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The Southern dialect in Thomas Churchyard's 'The Contention bettwixte Churchyearde and Camell' (1552)

In the century following the Master of Wakefield's disguising of Mak, the thief, as a southerner, writers such as Lydgate or Skelton began to mark their characters linguistically. Initially only colloquial forms were used. As the awareness of "better" forms of speech developed so did the use of dialect traits for characterization purposes: Northern, Southern, Scottish, Welsh, etc. (Blank 1996)

South-Western features, or rather a potpourri of so-interpreted south-western traits, came to be used for comic purposes, especially in drama. But before this happened, as no tradition had been established for their representation, writers seem to have been more linguistically accurate. They may thus provide us with valuable information from a time period about which we do not yet know enough (Barber 1997, Görlach 1999, Nevalainen 2006).

The purpose of this paper is a description of the southern dialect features in a mid-sixteenth century non-dramatic text: Thomas Churchyard's *The Contention bettwixte Churchyearde and Camell* (1552). Together with four verses in Stephen Hawes' *Pastime of Pleasure* (1509) (Blake 1981: 48), some jests (García-Bermejo Giner 2001) and plays such as *Ralph Roister Doister* (c 1550) or moralities such as *Respublica* (1553) it is one of the earliest instances of the representation of the southern (eastern or Kentish rather than western) dialect. An attempt will be made to establish the linguistic accuracy of the writers, referring to contemporary sources when possible.

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Conjuncts in nineteenth-century English: Diachronic development and genre diversity

Conjuncts, such as *moreover* and *however*, indicate how a language user “views the connection between two linguistic units” (Quirk et al. 1985: 632). Although they have received a great deal of scholarly attention, conjuncts have almost exclusively been studied from a modern synchronic perspective, and frequently within a larger framework such as cohesive markers, metadiscourse, or adverbials (see e.g. Halliday and Hasan 1976; Hyland 2005; Greenbaum 1969). In contrast, few studies have been devoted to the historical development of conjuncts. The present study contributes to filling this gap in scholarship by examining the use of conjuncts in texts from the nineteenth century, a period that played an important part in the development of the inventory of conjuncts, according to Lenker (2002).

Based on the one-million-word corpus CONCE (see Kytö, Rudanko, and Smitterberg 2000), our paper pays special attention to development over time and to variation across different genres. Our focus on these two variables is informed by the finding that “oral” genres like drama comedy and “literate” genres such as academic writing drift further apart linguistically during the Late Modern period: “oral” genres exhibit increasingly involved discourse while “literate” genres instead become more informational in style (Biber and Finegan 1997). Conjuncts are sensitive to cross-genre differences: the overall frequency of conjuncts as well as the incidence of different types of conjuncts may vary between genres (see Biber et al. 1999: 880 for variation in Present-day English). We will determine whether the widening linguistic gap between different genres attested in nineteenth-century English is reflected in the use of conjuncts. In addition, we will categorize the conjuncts into semantic groups such as *summative*, *resultive*, and *contrastive* (see e.g. Quirk et al. 1985) in order to investigate variation with time and genre in the distribution of these groups.

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'Homo loquens, homo scribens': On the role of writing in language change, with special reference to English

Although it has very often been overshadowed by the insistence on the oral nature of language (Moreno-Cabrera, 2001) in this paper I intend to argue that the written dimension must always be considered as an essential component of the changes of particular languages –and that the accounts on their histories should not consider it as just subsidiary to speech. From the discussion of an extended notion of “culture”, the paper provides an overview of certain macro-sociolinguistic processes (language planning, standardization...), in order to provide ground for my focusing on the notion of “scholarly network” (Guzmán-González, 1999). Framed within diachronic sociolinguistics and stemming from the social network theory, this idea expands the nodes of a social network (Milroy, 1987, Tieken-Boon van Ostade, 1991, 1996) by considering as well the connections established among the prospective members via comment, controversy, quotations, traceable influences in later authors, textbooks, etc. After illustrating it with examples from the history of the English language (Guzmán-González & González, forthcoming), I go on considering prospective further developments of this notion, along the lines provided by recent developments of the network models (Granovetter 1983, Barabási, 2002) as those launched after the new technologies world diffusion, and, especially, all

those connected with the World Wide Web (Unesco World Report, 2005). Time permitting, a few hints new “Englishes” such as “SMSese” or “chatelese” will be discussed.

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The word class of the adverb in English grammars of the Early Modern Period

William Bullokar's *Pamphlet for Grammar* (1586) is the earliest grammar of English to have been handed down to us. When compiling it, Bullokar was largely influenced by the authority exerted by 'Lily's Latin Grammar' in English, which in turn represents the climax of a long tradition of elementary grammar writing in the vernacular. Like Bullokar, his contemporaries and successors drew to differing degrees on Latin-derived categories in their manuals, written either in English or in Latin. In addition, at the end of the sixteenth century, Petrus Ramus's *Grammatica* became known and influenced the writing of works on English grammar.

The present paper attempts to follow the transmission and development of grammatical knowledge in the vernacular in manuals from 1586 to 1700, using the example of the word class adverb. An examination of the adverb is of particular interest because it has been an 'open' word class since its first appearance in Greek grammars dating back to about 200 B.C. The boundaries were not always clear between the adverb and the other 'undeclinable' word classes, for example: the conjunction, the preposition and the interjection. Some grammarians in the early modern period no longer considered the adverb a separate word class but grouped it among the 'particles'. Grammarians in the tradition of Ramus also include other uninflected word classes under the heading 'adverb'.

In my paper I will discuss the variety of definitions of the adverb, its accidents, its semantic classification models and the illustrative examples given in the source-texts. At the same time the role the Latin tradition still played will also become obvious. Finally, I will follow the development in the treatment of this word class in the century after the earliest grammar of English was codified.

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