

Kristóf Edit

*Inflection particles in dictionaries
presented using the examples of the lemma signs **aber**, **ja** and **schon***

English Summary

Research interest in inflection particles (below IPs) began at the beginning of the 1970s, with the communicative-pragmatic shift in linguistics. Although IPs had been the subject of intensive study in the 1930s, and have been described from many aspects, the subject literature is, even today, largely unanimously of the point-of-view that IPs only serve certain communicative-pragmatic functions and as symbols for the position of the speaker on a given subject. For this reason, my dissertation focused on two main goals:

- (a) providing an answer to the question of whether IPs should only be categorized as having a contextual or even a denotative meaning, and, if the question may be answered affirmatively, it follows that
- (b) one should search for whether an answer to this question, as to the meaning of the question from a lexicographic aspect, can be found in a German-Hungarian expanded dictionary.

The legitimation for my choosing this line of inquiry and focusing on the lexicographic aspects of the subject of my research may be found foremostly in the fact that the basic principle used by dictionaries make only a rough delineation between linguistic symbols as autosemantic and synsemantic, and that dictionaries are traditionally focused on autosemantic nouns. Therefore, it has become imperative to apply semantic and lexicographic theories in relation to each other, i.e. to focus practical lexicographic activity on the semantic distinctiveness of IPs. This of course denotes the description of a type of reference called “dictionary references for IPs”, for which this reference type has up until now not existed, and must therefore be created.

My analyses were made focusing solely on the use of the lemma symbols **aber**, **ja** and **schon**, and those dictionaries which could be evaluated and critically researched on the basis of their representation of IPs in German and Hungarian. These were: “DUDEN-Deutsches Universalwörterbuch“ (1983), “Deutsches Wörterbuch“ published by Wahrig (1988), the

“Handwörterbuch der deutschen Gegenwartssprache“ (1984), “Langenscheidts Großwörterbuch Deutsch als Fremdsprache“ (1998), “Deutsch-Ungarisches Wörterbuch“ published by Halász (1986), “Deutsch-Ungarisches Großwörterbuch by Halász, Földes and Uzonyi (1998) and “Deutsch-Ungarisches Handwörterbuch“ by Hessky (2000). Both the monolingual and bilingual dictionaries were investigated according to the same aspects: important for my investigations of them were their treatment of how IP words were classified by type, how specific demonstrative IPs were noted, how their importance was described, the treatment of their relevant homonyms, and as to the structural construction, as well as their parallel characteristics.

Consequences of the investigation of the treatment of the three selected lemma symbols may be formulated thus:

- The classification of any word in a dictionary must be made more precisely.
- Descriptions of the meaning of a word should not include any reference to the emotional attitudes of the speaker. They must rather either contain the ‘minimal meaning’ of the IPs or the ‘broader meaning’ of the IPs and their homonyms.
- The individual IPs which occur in a citation, and also their homonymic forms, must be presented and explained in complete exemplary sentences.
- The conditions as to how IPS should be intoned must be concretely indicated.

The focus of the dissertation, to obtain a meaning-minimalistic, lexicographic presentation of German IPs in a German-Hungarian dictionary, presented using the lemma symbols *aber*, *ja* and *schon*, could only be *partially* realized: the examples remain in a state of *transition* between maximal and minimal descriptions of meaning, as the structure of their classification is, due to the manner they are *distributed in a type of sentence* has remained maximal, although the lexicographic presentation has become minimal, so that the too generally specified initial meaning may be either listed as to its *minimal* or *overlapping meaning*. Whichever meaning is given to a specific lemma symbol in a citation always depends on its gradated functional type and on its homonyms, and one must expect difficulties which refer strictly to the individual function types or to the gradated types which occur in the language.

Publications:

- 1999: *”Partikeln als Wortklasse – gibt es sie oder gibt es sie nicht?”* In: Balaskó, M. & Kohn, J. (Hg.) *A nyelv mint szellemi és gazdasági tőke. A VIII. Magyar Alkalmazott Nyelvészeti Konferencia előadásainak gyűjteményes kiadása. III. kötet.* Berzsenyi Dániel Tanárképző Főiskola: Szombathely, 379-384 [tanulmány]
- 2000: *”Ursula Brausse: Lexikalische Funktionen der Synsemantika. Tübingen: Gunter Narr, 1994, 174 Seiten”* In: Werkstatt, Arbeitspapiere zur germanistischen Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaft, 1/2000, Kossuth Egyetemi Kiadó: Debrecen, 163-166 [recenzió]
- 2003: *”Die lexikographischen Darstellungsmöglichkeiten der deutschen Abtönungspartikeln aus bedeutungsminimalistischem Aspekt”* In: Porta Lingua-2003 Cikkék, tanulmányok a hazai szaknyelvoktatásról és -kutatásról. Lícium-Art: Debrecen, 199-205 [tanulmány]
- 2003: *”Attila Péteri: Abtönungspartikeln im deutsch-ungarischen Sprachvergleich. UNIVERSITAS SCIENTIARIUM BUDAPESTINENSIS DE ROLANDO EÖTVÖS NOMINATA DISSERTATIONES PHILOSOPHIAE DOCTORIS, Budapest, 2002, 279 Seiten”* In: Sprachtheorie und germanistische Linguistik. Nodus Publikationen: Münster, Kossuth Egyetemi Kiadó: Debrecen, 95-100 [recenzió]