

mgr Kamila Kwiatkowska

Linguistic and pragmatic competences of Polish youth from the East (based on a study conducted among students)

Doctoral dissertation written under the supervision of prof. dr hab. Jan Mazur

Summary

The subject of the research presented in this work are the linguistic and pragmatic competences of Polish youth from the East. The study involved three groups of students from Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan, studying at the so-called “zero year” at the Centre of the Polish Language and Culture for Polish People from Abroad and Foreigners at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin and at the Polish Language Centre for Foreigners at the University of Łódź.

Chapter 1 comprises information about the objectives and course of the research presented in the dissertation as well as the main criteria for selection of research groups. It also describes the tools used to collect the analytical material.

Chapter 2 refers to the communicative competences and language skills. The first part of the chapter presents the concepts of Noam Chomsky and Dell Hymes, which gave rise to further research on the competences of language users. The second part discusses different approaches to communicative competence and the place of developing and evaluating the language skills in modern foreign language teaching.

Chapter 3 concerns the issue of language errors, which is an important aspect of studies on the process of foreign language acquisition. The concepts of *system*, *norm* and *usus* as well as types of language norms are presented. The phenomenon of language transfer, the source of language errors as well as classifications and typologies of errors in source literature are also discussed.

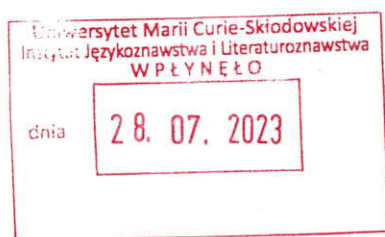
Chapter 4 contains a detailed characteristics of research groups, among others: the country of origin, age, gender, education, motivation to study and sources of knowledge of the Polish language.

Chapter 5 is dedicated to the analysis of results of proficiency tests of the students in three skills: listening comprehension, reading comprehension and grammatical correctness. The goal of the study was to analyse changes of the level of competences within particular skills. It was accomplished by a comparison of results of

the identical test conducted twice: at the beginning and at the end of the academic year. The statistical analysis was combined with a qualitative analysis: the attention was paid to the most frequent errors and their causes and the practical conclusions from the analyses have been presented.

Chapter 6 presents an analysis of the realisation of a genre pattern of the application letter. The first part of the chapter is dedicated to the place of the application letter in teaching Polish as a foreign language. Next, a characteristics of the genre pattern of the application letter is presented and a deepened analysis of texts representing the application letters written by the students is conducted.

The *Ending* presents a summary of the analyses conducted and provides answers to the research questions presented at the beginning of the dissertation.



Kamila Dzielkowska