ANGLOPHILIA
International Student Conference on English Studies

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Foreword

Men are mortal, but ideas are immortal.

Walter Lippmann

Since ideas proved to be a driving force behind each of the works that will be presented at this year’s International Students Conference on English Studies – Anglophilia, this book is not a mere collection of abstracts, but it also stands for numerous original ideas thought up by the young minds of this academic society. Brought together by their common love for the English language, our 40 student presenters from 17 European universities will do their best to help us open up new avenues for research and inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

The purpose of this conference is to both encourage fresh ideas and serve as an arena of their exchange. With this in mind, we hope that Anglophilia will make these valuable ideas come to life and by doing so act as an incentive for future generations of English students to continue developing their creativity and curiosity.

On behalf of the Organising Committee
Sunčana Sinković
John Milton’s *Paradise Lost* contains extensive descriptions of other worlds and actions of extra-terrestrial beings, who travel through space, visit earth, and interact with human beings. However, a critical tradition going back to the early eighteenth century urges the poem’s readers not to take any of this literally, but to approach such passages as ultimately allegorical in import. Milton, these critics argue, is writing in accordance with a long-established tradition of the allegorical epic, where such fantastic episodes are taken to signify meanings other than those they manifestly exhibit. But what if these readers are wrong? What if Milton consciously departed from this tradition and wrote a very different kind of poem? What if everything (or almost everything) in *Paradise Lost* is to be taken literally (or almost literally)? What if *Paradise Lost* is really a work of early modern science fiction – a work that draws, as this paper will argue, on advances in seventeenth-century science and natural philosophy as well as numerous other disciplines, along with Milton’s own theological and philosophical heterodoxies and heresies, to imaginatively reconstruct the cataclysmic events which transpired immediately prior to and immediately following the creation of the cosmos?
Technology permeates human lives, and its development is likely to continue at ever increasing rates. Over the past decades, digital technology in general and translation technologies in particular have drastically changed the face of translation (Austermühl 2001, García 2009). The most recent advances in machine translation (MT) are promising – or threatening, depending on one’s position – to bring down the language barrier as one of the last barriers to a fully globalized world.

Taking care to navigate the traps of “hard technological determinism” (Smith and Marx 1994), “technological orthodoxy” (Winner 1979), “reheated futurism” (Edgerton 2006) as well as “neo-Luddism” (Jones 2006), this talk will trace the development of translation technologies, starting with the inception of MT systems during and in the aftermath of WWII (Weaver 1949) and ending with solutions just being introduced at the cutting edge (Wu et al. 2016, Denero 2016, Toral and Sánchez-Cartagena 2017). We will look at how translation technologies have been shaped by economic, political and other factors, and how they themselves have in turn changed the landscape of professional and even amateur translation, not only in terms of the content being translated but, more importantly, in terms of the social and cultural relations involved (Pym 2004, Folaron 2010) and with regard to the very identity of the translator (Cronin 2003 & 2013). Finally, we discuss the potential of translation technologies to affect the future of intercultural communication in its broadest sense, and what this impact might mean for the studies and students of translation and languages.
The Emotional and Evaluative Basis of Discursive Metaphor

In cognitive linguistic metaphor studies there has been a turn from metaphor as a conceptual device (as formulated in the, now classical, conceptual metaphor theory; Lakoff and Johnson 1980) to metaphor as a discursive device (e.g. Musolff and Zinken 2009). Rather than exploring the conceptual characteristics of metaphorization as a human ability, this means looking into the effects of metaphor in discourse. The development has been paralleled by a shift from embodiment to sociocultural-and-embodied situatedness/groundedness. The aim of this paper is to explore the relationship between discursive metaphor and emotions on the basis of online sources, including news comments, forums and images/memes. I will claim that discursive metaphors in (certain) online communities are based on shared emotions (Stanojević and Čičin-Šain 2015). These metaphors: (1) may serve as a way of working through the shared emotions, and/or (2) may be based on a mechanism of metaphorical play, leading to increased emotional cohesion. I explore the nature of both cases, looking at their defining characteristics. These are primarily related to: the affordances of the environment, including its dialogal vs. dialogic nature, anonymity, (a)synchronicity, and, crucially, which values are presupposed as shared/common among the participants. As a result of this, two theoretical issues emerge: the role of language in metaphors, and whether conceptual and discursive metaphors are two aspects of the same phenomenon. I argue for a three-dimensional view (Steen 2008), but, unlike classical conceptual metaphor views, I believe in the defining role of language in metaphor.
London’s Mayors and the Decentralisation of Power in Great Britain

In 2000, the first direct elections took place in London to choose the mayor and the assembly that make up the Greater London Authority (GLA). The first mayor, Ken Livingstone, defied the Labour Party and ran as an independent candidate declaring that he would be the voice of Londoners rather than any political party. In 2003, he introduced the Congestion Charge which was subsequently enlarged, then reduced in size to cover the centre of the capital. Its aim is to reduce pollution in the city centre and raise funds to improve public transport.

Livingstone romped to victory a second time in 2004 having been hailed as one of the most influential people in Britain’s public services. This time round, however, he was the Labour Party’s official candidate because they preferred to win with the renegade than lose with one of the party’s apparatchiks.

Yet to some extent, “our Ken”, as Livingstone had become to be known, outstayed his welcome, turning the GLA into something of a “Kenocracy” that offended Londoners. The Conservatives fielded a candidate whom they thought could beat Livingstone on his own turf. Boris Johnson was indeed a celebrity politician better known for his gaffes than his ability to run a capital city but he was surrounded by a well-oiled political machine that took him to the top seat in London politics.

Johnson faced Livingstone again in 2012, both candidates having been chosen by their respective parties to compete again for the job of mayor. The incumbent, Johnson, won again but by a smaller margin than in 2008 and it was he who played a major role in opening the Olympic Games two months later. Many people feared that Johnson would use the mayoralty as a stepping stone up to the leadership of his party given that he quickly proclaimed that he would not be seeking a third term of office.

The 2016 mayoral elections boiled down to a duel between Zac Goldsmith and Sadiq Khan. The campaign was merciless and far more mud was slung than before but Londoners elected Khan with the biggest mandate that any British politician has ever been given. He is the first Muslim mayor of any European capital and this “son of a bus driver” has promised a different style of leadership whereby celebrity will be replaced by hard work in building consensuses round the main decisions.

This paper will look at the short history of London mayoral elections in the light of decentralised power in Britain and emphasise the political tugs of war that have taken place to give the mayor such a particular status in British politics.
Teachers’ Perspective on CLIL: A Case Study

In this paper we look at teachers’ experiences of teaching content subjects through the medium of a foreign language (English). Using semi-structured interviews, we explore the perspectives of eight teachers on the benefits and challenges of implementing content and language integrated learning (CLIL) in a private secondary school in Croatia.

While Europe has witnessed a significant expansion of CLIL, in Croatia it is still in its infancy and little support is available to schools which implement CLIL programmes. Although the benefits of CLIL are widely acknowledged, being a postmethod pedagogy and a new approach, it triggers significant changes in the educational context and creates challenges for teachers. The findings of this study show that CLIL motivates students, improves fluency, extends vocabulary, and provides opportunities for teachers’ professional development and collaboration with other colleagues. As for the challenges, the teachers emphasize difficulties finding appropriate teaching material, correlating the CLIL curriculum with the Croatian National Curriculum Framework and assessing students’ content knowledge, while keeping in mind the language objectives. Other findings reveal that there are differences between subject and language teachers with respect to the language and content-related challenges and the frequency of use of L1 during CLIL lessons.

It will be argued that teachers need more language and pedagogical support, more collaboration within the school and national institutions, CLIL coaches and supervisors. To conclude, a successful implementation of CLIL requires closer cooperation among teachers, learners and CLIL stakeholders.
From Folklore to Fiction: Early Literary Manifestations of the Vampire Motif

Starting with the first mention of the term ‘vampire’ in the eleventh century, this paper will follow the development of the vampire concept from Slavic folklore to the canonisation of the literary vampire motif with Bram Stoker’s 1897 novel *Dracula*. For this purpose, the key elements (e.g. supernatural strengths and weaknesses) of the theme will be analysed in the first literary manifestations of the lore, starting with Byron’s 1816 *A Fragment of a Novel* and Polidori’s 1819 *The Vampyre*, continuing with *Varney the Vampire* by an unidentified author, Le Fanu’s *Carmilla* and Hare’s *The Vampire of Croglin Hall*, and ending with Stoker’s *Dracula*. These key elements will then be contrasted with their equivalents from the folkloric vampire myth, revealing significant differences. Literary vampires evolved from the mute and mindless corpses of Slavic villagers to cunning aristocrats with a sinister agenda, who prefer to drain the blood of beautiful young girls instead of randomly killing their fellow villagers. These changes can be attributed to the scapegoat quality inherent to the vampire motif: from the height of the vampire phobia in eighteenth century Serbia to nineteenth century vampire literature and the current vampire craze, vampires have always represented a society’s deepest fears. Whereas Slavic villagers were so terrified of epidemics that they blamed their own dead, Victorians projected their fear of noblemen suppressing the masses and their mistrust of anything sexual upon their favourite fictional foes. Contemporarily, the suspicion of the monster within ourselves is only beginning to be explored, promising many more years of vampire lore to come.
This paper offers an analysis of the virtual worlds in Lewis Carroll’s novel *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There* (1871) and the film *The Matrix* (1999), written and directed by The Wachowskis. Special emphasis is given to the use of the mirror as a portal between the real and the virtual world, which is why those two works were chosen for such an analysis. Namely, Alice passes from the real world into the virtual world, while Neo in *The Matrix* is engulfed by the mirror when waking up from the virtual cyberspace into the real world. The paper classifies the virtual worlds in *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There* and *The Matrix* in terms of the nature of their virtuality and identifies the similarities and differences between the two virtual worlds. Those differences are then connected to the nature of the protagonist’s relation to the virtual world and to the power of language in the virtual world. By relying on Kenneth Rufo’s and Rosemary Jackson’s interpretation of Jacques Lacan’s notion of the mirror stage, the paper concludes that the differences between the status of the protagonists’ in the two virtual worlds stem from the different underlying tendencies in terms of Lacan’s orders, i.e. from a difference between a tendency towards the imaginary and a tendency towards the symbolic.
Modal Verbs and Characters in *Mrs Dalloway*

The aim of this paper is to prove that analysing the organization of meaning in grammar can lead towards better understanding of literary works and literary characters. According to Halliday, we can perceive the text as an object in its own right or we can focus on the text as an instrument, through which we are able to discover some other dimensions – social, psychological and philosophical, concerning characterization and interpersonal relationships in novels. The first task in understanding fictional characters, their dilemmas, thoughts and perspectives through their language discourse is to opt for the parts of grammar to cover and analyse within a literary corpus and literary context. In this particular case, we will be looking into modal verbs as distributed among fictional personages in the novel *Mrs Dalloway*, which will eventually help us learn about their inner worlds and motivation that compose the general atmosphere of the novel. Grammar organizes our experience with language and our experience with the world and through analysing modal verbs in characters’ discourses we get to know more about their attitudes towards truth values of propositions, about their processes of passing judgment and about processes of evaluation in different situations. These are all highly subjective and self-revealing in terms of fictional personages and their psychological, philosophical and social characteristics. Modal verbs and modality represent only one aspect that can be analysed so that we can account for textual meanings, since a literary scholar must never be deaf to linguistic aspects of texts.
The musical is arguably in itself a very postmodern form. It gives one a possibility to show an alternative perspective to almost any event or narrative by combining it with singing and choreography. Unlike traditional musicals, contemporary productions deal with the widest possible range of subjects. I chose to isolate two examples: *Jesus Christ Superstar* (1970) and *Hamilton: An American Musical* (2015).

I chose these two because, apart from being real masterpieces themselves, they also have many subtle details in common. Both deal with immensely important topics, which make people emotional (the last days of Jesus Christ and the birth of the American nation) and give them an unusual twist, therefore challenging historical ‘truths’ and already established opinions. They both have an unreliable narrator, a person considered the antagonist in that particular story, but at the same time they humanize that person and make him relatable to the audience while making the protagonist seem distanced and flawed, thus blurring the traditional division between the two characters. They also give voice to women and confront many problems that are traditionally taken for granted.

Both musicals exploit many postmodern narrative techniques, showing us that even the most familiar stories can be told in a new way and appear extremely contemporary. In my presentation I will show many examples of this and prove that both musicals are indeed postmodern masterpieces which perfectly resonate with today’s audiences.
The purpose of my research was to explore the translation process of a language learner with special focus on his decisions, values, goals and strategies during translation. During the analysis of an in-depth interview and a cognitive map of my case-study (Érsek, 2017), the following important result emerged: the student applies his strategies to solve or prevent problems which arise in the course of his translation and possibly to achieve a sense of contentment by adapting to his goals/values (e.g. to the intentions of the author and to the demands of the target audience). The strategies of the participant might be divided into three units: searching (e.g. use of dictionaries), decisional (e.g. use of the most common word) and methodological (e.g. marking the interim solutions) strategies. Based on the analysis of these strategies I have concluded that a parallel can be drawn between the translation process of the investigated student and the so-called search-inference framework, which describes the process and stages of goal-directed thinking and decision making, proposed by Baron (2008). Even though this kind of segmentation of the translation strategies into clear-cut units cannot account for the whole operation, in the light of the search-inference framework it may contribute to a deeper understanding of the complex cognitive processes that underlie translation.
An Investigation into the Role of Wordplay in Shakespeare’s *Hamlet* and *Much Ado About Nothing*

Often written off as mere comic relief, the pun can at times be overlooked in Shakespearean criticism. This paper offers an investigation into the diverse role of wordplay in Shakespeare’s plays across genres. The focus will be centred around a comparison of *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Hamlet*. With *Much Ado About Nothing* thronging with puns beginning with the title, and *Hamlet* acting as the pseudo playwright—the frequency of his puns mimicking Shakespeare himself—these plays act as case studies, showing the issues that recur through the canon. This paper looks into the relationship between punning and three separate areas. An area where language and silence are instrumental is gender studies, therefore the interaction between gender and wordplay will be explored firstly, with particular focus being applied to how puns act in the relationships between male and female characters. The development of theatre and comedy will be considered as the paper considers the role of the clown, and his relationship to punning and how this reflects on societal attitudes to humour in theatre. A theme that runs through both of the plays, though represented in vastly different results, is deception. By studying the patterns of puns in the scenes most filled with deception, we can observe the impact the theme has upon wordplay, and vice versa, as well as how both these aspects interact with genre. The results of this paper offer a broad scope of issues, hoping to prompt further study in relation to the topic of puns.
Multimodal Discourse Analysis of Advertisements: Hidden Messages

All modes of mass communication give space to advertisement. It is a very profitable and lucrative business that created the ‘battlefield’ for all corporations. Thus, visual communication has become the key interest for linguists over the past years due to the fact that advertisers often use the combination of texts and images to convey a particular meaning and to promote their ideology. The most informative content is reflected through our use of language, but images may carry even more. Language can sometimes be subordinated or even absent. All advertisements often combine several communicative modes. Thus, multimodal discourse analysis uses multiple semiotic resources, detects them separately and then analyses them individually and in relation to one another. The semiotic resources can include a plethora of different modes: language, music, images, etc. Moreover, every discourse is inherently multimodal, not monomodal. It is impossible to study one mode independently of others, because modes often work together to convey a particular meaning. The analysis of the Burger King advertisement can be used to portray the application of several communicative modes. Interpersonal, ideational and textual functions of the advertisement serve to detect all implicatures made by the producers and the overall message of the advertisement. They undoubtedly present the starting point for analysing communicative functions of modes. Nevertheless, to understand the meaning and the message of this advertisement one has to know the context in which it was produced – the constant competition between Burger King and McDonalds as well as their ‘bickering’ through mocking advertisements.
Multimodality in TEFL Classroom

Multimodality is rarely focused on in classrooms, especially in Croatia. By definition, multimodality describes communication practices in terms of the textual, aural, linguistic, spatial, and visual resources used to compose messages. Therefore, it is of great importance in everyday communication on all levels (from interpersonal to personal communication, to media and even intrinsic communication). Considering this, teachers should implement more multimodal tasks in their classrooms in order to elevate the level of awareness of their students. This kind of multimodal exposure would especially improve deeper understanding of the communication process in second language learners, such as Croatian students who are rarely exposed to native speakers.

Basic groundwork for this kind of use of multimodality was laid down by the international project called *The Distributed Little Red Hen Lab*, established by Francis Steen and Mark Turner. The main goal of the project, besides the theory, is the development of new computational, statistical, and technical tools to assist research into multimodal communication. While learning about the project, we came up with some multimodal tasks and ways to present multimodality to Croatian high school learners of English, which we will show during the presentation. Furthermore, one practical example of a multimodal classroom task will be thoroughly explained.
When we first encounter Herman Melville’s short story *Bartleby, the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street*, it is hard to imagine the multitude of meanings it contains and the interpretations it inspires. However, after a thorough analysis we see how Melville’s genius manages to offer us political, psychological, economic and other ways of reading it. This paper’s main focus will be the psychological interpretations, i.e. Bartleby as an example of mental illness. Throughout the years, this character has been diagnosed with a number of conditions – depression, anorexia, agoraphobia, schizophrenia etc. This paper will examine the likelihood of Bartleby having these conditions by comparing Bartleby’s symptoms with those of each mental illness, and discuss if it is at all possible to diagnose someone just through the view someone else gives us of them, or in this case through what the narrator tells us about Bartleby. Although I would prefer not to offer an alternative interpretation to Bartleby, this paper will also briefly touch upon the political interpretations of Melville’s story.
Translating Logograms –
Heptapod Language in the movie Arrival

The first part of this paper briefly introduces the general plot of the movie and the heptapod (alien) language portrayed in it. After giving the definition and a quick overview of logographic languages, we will try to determine whether the heptapod written language can be classified as one and if so, how one would approach translating such a language. We will then delve into the issue of translating without a contact language, also known as monolingual discovery procedure.

Just like in real life, the movie shows technology being used to increase the efficiency of the translating process and that is why in the second part of the paper we will discuss possibilities of parsing the logogram shown in the movie and the Wolfram programming tools that were used in the movie as parsing programs. We will also reflect very briefly on problems arising from parsing and translating into English other logosyllabic scripts, such as Chinese. Lastly, to put it in a framework of human languages, we will also discuss the problem of word identification many speech process and information retrieval programs face today and how this would affect hypothetical language of the heptapods in the movie.
Words Have Feelings Too!
Interdisciplinary Approach to
Emotion Detection from Text

Emotions not only influence most aspects of cognition and behaviour, but also play a prominent role in the interaction and communication between people. With current multidimensional research on emotions being vast and varied, all researchers of emotions, both psychologists and linguists alike, agree that emotions are at the core of understanding ourselves and others. As a primary vehicle of communication and interaction, language is the most convenient medium for approaching research on the topic of emotions. Not only is one of the main functions of language the emotive one, but the interplay of emotions and language occurs at all levels and modalities of language. Textual data, in particular, can be beneficial to emotion detection due to its syntactic and semantic information containing emotional states, along with the informative content. A general overview of the emotion models based on the research in psychology, as well as the major approaches to emotion detection from text found in linguistics, together with examples of useful applications will be provided. From psychologists analysing session transcripts in search for any subtle emotions to public opinion mining on social networks and the development of AI technology, emotion detection from text has an abundance of practical uses. As the methods for emotion detection from text become more accurate, the uses and applications of emotion detection from text will become more numerous and diverse in the future.
The aim of this paper is to give an insight into the phenomenon of English as a Lingua Franca. The focus is the pragmatics of ELF communication, in particular its form and communicative effectiveness in international student exchange. The goal is to demonstrate how and to what extent ELF speakers achieve mutual understanding. Therefore, a selection of communication strategies that contribute to mutual understanding is presented. Furthermore, the numerous functions of communication strategies, which also helped to prevent problems, are mentioned. For my research, qualitative methods were deployed; i.e. spoken ELF informal conversations of exchange students who are currently on their Erasmus stay at the University of Graz were tape-recorded and accordingly transcribed. The analysis showed that regardless of the highly variable nature of ELF, communicative problems rarely occur in ELF interactions. This is mainly due to the effort ELF users make to prevent communicative problems and also ensure mutual understanding.
A Short History of Femininity in American Science Fiction

This paper aims to propose an interpretation of femininity in American Science Fiction. Following a chronological layout, we endeavour to generate a timeline of model works considered essential for the development of the genre. Initially we develop our own definition of science fiction and signify its place in literary history. Moreover, we point out the most significant works that put the issue of femininity in question. It is inevitable to compare male and female writers’ approach to this topic; therefore, we will provide a short observation of whether the writer’s gender influences the work’s tone. By referring to feminist literary theory, first we will try to define the traditional notion of femininity and to diverge from it. Postmodernist and poststructuralist thoughts are used as a theoretical basis in order to carry out a literary analysis of the other, the alien, and the cyborg in science fiction works and their resemblance to women’s position in a patriarchal world. Finally, we attempt to predict the development of this topic in the future.
Factors Influencing VLS Preferences

Vocabulary is a significant factor in learning a second language. Vocabulary learning strategies (VLS) have become an area of current interest in language teaching, learning and research. Throughout history, many researchers and applied linguists have observed various factors such as gender, level of education, etc. that might influence learners’ choices of VLS. However, the question of what exactly influences learners’ choice and frequency of usage of certain VLS and certain types of VLS still remains open. The overall aim of this research was to explore which type of VLS learners use most frequently and whether any of the factors such as gender, level of education, years of learning English as a foreign language or learners’ individual preferences and perceptions influenced this. The sample consisted of 320 learners, both elementary and high school, of English as a foreign language. The participants filled out the Croatian version of the VOLSQES questionnaire that measured learners’ preferences regarding VLS use as well as a demographic questionnaire that provided information about learners’ preferences and perceptions regarding certain aspects of English. The results of the analyses revealed certain differences between learners’ perception of the difficulty of English and their choice of incidental type of VLS as well as some positive and negative relationships between learners’ preferences and perceptions and years of learning English and their choice of certain types of VLS. This indicates that some differences and relationships do indeed exist but that further investigation is required.
Lost in Thoughts – How to Teach English as a Foreign Language to Dyslexic Students

Dyslexia – a learning difficulty that has become an ever-growing problem in our fast-paced world, impeding the efficient education of countless people. Predominantly, the acquisition of foreign languages is of paramount importance, yet it can prove to be the very monster hiding under the beds of the affected. Although it fundamentally manifests in form of difficulties with reading and spelling, its most severe effect can be observed when students are confronted with a foreign language. Not only do they have to overcome obstacles in different areas of language learning, but they are also likely to face psychological problems owing to this condition. Therefore, special techniques and tasks need to be employed by teachers for them to be motivated and to be able to catch up to their peers. So what can be done to provide proper aid for these students? Is it even possible for them to reach proficiency? In my research, I would like to approach the problem from different perspectives and make an effort to find viable solutions to reduce the gap between regular and dyslexic students. I also hope to assist the audience in understanding this phenomenon more, and to think about how to tackle the issue, should they ever encounter it.
The American Dream and Suburban Horror in *The House Next Door*

The American dream is a concept that refers to equal possibilities of success for every individual, and suburban communities represented the materialization of this dream in the period following the end of World War II. According to Wiśneiewska, many Americans, particularly the white and middle class, saw suburbia as the cultural means for escaping their problems and anxieties. According to Botting, the twentieth century American Gothic fiction had also departed from the tradition and ‘domesticated’ the Gothic styles and devices – Anne Rivers Siddons’ *The House Next Door* (1995) draws on the Gothic tradition of the haunted house, but brings the horror closer to home by placing it in a suburban context. This presentation approaches the space of suburbia in reference to various other constituents of the so-called suburban dream, such as the issues of gender, class and status, as well as the matter of mindless conformity in a consumer society, using *The House Next Door* as a case study. I will refer to authors such as Gaston Bachelard, Yi-Fu Tuan, Dorotea Wiśneiewska and Kalene Westmoreland to explore the ways in which the suburban space expresses the fears and insecurities of its inhabitants, as well as the ways in which it mirrors the failure of the American dream.
There is mounting evidence which suggests that phonetic characteristics of the first language (L1) influence the way in which second language (L2) phonetic features are acquired (Flege, Munro, and MacKay 1996). Significant progress has been made in examining voicing in plosives in different languages on the basis of voice onset time (VOT) (Lisker and Abramson 1964; Chao and Chen 2008), which is regarded as a reliable acoustic cue for measuring the timing of voicing in plosives. A feature of plosive production by speakers of Austrian German is the neutralization of voice contrast in word-initial position in conversational speech (Wiesinger 1996, 2008). The aim of the study was to investigate if this neutralization of voice contrast in Austrian German influences the production of the corresponding sounds in English. For this purpose, ten native Austrian German speakers from Graz (AGG) who learn English as a foreign language in school were tested on their production of word-initial prevocalic plosives. Their realization of voice contrast in AGG (Experiment 1) and English (Experiment 2) plosives was examined by measuring VOT. The findings of Experiment 1 revealed that the majority of participants neutralized voice contrast in AGG bilabial and alveolar plosives while maintaining this contrast in velar plosives. Some participants were observed to produce a significant VOT difference between all voiced and voiceless AGG plosives. The results in Experiment 2, however, showed significant intra-subject variability in terms of VOT production, which was interpreted to represent an intermediate stage to acquiring voice contrast in the L2.
Margaret Atwood envisioned an oppressive near future where women's rights are virtually non-existent. Women's lives, and their every movement, are under the control of the male members of their family or the theocratic government.

The presentation is about the spaces forcibly assigned to the various castes of women present in the novel. This includes the Handmaids, whose every moment is monitored closely, yet who are still able, to an extent, to experience the world outside their residences, and the Wives, who—despite their alleged social prestige—live the most restricted lives and are mostly confined to their homes. The only women given a degree of freedom are the Aunts, who are the ruling regime's loyal servants, and are consequently not subject to the same restrictions as the Handmaids or the Wives.

The novel offers a poignant insight into the lives of an entire oppressed group of people who are all oppressed in different ways, and who often occupy the same spaces which they perceive very differently. To provide a theoretical basis for the relationships between these women and their environment, the most important authors will be Gaston Bachelard and his seminal work Poetics of Space, Yi Fu Tuan and his work *Space and Place – The Perspective of Experience* and David Harvey with his works on social justice and the spatial relations within a city.
The paper aims to explain the techniques and influences behind the famous *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. Despite the movie being one of the finest examples of slapstick comedy produced by the Monty Python troupe, the paper will show that it is, in fact, much more than just that. Through an analysis of the sketches and various elements of the movie, such as the lack of horses and Terry Gilliam’s parody of medieval drolleries, the paper will show how the movie subverts not just the basic tenets of the Arthurian lore, but also the general traditional approach in historiography that favours grand narratives. As the movie shows the impossibilities of maintaining historical narratives, it can also be seen as an exercise in postmodern historiography, which is marked by a cynical and distrustful approach towards all written sources, as well as a certain hostility towards grand narratives.
Feminists or Women in Crisis? 
The Inner Voices of Female Protagonists in 
Doris Lessing’s *The Golden Notebook* 
and Rabih Alameddine’s *I, The Divine*

The Nobel Prize-winning author and the recent laureate of the French literary award Prix Femina give their female characters a chance to tell their own, difficult stories. *The Golden Notebook* consists of four notebooks that have different functions for Anna Wulf, the novel’s protagonist and a writer by profession, whereas *I, The Divine*, carrying the subtitle *A Novel in First Chapters*, is composed exclusively of first chapters in which the narrator Sarah Nour el-Din, a painter and a beginning author, attempts to tell the story of her convoluted life, but never manages to go further than the first section. The two women, who grew up in Africa and in the Middle East, are shaped by their experience, solitude and life outside the traditional boundaries of society.

In my presentation, I compare *The Golden Notebook* and *I, The Divine* in relation to their form, structure and major themes appearing in the novels. Moreover, I argue that the works use a similar approach when it comes to the creation of the protagonists while the building up of their crises is achieved by means of fragmentation of their narratives. In the first part of my analysis, I discuss the structure of both novels by emphasizing the innovativeness and formal experimentation. In the second part of my presentation, I focus on the thematic similarities between the two works and try to discuss how feminist and postcolonial readings of the novels shape the interpretation of the fictional narratives created by the protagonists.
Why is “It” Always Gendered?
Deconstructing Gender in *The Stepford Wives*

In her infamous essay *A Cyborg Manifesto* (1983), Donna Haraway perceived the notion of the cyborg as a promising construct, one that could perfectly embody the idea of a post-gender world. It offered an opportunity to represent, in one body, permanently partial identities. The cyborg suggested a way out of the maze of dualisms in which we have explained our bodies and provided a means of deconstructing the male/female binary opposition. The cyborg’s body was perceived as a construct constituted out of numerous fragments not requiring the or/or division, but an and/or opportunity. Even though Haraway’s cyborg resided in this post-gender world, it seems as if numerous narratives want to prove that when technology intersects the body in the realm of representation, sexual difference is always marked upon the body. Throughout the course of this presentation I will discuss one such narrative—*The Stepford Wives* (1972), written by Ira Levin—and show that cyborgs are border entities only in that they challenge the binary man/machine opposition but are, at the same time, reduced to the level of sexual identification. In the attempt to position the cyborg’s body within a contemporary context, I will refer to authors such as Dona Harraway, Anne Balsamo, and Judith Halberstam to prove that the notion of a post-gender world is still inconceivable and somewhat utopian. Ultimately, I will question the ability of the cyborg to represent a gender beyond the body and embody an entity beyond the human.
From Poe to *South Park*: The Influence and Development of Lovecraft’s *Cosmic Horror* in American Culture

H.P. Lovecraft’s ‘Cosmic Horror’ has been a staple of horror and gothic fiction, and therefore American culture, for more than 80 years. In this paper I examine the development of this genre of horror, starting with Edgar Allen Poe’s influence, and trace its development up to contemporary popular American culture exemplified by the TV show *South Park*. While Lovecraft’s material always draws from the same concept of the fear of the unknown and human powerlessness in the face of greater forces, the context, sources and reasons for this powerlessness have constantly changed over the decades. In this paper I offer an examination of where this idea of ‘Cosmic Horror’ originally came from, how Lovecraft developed it further and, ultimately, how American culture has adapted the source material to fit a contemporary context. By contrasting Lovecraft’s early works with Poe’s, I shed light on the beginnings of the sub-genre before taking a look at the height of ‘Cosmic Horror’ in Lovecraft’s most famous texts of the Cthulhu myth and ultimately look at a trilogy of *South Park* episodes to put all this into a modern American perspective. By doing so I reveal how Lovecraft’s tales and the underlying philosophy have always been an important part of American culture and how they continue to be up to today.
Celtic Influences on English and the Proposed Atlantic Sprachbund

English and the Insular Celtic languages share a number of characteristic linguistic features that cannot be inherited from Proto-Indo-European, some of which strikingly differ from features that are common throughout modern-day Europe, i.e. the so-called Standard Average European. An example of such a peculiar feature is the absence of the NP-external possessor and exclusive use of the NP-internal possessor, cf. Croatian slomila mu je ruku, German sie hat ihm den Arm gebrochen, but English she has broken his arm, Welsh mae hi wedi torri ei fraiche. Further examples of features specific to English and Insular Celtic include non-differentiation between reflexives and intensifiers, the periphrastic progressive verb form, and the cleft construction.

The proposed paper will discuss the linguistic features specific to English and Insular Celtic and argue about the existence of a sprachbund, considering the historical sociolinguistic conditions as well. It will also touch on a proposed hypothesis about the origin of these features. The paper should thus be a contribution to both the areal and the historical linguistics of the British Isles.
Metalinguistic Awareness in Bilingual People

What do bilinguals have as metalinguistic advantages? More precisely, do bilingual people demonstrate greater metalinguistic abilities in tasks that require selective attention to information? Recent research has suggested that bilinguals have an advantage when it comes to analysing language forms, owing to the exposure to two different languages. Baker (2001) and Appel and Muysken (1987) also support the idea that exposure to two different linguistic codes promotes a more analytical orientation to linguistic operations which leads to a greater awareness of the language systems. For instance, the analysed results from Bialystok’s (1987) conducted research, where children were asked to judge or correct sentences for their syntactic acceptability irrespective of the meaningfulness, suggest that bilinguals have greater cognitive control of linguistic processes than monolinguals. Similarly, Chin and Wigglesworth (2007) suggest that bilinguals have greater awareness of the arbitrary or conventional relationship between the words and the objects because they are constantly aware of the two competing forms for one meaning. In Ben-Zeev’s (1977) study, bilinguals also performed better in games that involved substituting words for other words and answering questions but preserving the meaning of the old word. Researchers such as Skutnabb-Kangas (1981) and Chin and Wigglesworth (2007) argue that bilinguals are better at analysing phonological segments. When asked to identify the ‘odd one out’ or to provide minimal pairs, bilingual outperformed monolingual children.
Many have theorized about the nature of the postmodern condition – the state of the world in which the signifying chain breaks, postmodernism marks the end of metanarratives and the birth of a hyperreality constructed out of a plurality of universes of discourse. No one has, however, illustrated this idea as brilliantly in a work of fiction as Donald Barthelme has in his novel *Snow White*. A gem of postmodern literature, the experimental novel is a flawless representation of both postmodernism and postmodernity. It is chaotic and fragmented – which is exactly what it claims the world to be. Challenging the relationship between the signifier and the signified, Barthelme creates a text in which the form is what carries information, rather than the content. Playing with language, structure, and visual representation, Barthelme (post) modernizes the story of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, turning it into a postmodern manifest. This paper analyses the strategies Barthelme has used in order to deconstruct the notion of Grand Narratives and create a representation of the world as a fragmented (hyper)reality void of fixed meaning.
The Troubles and the Aftermath: Sectarian Violence in Northern Ireland

The history of the United Kingdom is a colourful array of diverse national histories written by people with diverse and often conflicting views on their national and religious identities. One of the bloodiest examples of such conflicts are The Troubles, a violent thirty-year ethno-nationalist and sectarian conflict between Northern Ireland’s Irish nationalist community (self-identified as Irish and Roman Catholic) and its unionist community (self-identified as British and Protestant). The aim of this paper is to investigate the historical background of the conflict in Northern Ireland, provide an overview of the main events that marked the era, and research the effects it had on the Ulster society of today. The body of the paper consists of three parts – *The Causes* deals with historical circumstances and factors which shaped the mindset of both the Catholics and the Protestants as two opposing communities with mutually exclusive views on the constitutional status of Northern Ireland; *The Conflict* presents some key events of The Troubles from the Battle of the Bogside, one of the first major confrontations of the rival parties, to the Good Friday Agreement of 1998, which officially ended the civil war; and, finally, *The Aftermath* explains the political and social consequences of The Troubles and provides an insight into the segregated society of contemporary Northern Ireland. The conclusion of the paper stresses the importance of The Troubles for the history of the United Kingdom on the basis of the arguments previously expressed in the body.
Multilinguals and Language Choice in Dreams

This study explores the complex question of multilingual dreaming, more specifically, the choice of language in multilinguals’ dreams. Studies have already proven the importance of proficiency for dreaming in a language other than the participants’ L1, so the study’s intention was to look at language choice more closely and take into account the frequency of use and the influence of the environment on dreaming in L2, L3, L4 etc. The instrument used was a questionnaire combined with a dream journal distributed to 11 students who have studied at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Zagreb. All of the participants are Croatian speakers between 22 and 25 years of age who have learnt more than one foreign language so far. The questionnaire was used to determine the participants’ language proficiency, frequency of use of their languages and whether they were living in a country where their L1 was not spoken. The participants were asked to keep a dream journal for one month and write down references to language in their dreams. The dream journals demonstrate the complexity of the matter of multilingual dreaming and provide a more detailed insight into multilingual dreaming.
Continuity Theory of the Evolution of the Human Language in Light of New Genetic and Comparative Research

Although there are many approaches to analysing the problem of the evolution of the human language, the author will discuss the topic by analysing the main arguments of two dominant theories – the continuity approach, and the discontinuity approach. The advocates of the discontinuity approach, such as Noam Chomsky and Eric Lenneberg, argue that there is no point in trying to explain the human language by comparing it to animal communication systems since they are so qualitatively different, and they also argue that the occurrence of human language is the result of a sudden and relatively recent evolutionary event. These arguments were undisputed for the majority of the last century, which has led to almost complete abandonment of the continuity approach, which holds opposite arguments – that the evolution of the human language was slow and gradual, and that exploring the animal communication system is fruitful for understanding human language. The paradigm shift from exploring the animal communication system to exploring animal cognition has shown the fallacy of the first argument of the discontinuity approach. Research done in the genetics field and the discovery of FOXP2 gene, which is mostly, but not completely, responsible for the successful use of human language, has shown the fallacy of the second argument of the discontinuity approach, as now there is empirical evidence that the evolution of the gene FOXP2, and the ability of language with it, is a result of a long and gradual evolution. Two of the main arguments of the continuity theory are thus vindicated, which has made way for research in a new direction.
Pleasure Insight: The Development of the Human Body from Aldous Huxley’s *Brave New World* to Modern-Day Plastic Surgery

This paper analyses the representation of the human body in Aldous Huxley’s *Brave New World*. It looks at how the late 19th and early 20th century faith in scientific and technological progress is portrayed in the novel, especially Huxley’s employment of the idea of eugenics in creating a literary vision of the future for the human race. Huxley describes a social hierarchy whose division is concentrated in the field of vision, as those who provide a more pleasurable visual stimulus to the beholder belong to the highest social castes. The planned mass production and consummation of pleasure is then argued to be the realisation of Utopia as first mentioned in Plato’s *Republic*. The paper proceeds to translate Huxley’s vision of the human body into the 21st century practice of plastic surgery where corporal aesthetics achieved through medical procedures are seen as human capital investments. The suggestion is that the point of difference between the literary vision of the future and the world of the present is that Huxley established social stability in the unsurpassable social predetermination, while plastic surgery provides a means for social fluidity within the modern-day values of universal equality.
Fare Ye Well: 
On Competition Between “Ye” and “You” in Early Modern English

This paper looks at the competition between nominative and oblique forms of the second person formal pronoun in Early Modern English. It explores the major factors that were possibly responsible for the generalisation of the oblique form, and the disappearance of the subject form. The influence of both linguistic and extra-linguistic factors that resulted in the altered pronoun system will be discussed as it is believed that social circumstances might have played a significant role in ousting the nominative case form.

In order to obtain the necessary language data, two methods will be followed. Firstly, English historical corpora will be consulted so as to identify the particular period in which the major decrease in the usage of the nominative form can be observed. Additionally, the parsed corpora will provide further evidence relating to the usage of the oblique form instead of the subject form. Secondly, three literary texts compiled during the Early Modern Period will be analysed regarding the mentioned pronouns so as to acquire the information on situational and social contexts in which the two forms of the pronoun can be found. The paper first briefly outlines the theoretical background of the morphological and syntactic properties of ‘ye’ and ‘you’ in Early Modern English. Secondly, it examines the examples from the corpora and literary texts. Thirdly, it proceeds to discuss the motivation behind the generalisation of the oblique form ‘you’. The paper concludes with a brief summary of the main points and an outlook for future research.
The novel *Butcher’s Crossing* by John Williams illustrates how striving for profit and the exploitation of nature are connected. It tells the story of four men who venture on a buffalo hunt in the 1870s. They kill the animals to make a fortune with the hides. However, afterwards they cannot find buyers for the hides and the slaughter turns out to be futile. The novel’s themes were pivotal in the 1960s, when it was published: the desire profit, the commodification of animals, the laws of the free market, and the destruction of nature. Ultimately, the hunters undergo the strain of the hunt and the moral struggle of a mass slaughter out of a purely capitalistic motive. The novel makes a moral judgment about this issue, and in extension, about the economic system of the United States. The novel was published during the Cold War, when capitalism was viewed more critically than ever before. This paper will draw on ideas of Terry Gifford, Leo Marx, Jack Brenner, Wendy Woodward, and Jennifer Parker-Starbuck to show how nature is invaded because of the desire for profit. Firstly, the conception of nature as a pastoral will be analysed. Afterwards, the portrayal of animals will be connected to capitalism. Lastly, hunting will be analysed historically and compared to a capitalistic quest for profit. Thus, *Butcher’s Crossing* will be read as a value judgment on capitalism because it illustrates how hunting, as a metaphor for capitalism, destroys the pastoral realm of American nature.
This paper explores the instances where a prepositional phrase (PP), which typically consists of a prepositional headword and its complement, has its headword complemented by another PP. Typically, grammars explaining this phenomenon focus primarily on either spatial or temporal (as extensions of the spatial relations into the temporal sphere) meanings that the complements carry. Hence, grammars routinely identify prepositions that may be complemented by a PP and, consequently, those which may not. Among those which may, the preposition ‘for’ is rarely, if ever, included. However, the corpora suggest that there are instances in informal language when ‘for’ may be complemented by a PP. The aim of this article is to compare different types of PPs as complements and pay special attention to the phrasal complements of ‘for’. The use of these is not very common in English but more so in Slovene. I will conduct a short quantitative analysis of how native speakers of either English or Slovene perceive the acceptability of different sentences with instances where ‘for’ is complemented by a PP. Based on the research conducted, I will organise different usages of PPs as complements of ‘for’ according to meaning. I hypothesise that meanings other than spatial and temporal will be identified in the process.
Who Needs “Holden Caulfield”?:
From Reception to Legitimation

Salinger’s *The Catcher in the Rye*, as one of the most influential and culturally relevant novels of the 20th century, has often been put behind the myth of its protagonist, who is frequently considered a universal symbol of the American post-war teenage era. Our goal is to examine how ‘Holden Caulfield’ was formed in regards to dominant cultural values of its matrix context, but also to dismantle this very myth because, as will be shown, its process of constitution has often excluded important factors such as the post-war identity politics or how the novel itself relates to the literary conventions of modernity, all in favour of a biased approach on the grounds of traditional moral or essentialist concepts of youth. The novel’s reception will thus be particularly emphasized in order for us to analyse the relationship between the Catcher and the myth of the Catcher, and to note potential discrepancies between them, which might offer a broader picture than the one painted in and through the cultural perception of Holden. Finally, the ambivalent position of a modern subject will be outlined in regards to one’s institutional and linguistic determination, which draws attention to the blurred borders between the two major cultural paradigms of the 20th century and underlines the symbolic power of the literary medium and its relation to the complexity of (post)modern cultural dynamics, as well as discursive mechanisms that take part in its establishment.