

Language Works 9(1)

Summer is fast approaching, and it is of course time for us to present to you yet another issue of the journal of Language Works in which we publish articles by dedicated students of language and linguistics. The current issue includes three very different articles – a testament to the range in methodology and topics of interest within our Danish linguistics communities! This time you can learn about translation of verbs from French to Danish, pronunciation issues for adult learners of Danish as a foreign language, and flirtatious messages in Tinder interactions.

Happy reading from the editorial team.

The articles in the current issue

What are the strategies of flirtatious messages on the dating app Tinder, and how do recipients then reply? Through digital Conversation Analysis, Thrine Victoria Jarrot Meline examines the nature of compliments and compliment responses and outlines the topics of such interactions. From this Danish case study, Meline reports that the most frequent topic of compliments is ‘appearance’, and the compliment recipients typically reply by ‘evasion’. Evasion as a communication strategy of the recipient is less common in studies from other languages, so Meline speculates about culture specific behavior regarding (sexually charged) compliments in a Danish language context.

In the second article, Maja Oresnik investigates the meta-phonological awareness of Slovenian learners of Danish as a foreign language. Which sounds are these learners most likely to mispronounce, and might their errors be connected to the lack of transparency in Danish spelling? Oresnik is curious about the role of orthography on nonnative pronunciation and using her own mother tongue as a case study, she finds evidence of native language transfer in the Danish pronunciation of her Slovenian participants. Furthermore, the study also indicates that these beginner learners apply knowledge from previously learned orthographic systems (e.g., English and German) when they reflect on the complex sound-to-letter correspondences in Danish.

In the final article of the current issue, Anne Sandfeld Holst Nielsen digs into the differences between grammatical aspect in French and Danish. Famously, French has two different past tenses to denote either ongoing or completed actions (*imparfait* and *passé composé*), but how does Danish make this distinction in meaning? Nielsen studies the translations of a literary text and finds that aspect is commonly marked in the structure of Danish verb clauses, e.g., by adverbials. The data summarized in the analysis exemplifies that the ways in which a language marks aspect depends on its morphological as well as syntactic structures.

Your article in the next issue?

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 perhaps you have 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 information and information about content and format of articles as well as deadlines can be found on this page.