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DIVERSITÉ ET IDENTITÉ CULTURELLE EN EUROPE

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DIVERSITATE ȘI IDENTITATE CULTURALĂ ÎN EUROPA

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EN EUROPE**

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București, 2012**

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GEOGRAPHICAL – HISTORICAL PATTERNS OF ROMANIAN IDENTITY

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Abstract:

The present study expounds a synthesis of the main cultural models leading to the present-day configuration of Romanian cultural identity. We start from the assumption that cultural identity is a *construct*, an ever-evolving process involving not only objective, externally induced factors, but also elements of willfulness. This perspective of analysis, also adopted by historians and cultural studies specialists, is based on the perception that the geographical location and historical events impinging on Romanian society along the centuries have created a matrix defining some of the present features of Romanian identity.

Key-words:

Cultural identity, Romanian, geographical parameters, historical parameters, cultural models.

THE LINGUISTIC INTEGRATION IN EUROPEAN UNION

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Abstract:

Since its beginnings, the history of western thought has considered language and politics as a definition what it is to be human. This article will focus on the main problems of linguistic policies in Albania, the present problems and the future developments in the framework of integration into the EU.

Linguistic identity is largely a political matter. As a result, either its background or its language itself gives the main characteristic of a nation. Nowadays, discussion revolves round the issue of a unique, global language. English has the role of the main language spoken all around the world.

Key words:

Linguistic identity, communication, loyalty, nationalism, linguistic rule.

**IN SEARCH OF SOMETHING NEW.
CHRONICLES OF DUTCH MOBILITIES IN
ARGENTINA BETWEEN 1880 AND 1914**

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Abstract:

Religion played a pivotal role in configuring the mixture between migrant delivering and receiving countries a couple of centuries back, although today the mobility is based on secular values. The present essay explores the life of Dutch migrants in Argentina, their expectations and reason to leave their homes behind. The religious compatibility between the Protestant and Catholic matrix was more than important in selecting or discarding Argentina as a first destination. In the 19th and 20th centuries, the point of gravity between delivering and receiving countries was determined by religion. The Korstanje life story is one among the thousands of Dutch migrants, which reflects the conditions of selective migratory flows which founded Argentina. Unlike modern mobile groups, many of the migrants were driven by cultural compatibilities and religious affiliation. The material imbalances that triggered their displacement to unknown lands were not solved once they arrived. In Argentina many of them were circumscribed to work without satisfying their basic needs.

Key Words:

Dutch migration, Argentina, mobilities, religion, Korstanje.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL, ARCHITECTURAL AND
VEGETAL METAPHORS
OF POSTCOLONIAL BRITISH IDENTITY IN
V. S. NAIPAUL'S *THE ENIGMA OF ARRIVAL***

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Abstract:

V. S. Naipaul's *The Enigma of Arrival* is a classic postcolonial autobiography, mapping out the geographical and cultural journey of the postcolonial migrant towards the mythologized centre of civilization, the imperial metropolis. In his Wordsworthian contemplation of rural England as a utopian site of natural, historical and cultural 'piety', Naipaul retraces the inscriptions of a teleological myth of Englishness underlying the grand historical narrative of the Empire and the utopian imagination of the colonial subject's mindscape. The present paper examines Naipaul's deployment of the symbolical valences of English archaeological sites, of architectural and garden landscapes in rewriting his own, as well as Britain's, postcolonial identity. The analysis highlights the historical and ideological significations of the consistent architectural and vegetal conceits of imperial glory and decay, informing this highly poeticised enactment of the colonial migrant's repositioning in the changing cultural landscape of post-imperial Britain.

Key-words:

Postcolonial, migration, cultural identity, hybridity, multiculturalism.

**WRITING TRANSGRESSION:
PRESERVING THE LANDSCAPE OF TRADITION IN
TANURE OJAIDE'S *GOD'S MEDICINE-MEN & OTHER
STORIES***

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Abstract:

Tanure Ojaide, a celebrated Nigerian poet, is a writer who is constantly in search for an alternative social vision to the degenerating socio-political concerns in Nigeria. Social concerns mediated by *orature* provide the predominant framework within which his poetry collections have been analyzed. At the debut of his writing career now spanning three decades, Ojaide's entry into the Nigerian literary landscape in 1973 was heralded by the publication of *Children of Iroko*. *God's medicinemen and other stories* is his first attempt at writing short stories. This anthology of short stories expresses a deep moral indignation, in its denunciation of the shameful state in which the socio-cultural ethos has been compromised in contemporary Nigeria. This paper evaluates the manner in which Ojaide explores the broad theme of the break-down of social and cultural norms in Nigerian society as exemplified in *God's medicine-men and other stories*. It also examines how, in the anthology, the complexity of the intersections that obtain between tradition and modernity has significantly shaped individual lives, focusing mainly on the way in which cultural hybridity serves to underscore the effect of this breakdown in contemporary Nigerian society.

Key words:

Imagination, transgression, socio-cultural, ethos, landscape, tradition.

DU POUVOIR. DE L'HORIZON ÉTHIQUE À CELUI ESTHÉTIQUE

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Abstract:

The political context seems to have established two stock phrases which encapsulate the meaning of the mechanisms of power – the 'struggle for power' and the 'intoxication of power'. If the power struggle is most fiercely enacted at the level of political speeches, which have to be convincing as to the truthfulness of the position they serve, the 'intoxication of power' is not confined to the domain of politics, it can be found anywhere within the realm of social relations. Then the question naturally arises: whatever inside us, innate in the fibre of our being, makes it possible for the powerful one to subjugate the less strong one? This question has multiple ramifications, pointing not only to the ethical horizon, but also to an aesthetic one. He who subdues another has on his side either the authority given by the particular qualities that he possesses or the ascendancy of the situation, dictated by various kinds of hierarchies based on age, social rank, more or less marked biological aggressiveness and sometimes sheer contingency. In the aesthetic realm, we sometimes find original answers.

In Samuel Beckett's play *Waiting for Godot*, the interpretation of power relations is actually based on a reversal of the poles of power. Paradoxically, the power lies not with the torturer, but with the victim, whose so called 'helplessness', regarded as the unconditional submission of a being for whom not to submit is both unconceivable and impossible, becomes in fact the power to understand the place and role meant for him in the game. Since it is the victim who sets the game, it follows he also leads it, so it is he who holds the real power. Besides, he knows to know beforehand something that the other misses: the harm of power has already become, through repetition, something banal.

Key-words:

Power, struggle for power, the intoxication of power, to dominate.

ROMANIAN CULTURAL DOMINANCE IN HABSBURG BUKOVINA

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Abstract:

Arbitrarily incorporated into the Empire, Bukovina was forced to exist in a foreign cultural environment and the people from Bukovina had to fight in order to preserve everything they had acquired and was being systematically damaged at that moment: language, customs, traditions, folklore, laws and common laws. Deliberately mixed up with Germans and Ruthenians – who were given rights the natives did not even dream of enjoying, in order to be more easily integrated – the natives had to bear their identity being erased and thus become „universal citizens of the Empire”.

Key words:

Bukovina, Austro-Hungarian Empire, culture, resistance.

THE HEALTH MEDIATORS AND THE NEED FOR AN INTERCULTURAL APPROACH TO HEALTH WITHIN ROMA COMMUNITIES

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Abstract:

Romania has a network of health mediators, meant to facilitate the communication between Roma communities and the medical staff. In this qualitative study, using data collected from three focus-groups with health mediators from Iași and Cluj counties, we provide significant information about the problematic issues related to the Roma population. The main challenges are the barriers affecting access to healthcare and the peculiarities of this ethnic group. Access to and healthcare provision would be improved with the development of the health professionals' cultural competences. Health mediators are the key elements in this process, all the more so as they are able to render innovative,

collaborative care and program building with family physicians and hospitals, committed to the comprehensive and preventive treatment of the Roma population.

Key words:

Cultural competence, health mediator, Roma community, healthcare.

**METHODS FOR SPEECH CONTACT ANALYSIS: THE
CASE OF THE 'UBIQUITY OF RHETORIC'.
PROOFING THE CONCEPTUAL CONSISTENCY OF SPEECH AS
LINGUISTIC MACRO-SETTING**

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Abstract:

In this article we will apply a method of proof for conceptual consistency in a long historical range taking the example of rhetoric and persuasion. We will analyze the evidentially present linguistic features of this concept within three linguistic areas: The Indo-European languages, the Semitic languages, and the Afro-Asiatic languages. We have chosen the case of the concept 'rhetoric' / 'persuasion' as a paradigm for this study. With the phenomenon of 'linguistic dispersion' we can explain the development of language as undirected, but with linguistic consistency across the borders of language families. We will prove that the Semitic and Indo-European languages are related. As a consequence, the strict differentiation between the Semitic and the Indo-European language families is outdated following the research positions of Starostin. In contrast to this, we will propose a theory of cultural exchange between the two language families.

Key words:

Conceptual coherence, rhetorics, persuasion, linguistical dispersion, cultural exchange.

**THE EFFECT OF TEACHER, PEER, AND SELF-
EDITING ON IMPROVING GRAMMATICAL
ACCURACY IN EFL LEARNERS' WRITING**

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to explore the effect of teacher, peer, and self-editing on the improvement of grammatical accuracy in writing, using three groups of participants. The first group engaged in teacher-editing, the second group engaged in peer-editing and

the third group engaged in self-editing. The results revealed that, compared to the peer-editing and self-editing groups, the teacher-editing group significantly reduced the rule-based errors in the revised drafts. The results revealed that the performance of the teacher-editing group was better than that of the other two groups, while the performance of the peer-editing group was better than that of the self-editing group regarding the correction of specific language errors in the revised drafts. This study contributes to teaching pedagogy by encouraging teachers to use editing, especially teacher-editing in the writing classroom and to focus on the correction of a few language errors so as to bring about language development.

Key-words:

Text editing, performance, correction, specific errors, written expression abilities.