Adversative Conjunctions in Spoken Lithuanian and English

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Introduction

Focus - adversative conjunctions acting

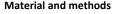
at the sentence level or above sentence level in spoken English and Lithuanian

· Adversative - contrary to the expectation of what is being said (but, however, yet)

English conjunctions	Tears per roje milico words	Litzumine conjourtures (their testative counterparts in English)	Tapes per
1.34	4,580	3. O (se sagle counterpart)	4,500
2 Hearter	60	2. Ber (hot)	1,700
1.Ye	548	3. Taliau (larveret)	1,400

·Conjunctions - one part of discourse relational devices (DRDs)

. If used in the wrong w a y, the interlocutor m a y not est a blish a coherent interpret a tion of a discourse since it does not make sense and as a result the communication may be hindered



· English-Lithuanian parallel corpus

· only 1 parallel corpus exists

- English Lithuanian (70,813 parallel sentences) • Lithuanian - English (1,614 parallel sentences)
- · compiled by Vytautas Magnus University

· not discourse-annotated no discourse-annotated corpora in Lithuanian

· conjunctions studied within the framework of corpus linguistics and conversational analysis

· relevance theory is used in order to better understand the pragmatic meaning of the conjunctions

Results

Conjunction but (Lithuanian equivalent bet)

 the choice of a conjunction depends on each individual translator's preference and professional knowledge

• and incongruity between semantic functions of contrast and pragmatic meaning of contradicting or denving the interlocutor's ideas or simply starting a new segment of discourse (Bielinskiene, 2010;121)

• in such cases the conjunction is changed into some other conjunction or discourse marker which is more natural in Lithuanian translators need to analyse each utterance very carefully to identify if it is enough to translate the semantic meaning of contrast •economy principle prevails in spoken language: the speakers know each other, know the situation, so they choose the shortest way of expressing their ideas which might be adequately deciphered by the interlocutor

Conjunction vet

• may function both as a conjunction and as an adverbial

• no exact Lithuanian equivalent

• speakers prefer a shorter word taciau (however) (54%) to a two-word vis delto (however/yet) (16%) (economy principle in language) • in Lithuanian tačiau is considered so much formal as in English and is used in spoken discourse

• small percentage (10%) of vet being translated by bet (but) may indicate that translators try to avoid repetition which might arise in case both conjunctions but and vet were translated into the same Lithuanian bet

· omission or paraphrasing are not always an easy choice for a translator, especially concerning rendering pragmatic relations

Other ways (paraphrasing)	Percentage
Adversative conj. o (but/and/whereas)	2.9%
Concessive conj. nors (although, though)	2 %
Adverbial is nesy (really)	1.1%
Adverbial vts tik (vet)	1.2 %
Interjection de/a (unfortunately/sadly)	1%
Combination bet deja (but unfortunately)	0.8 %
Table 2: Other ways of translating conjunction	yet into Lithuanian

• no examples of *however* used in spoken language in parallel corpus:

Literature cited

Conjunction however

Maran raska, Znopus z Josta (1), 63-67. ador. In Bend, A., Japel, G., & van Rood, R. (Eds.), Game theory and Programming, 123–151. Busingstoke Polysivel Amount in Dend, A., Japel, G., & van Rood, R. (Eds.), Game theory and Programming, 123–151. (Dupreprinting Value studies, 12, 53-62) Phagmatics. 31, 801-852.

a Lifferia. In Tellhysia kalibose. Kalibų studijos, 20, 55-64.





- · three main strategies were employed to render the analyzed conjunctions:
- 1) translation of the conjunctions into its Lithuanian counterpart provided by a dictionary
- 2) paraphrasing it into other words, i.e. other conjunctions, adverbials, interjections or combinations of conjunctions and various particles
- omission
- bilingual dictionary provides the same meanings as the conjunctions under discussion manifested in the research
- in almost 20% of the cases translators did not rely on the semantic meanings but chose either to omit or to paraphrase the conjunction in order to better reflect its pragmatic function

Conjunction	English-Lithumian Dictionary (Piesarskas, 2005)	Percentage of how they are translated in the English-Lithuanian corpus of spoken language
but	nny bet, o; tačiau	bet (44%), tačiau (31%), o (8%), omission (8%), other ways (9%)
however	anny taliau	no data
yet	corry tačians, bet, viz delte	tačan (54%), vis delto (10%), bet (10%), omission (12%), other ways (9%)

· analysis of the cases of paraphrasing and omission reveals that in some cases the use of such techniques modifies the meaning and pragmatic relations in the target text





· English-Lithuanian dictionary (Piesarskas, 2005): tačiau (however), bet (but), vis delto (however/vet) Figure 2: Functional use of word yet in the researched concordance

• possible to conclude that the longer word however is changed into shorter words in spoken discourse in English

· analysis shows that in 9% of the examples, translator choices are not limited only to the options provided in the dictionary

Figure 3: Translation variants of English adversative conjunction yet

Uthuanian bet Uthanian vis d

Figure 1: Translation variants of English adversative conjunction but

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