Language Works 4(1)

Language and communication are central to many fields of research and study - and with current US President Trump's rhetoric, the point "language matters" becomes more obvious than ever. In Language Works, students are given the opportunity to convey their perspectives on why language matters, how, in what contexts, and give their bids on how it can be researched and documented.

We hope you enjoy their well-written texts and thorough work as much as we have!

The articles in this issue

This issue consists of five contributions representing both different data types and research methods in the linguistic field.

Lærke Nørgaard Sørensen examines the use of linguistic markers that express epistemic modality and evidentiality in news articles about rape, robbery and burglary respectively and uses linguistic text analysis for the purpose.

Two articles in the issue are in the field of computer linguistics and automated text analysis.

Alesia Locker deals with how statistical methods and tools can be used to identify stylistic traits that characterize an author's texts, and she shows how the tools can be used in an experiment involving texts written by two columnists in an English news media.

Gustav Aarup Lauridsen, Jacob Aarup Dalsgaard and Lars Kjartan Bacher Svendsen have developed a statistical analysis tool that they present in their article. The analytic tool analyzes the individual words in a text, thereby identifying and categorizing the tone and emotional content with compelling results compared to both manual annotation and another tool developed for the same purpose.

The issue also includes two studies of social interaction where conversation analysis is used as an approach.

Liv Moeslund Ahlgren, Thea Helene Nørgaard and Hannah Fedder Williams analyze data from a study group and show how several shifts develop over the course of the conversation in the form of shifts between serious talk and non-serious sequences. They show that these shifts occur in negotiations between participants and that bodily resources such as gaze direction are part of this negotiation.

Lukas Møller Koch, Christian Emil Christensen, Lucas Paulsen and Sebastian Rasmussen are also concerned with the use of body language in their analysis of a handball coach's instructions to players on the bench during a handball match. In their article, they analyze the stages of instruction compared to instructions in contexts such as classroom interaction and show how

participants in this context alternate between focusing on the field and the ongoing conversation about tactical instructions.

Your article in the next issue?

As always we want to end with an invitation: Do you have a good idea or a project that could interest others? As a student, you may have an essay that could be turned into an article. As a teacher, you may have supervised or assessed an essay that you think could become a good article. Or you have perhaps participated in a conference, workshop, seminar or course that could be the basis for a thematic section/special issue of Language Works?

We are looking for articles of quality, but what you submit does not have to be perfect. We promise that we as editors will help you improve your article if you send it to us. All articles will get a review from an expert with suggestions for changes and improvements. So, it takes work to publish, but this is also a good way of improving your communication competences. We prefer that you write your article in English or Danish/Norwegian/Swedish, but should you wish to write in another language, talk to us about it.

Contact us if you have a draft, or just an idea, for an article. Contact info and information on the contents and format of articles as well as deadlines can be found on this page.