter's applications to bilingualism (Cocchi and Pierantozzi), language disorders (Moscati and Vottari), and second language acquisition (Bellucci and Dal Pozzo). Reflecting the variety of interests that characterizes our journal, articles in formal grammar are accompanied by works on the sociolinguistics of Occitan varieties of Southern Italy (Micali) and on the description of Ukrainian (Del Gaudio). The final part of the issue is given over to studies on Semitic languages (Legnaioli, Cecere) and on Chinese (Zuccheri).

The article of Leonardo Savoia and Benedetta Baldi (Firenze) addresses vocalic harmonizing processes depending on the adjacency between [u] and a velar (or labial) consonant in the domain of the stressed nucleus. Laura Bafile's (Ferrara) article focuses on the nature of segmental primes. Heloisa Salles (Brasilia) examines the syntax of ditransitive predicates in Dialectal Brazilian Portuguese as opposed to Brazilian Portuguese and European Portuguese, in a contribution combining Romance dialectology with formal linguistic models.

Gloria Cocchi and Cristina Pierantozzi (Urbino) administer an experimental task involving German/Italian code-switching in relative clauses to both bilingual speakers and proficient second language learners, deducing conclusions as to the underlying structure of relative clauses from their results. Vincenzo Moscati and Ilenia Vottari (Siena) test different agreement configurations with two groups of children diagnosed with phonological (P-SLI) or grammatical (G-SLI) Specific Language Impairment; they find that the Determiner-Noun condition is the easiest one and that no extra cost is associated with plural agreement in the Subject-Verb condition. Giulia Bellucci and Lena dal Pozzo (Firenze) present data on the acquisition of Finnish locative cases by Italian learners (lower-intermediate level), interpreting their results in the light of their analysis of the six locative cases of the language.

Irene Micali (Firenze) examines forms of conservation, contamination and change in phono-morphological and syntactic structure, and in the lexicon of the Occitan variety of Guardia Piemontese (Calabria) in order to assess its chances of survival, in a medium to long-term perspective. Salvatore Del

Gaudio (Kiev) points to the fact that in the Italian Slavistic tradition, papers devoted to linguistic issues and/or aimed at a description of the Ukrainian language are almost inexistent, setting himself the task of filling this gap with a preliminary description of the language. Serena Zuccheri (Bologna) focuses on the training of professional translators and interpreters of Chinese in the highly specialized field of health care, discussing the creation of bilingual terminological records for teaching purposes and the production of different kinds of classroom exercises and activities and their validation.

Alberto Legnaioli (Firenze) contributes an article on two Ancient Hebrew lexemes that belong in the lexical field of time, *yrh* and *hds*; the meanings of these signifiers are described in detail and three lexical units are identified: *hds1* 'month', *hds2* '(day of) New Moon' and *yrh* 'month'. Giuseppe Cecere (Bologna) focuses on two variant readings (*tarfiq* vs. *tazyiq*) of a rare term employed by Ibn Baṭṭūta to describe the "head between knees" Sufi practice, supporting the choice in favor of *tazyiq*, but also interpreting Ibn Baṭṭūta's references to this Sufi posture, in the light of Jewish-Muslim relationships in Medieval Egypt.

As ever, the journal exists because of the collaborative efforts of its authors, reviewers, editor and publisher. I take the opportunity to thank the reviewers, the Open Access Lab (LabOA) of the Department of Languages, Literature and Intercultural Studies Department (LILSI) of the University of Florence and especially Dr. Arianna Antonielli who is responsible for the actual production of the journal. A warm thanks goes to Dr. Rosangela Lai who follows all of the phases of the creation of a new number from reviewing to proofreading.

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