

Summary

Subject Matter: Various means of precedence expression in modern German language.

Author: Gentsel Natalia Grigor'evna

Supervisor: Candidate of Philological Sciences, Associate Professor Mirzakhanova Ainabat Efletdinovna

This graduation paper is intended to reveal various means of precedence expression in modern German language. The material under study was taken from the Limas corpus that gave an opportunity to disclose preferences in the forms usage in different spheres of communication. The aim of the graduation paper is to systematize the means of precedence expression in modern German. The paper consists of the introduction, two chapters and the conclusion.

The categorical phenomenon of precedence has acquired a lot of forms in the course of its development since ancient times when perfectiveness and resultativeness enjoyed their special forms. Nowadays the German language exploits tense forms that possess the meaning of precedence as its primary one (Plusquamperfect) and those having precedence as a secondary function (Preterite, Perfect, Futurum II). The problems under review are commented upon in chapter one of the paper.

The second chapter presents the system of language means that express precedence in sub-sentences of the complex sentences. We came to the conclusion that all the means can be divided into two large groups: primary and secondary or those used in written official speech and those used in every-day conversations. The detailed analysis of various precedence forms are presented with the special accent on their shades of additional and problematic meanings, such as result, completeness and consequence. In informal speech Perfect forms supplant Preterite forms thus the idea of Tense and aspect being confused. Perfect is also preferable in the actions referred to as future ones.

The further development of the phenomenon of precedence may reveal the typology of the Germanic tense system actualised in bookish and informal contexts.