

Descriptive studies of particular languages

French

90–109 Bossé-Andrieu, Jacqueline (U. of Ottawa). 'Lier', 'relier' ou 'interrelier'? *Bulletin of the CAAL* (Montreal, Canada), **11**, 1 (1989), 23–30.

When we read modern French writing, we notice the use of certain verb forms with the prefix *re* (*retrouver, rejoindre, relier*) or even double-prefixed forms such as *interrelier* when the simple form (*trouver, joindre, lier*) would do. Are such usages to be condemned? Before condemning them, it might be wise to understand why these forms are used when they are considered improper by most

grammarians. This article briefly presents the rules which govern the formation of verbs with the prefix *re*, *ré* or *r* and then proceeds to explain today's tendency to use, on the one hand, verb forms with *re* + vowel instead of *r* + vowel and, on the other hand, the preference for prefixed or double-prefixed forms instead of the simple verb.

German

90–110 Klaus, Hilde. Beobachtungen zu den Modefarbenwörtern in der deutschen Gegenwartssprache. [The use of colour terms in fashion in present-day German.] *ZGL* (Berlin, FRG), **17**, 1 (1989), 22–57.

The author demonstrates Anglo-American influences on the language of fashion. This is an area in which new coinages and loan words are common, and which contributes particularly to the development of colour terminology. Fashion colours from four sources, including the 1985 issues of *Vogue*, are analysed and compared with those from a previous corpus of 1959–61.

A basic distinction is made between simple and compound terms, but terms are sub-classified

according to grammatical and semantic criteria. In addition, 23 groupings are used, based mainly on semantic fields (e.g. terms associated with animals, birds, or fish: *mausbraun, hummerrot, lachs*). Four main types of semantic structure in compound terms are identified.

Usage of capital letters and hyphens in compounds is discussed, and attention is drawn to the close relationship between colour terms in the context of fashion and the terminology of the fine arts.

90–111 Ressler, Michael (Boston Coll.). The endings of the definite article as primary determinants in the adjectival phrase. *Die Unterrichtspraxis/Teaching German* (Philadelphia, PA), **22**, 1 (1989), 46–51.

This article presents a systematic approach to the teaching of German adjective endings. At the core of this system is the definite article, the endings of which (called here 'primary endings') constitute the one element which must be represented somewhere

within the adjectival phrase. The entire system is summarised in a one-page handout, and the bulk of the paper consists of suggestions for presenting this handout in the classroom.