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Best, Karl-Heinz

Sprachliche Einheiten in Textblöcken

1-12

Abstract: If one segments a text in passages of equal size then it can be shown that entities of different kind abide by a special law known as *Frumkina's law*. In German linguistics this idea has been proposed already by Zwirner & Zwirner about 30 years before Frumkina (1962) as „Blockmethode“ (Zwirner 1967: 2449). In this article some further evidence will be given for this law.

Köhler, Reinhard

Quantitative Untersuchungen zur Valenz deutscher Verben

13-20

Abstract: Quantitative properties of German verb valency are investigated taking into account the distribution of syntactic-semantic variants of the verbs, the distribution of sentence patterns, the distribution of the number of alternative semantic subcategories that an actant can take, and the functional dependency between the number of potential actants and the number of alternative semantic subcategories per variant.

Lvova, Nadija L.

Semantic functions of English initial consonant clusters

21-28

Abstract: This paper is a study of relations between sounds and meanings, namely between English initial consonant clusters and their semantics. Using the chi-square test, statistically significant relations are established between the semantic and phonetic units.

Best, Karl-Heinz; Altmann, Gabriel

Some properties of graphemic systems

29-39

Abstract: In this contribution some properties of the graphemic representation of German and Swedish phonemes will be examined. The study has a tentative character, as it is not yet known whether the examined properties are applicable – *mutatis mutandis* – to other languages or scripts. In order to be able to generalize, different other languages must be processed. Here the following properties are described: graphemic uncertainty, grapheme size, graphemic load of characters, and character utility. No evaluation of frequencies is strived at.

Serdelova, Kvetoslava

Some properties of slang words

40-45

Abstract: Slang words can have properties which are not conspicuous with standard words. Using some Slovak slang words, different kinds of familiarity and a kind of semantic uncertainty are operationalized.

Antić, Gordana; Altmann, Gabriel

On letter distinctivity

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Abstract: A script system must possess a certain distinctivity to ensure ease of writing and recognition. This property can be operationalized and computed in terms of the difference between a given symbol and all the other symbols. In this article, the distinctivity of Arial letters, and of the Latin alphabet as a whole printed in Arial, will be analyzed. The method can also be applied to other scripts.

Hřebíček, Luděk

Contextual relationships

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Abstract: In this paper the principle of compositeness is used to analyse connections among language constructs united in a semantic system of a text. This principle is well-known in linguistics as Menzerath-Altmann's law. Its basic formula has the structure of a power law. General circumstances of this principle are applied to contextual relationships forming the semantic space of a text.

Grzybek, Peter; Kelih, Emmerich

Häufigkeiten von Buchstaben / Graphemen / Phonemen: Konvergenzen des Rangierungsverhaltens

62-73

Abstract: The present study raises the question in how far low-level linguistic units, such as letters, graphemes, sounds and phonemes, follow one and the same pattern as to their frequency distribution. Based on Altmann/Lehfeldt's (1980) study on 63 samples from 38 different languages, a separate re-analysis of the letter/grapheme vs. sound/phoneme samples is made, concentrating on the empirical entropy and repeat rate, on the one hand, and their theoretical calculations derived from the geometric and Zipf-Mandelbrot distributions. As a result, there are no significant differences as to these two global measures. This finding is interpreted in terms of a strong argument in favor of an analogical behavior of these linguistic units.

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