

Some Thoughts on Research

Student's Email

Ciele:

Základným problémom, ktorým by som sa v práci chcela zaoberať je skúmanie slov napodobňujúcich zvieracie zvuky. Hlavným cieľom práce by bolo ilustrovať rôznorodosť týchto slov, ukázať ich variabilné tvary vyskytujúce sa v rozprávkach rôznych autorov, resp. zberateľov, ako aj v riekankách. V prípade rozprávok by som chcela porovnať zvukomalebné slová obsiahnuté v anglických textoch s ich prekladmi v korešpondujúcich slovenských rozprávkach.

Jadro práce by som chcela členiť na tri kapitoly. V prvej by som sa chcela zaoberať so základnými charakteristickými znakmi zvukomalebných slov a ich delením. Až potom by som začala s rozborom slov, ktoré imitujú zvieracie zvuky. Do tejto časti by som zahrnula aj porovnanie onomatopoických výrazov vyskytujúcich sa nielen v angličtine a v slovenčine, ale aj v maďarčine (v niektorých prípadoch by som dokonca uviedla aj niekoľko zaujímavých príkladov z iných jazykov). Nakoniec by som uviedla stručnú charakteristiku detského jazyka, pre ktorý sú onomatopoické slová práve tak príznačné.

V druhej kapitole by som chcela charakterizovať rozprávku ako žánr a potom by som sa zaoberala porovnávaním zvieracích zvukov vyskytujúcich sa v slovenských a anglických prekladoch známych rozprávok (rozprávky Grimmovcov, H. C. Andersena a P. Dobšinského).

Tretiu kapitolu by predstavila analýza anglických riekaniek. Aj túto časť by som uviedla stručnou charakteristikou daného žánru a až potom by nasledoval samotný rozbor.

My Answer

Zdravim Vas,

dakujem za odoslanie popisu prace, k tematickemu smerovaniu prace mam niekoľko pripomienok a navrhov.

1. Co je zakladnym cielom prace - skumat roznorodost, popisovat, analyzovat, identifikovat variabilitu, skumat preklad...
Nacrnutych mate dost vela problemov a tiež dost vela zanrov (a jazykov). Je ciel prace analyza, komparativna analyza, synteza, atd.? Ak ma byt ciel len vseobecny popis zvukov a ich identifikacia, praca bude sice pekna, ale nebude specificka. Keby ste temu trochu oklietili na povedzme len jeden problem, podla mna by to bolo lepsie. Napríklad - Porovnanie slovenskych a anglickych zvieracich zvukov z hladiska ich zvukomalebnoti a prislusneho semantickeho vyznamu. Alebo cokolvek ine, ale viac specificke. Moj dojem je, ze v tejto tematike chcete spracovat VSETKO, co sa spracovat da, ale to nie je asi to najlepsie, pri obhajobe padne zakladna otazka, co je cielom prace, a momentalne tam mate cielov najmenej 5.
 2. Uloha madarciny a inych jazykov v praci. Je samozrejme vyhodou, ze viete po madarsky a ak budete ilustruvat priklady z inych jazykov, nebude to na skodu, len Vas chcem upozornit, ze vhodne by bolo zvolit si len dva jazyky pre zakladne porovnanie a takeho porovnanie robit systematicky (ked tam chcete mat aj madarcinu, musi byt vsade a nie len niekde).
 3. Co sa tyka porovnavania prekladov a ich casti (zvukov), mozete to robit, ale je to tema sama o sebe, na ktoru treba translaticke vzdelanie (studovali ste aj translaticku?)
 4. Anglickie riekanky... otazka na mieste znies - preco prave riekanky, a nie napríklad limmericky, prislovia, porekadla, basnicky, idiomy, ludove piesne atd. A dalsia otazka - preco len anglicke.
- Napad mate dobry, ale treba ho metodicky spravne spracovat - stanovit ciele, ulohy, hypotezy, definovat problem prace, metodiku vyskumu, teorii vyskumu, definovat terminologiu suvisiacu s vyskumom, atd. Dalej treba stanovit a popisat skumanu vzorku, teda data, s ktorymi budete pracovat, odvodnit jej vyber a vyznam pre vyskum. Potom treba stanovit prakticke vyskumne metody v praci a na zaver zrealizovat vyskum a synteticky ho vyhodnotit.

Objectivity and Subjectivity

Philosophical questions

- Is it possible for science to be **objective**?
- Are the things that comprise the subject matter of scientific and folk theories things that exist objectively or are they the subjective results of our ways of thinking and talking?
- Does **reality exist outside of our minds**?
- If it does, **can it be described** with our minds and mental processes?
- Do all **physical things exist objectively**?
- Is objectivity an unachievable ideal that can only be approximated by degrees of intersubjectivity?

Objective and Subjective Judgments

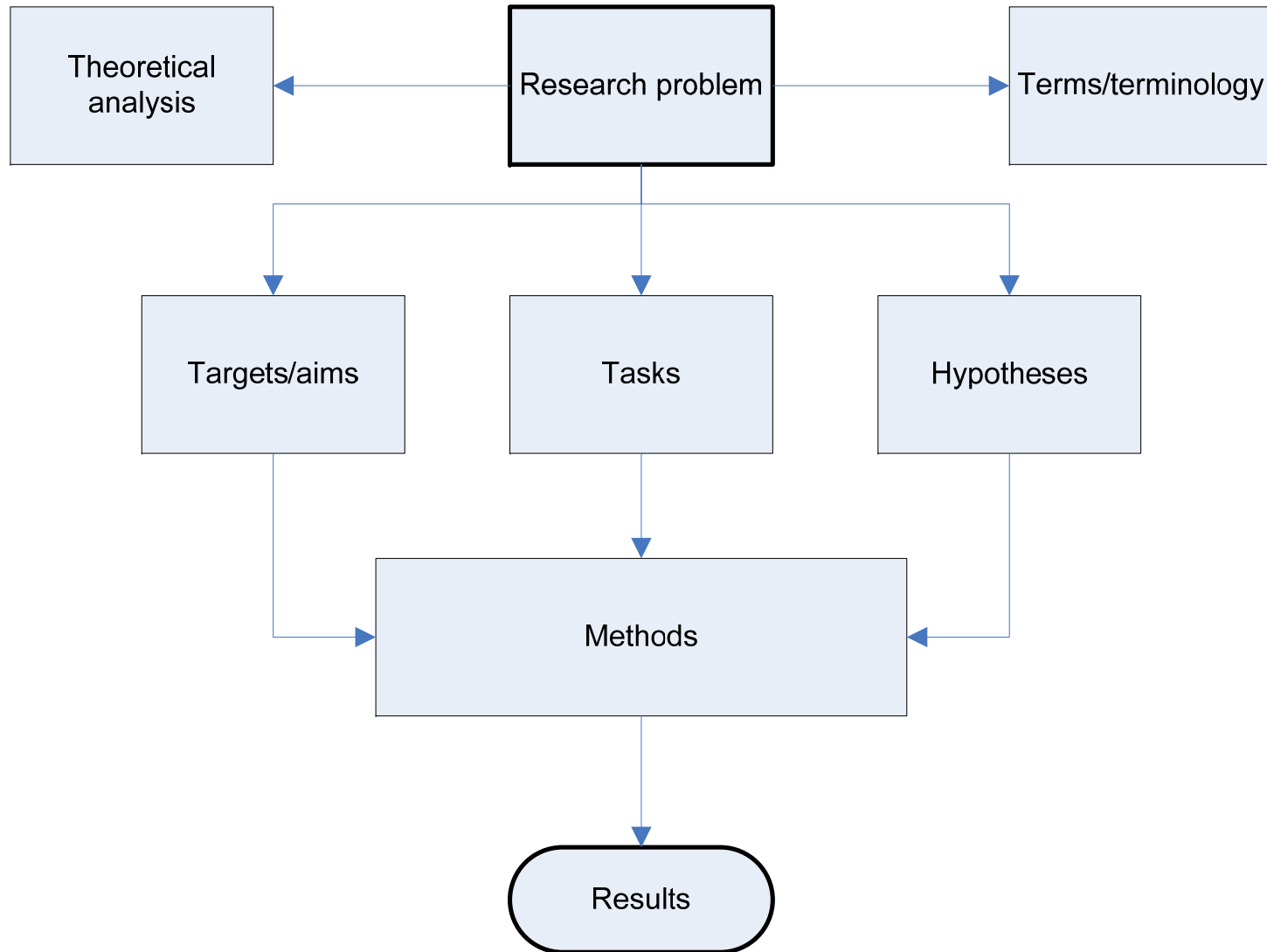
- **Objective judgments** concern matters of empirical and mathematical fact (*The moon has no atmosphere*)
- **Subjective judgments** concern matters of value and preference such as (*Mozart is better than Bach*)
- Research is a **mixture** of objective and subjective judgments
- Prototypical examples of objective properties are those that **do not depend on the existence of minds** for their instantiation.
- **Is the information we are receiving from our objective senses always reliable?**

Properties

- Introduction
 - Theoretical framework
 - Methodology
 - Practical analysis and application
 - Summarization
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- Abstract
 - Keywords
 - Materials and methods
 - Results and discussion
 - References

Dewey: **Scientific research is a systematic, controlled, empirical and critical analysis of hypothetical statements and expected relations between natural phenomena**

Research Parameters



Down-to-Earth Topic/Title

- Choice of topic determines the success of the whole work
- **It all comes down to the available data**
- Frequent changes in the work title – good or bad
- Practical topic vs. Theoretical topic
- Unknown topic vs. Well-known topic
- Broad topic vs. Narrow topic
- Unreal topic vs. Real topic

Theoretical Framework

Memos, theories, norms

- **Memos** – transgenerational transfer of ideas, folk wisdom, key concepts
- **Theories** – formalized scientific verbalization of certain issues in our life
- **Norms** – generalized procedures regarding certain issues in our life
- Should **cover all fields** related to the topic
- Should focus on **relevant** issues
- Should **define** the basic research properties
- Should **compare** the individual theoretical notions on the topic
- Present and discuss what other people have said about the topic (i.e. review relevant literature), blend other people's notions with your own opinions and illustrate how these relate to the topic, and finally, show how you arrived at your specific research questions. It is important that you base your theoretical background on a **variety of sources**.

Problem

- Is it enough just to write 'about' a topic, not having a real problem to write about?
- Natural doubt, curiosity
- Implicit feeling something is wrong or needs to be researched/fixed
- Problem situation, observation
- Statement or question
 - *Children at elementary schools do not perform well in English*
- (Mihai, G.I., Kerlinger, F.N., Oschilewski, W.G. (1964): Foundations of behavioral research. Peacock Press)

Terminology

- Cognitive meaningful units as a result of human knowledge or the relations between the entities
- Terms **single things out** from among other things
- Terms **generalize** and create **categories**

Aims

- A more **precise verbalization** of research
- General
 - Analysis of... Comparison of...
 - The aim of my research is to...
- Partial

Tasks

- Tasks are defined to each aim/target
- Practical issues
- **Temporal** organization of research
 - *October 2011 – November 2011: Collection of data*

Hypotheses

- **Assumptions** or **expectations**
- Verbalized by scientists when some phenomena cannot be explained at a certain stage of research
- Their **truthfulness cannot be decided upon their formulation**
- Must be **tested, confirmed** or **refuted**
- Must be **verifiable**
- Based on previous research and experience
- Can be general but also very specific

Methods

- Answering the question **HOW**
- Basic methods
 - Empirical – observation, experiment (control group, experimental group)
 - Theoretical – analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction, comparison, idealization, formalization, modeling etc.
- Practical applied methods
 - Questionnaire, poll, corpus analysis, field interviews etc.
- Explain clearly what the goal of your work is and what methods you have used to achieve it.
- Comment on the potential methods that were available (are generally used) and justify your choice linguistically.
- describe the procedure of your analysis and state clearly what kind of analysis you have performed at each stage of research (e.g. linguistic, textual, stylistic, discourse analysis, etc.)

Results and Commentary

- You have to use the **data from your research** as evidence or examples to defend/confirm your assumptions and to try to answer the specific research question(s) stated at the beginning of your project.
- Note that it must be clear exactly what the **result** is and what **your comment is**; you must not confuse the two.
- Use tables and graphs where appropriate. Classification into **main groups** and **more specific subgroups** is the most common way of presentation. Comment on each group/subgroup of entities; use examples to illustrate your commentary.

Qualitative vs. Quantitative

- **Qualitative results** – detailed description, early stages of research, subjective, interpretation of data, interviews, literature, rich data packed with experience, difficult to generalize, personal involvement of researcher
- **Quantitative results** – description, counting, statistics, the researcher knows what he is looking for, later stages of research, collection of data, all aspects of research are clear, objective research, measurement, more effective, easy evaluation, impersonation of the researcher

Data

Description of dataset, sample data, statistically significant data

1. Collection – when, how
2. Evaluation – how
3. Presentation
 - Statistical methods, countable properties
 - Selection of data, data sources
 - Copyright, usage rights
 - Own scaling

Synthesis

- It is vitally important to synthesize the analyzed data
- Recommendations, outlooks, continuation, conclusion
- What you consider to be the implications of your work
- Indicate directions for further research you (or someone else) could undertake on this topic