

Attitudes of speakers of non-dominant varieties of Hungarian towards their own variety and the dominant one

In the present paper we investigate the attitudes that speakers of non-dominant varieties of Hungarian outside of Hungary exhibit towards their own variety and the dominant variety of their mother tongue, i.e. Hungary Hungarian. Attitudes of Hungarians from Slovakia, Ukraine, Serbia, Slovenia and Austria are analysed and compared, with respect to two questions: (1) how beautiful they find the given varieties, and (2) how useful they think it is to speak them in their everyday lives. Based on the analysis of their attitudes with respect to the above two factors, we determine speakers' loyalty to their own non-dominant varieties and/or to the dominant variety, as well as the status of these varieties as perceived by the speakers. Furthermore, contrasting the results in the case of the aforementioned two questions also sheds light on the way attitudes differ from one another when it comes to (1) speakers' personal attachment to the given varieties and (2) the status of these varieties as reflected by their assumed usefulness. Since these attitudes play an essential role in forming the status of the given (non-dominant) variety and also constitute an important manifestation of the relationship between the non-dominant varieties and the dominant one, their analysis also enables us to draw conclusions concerning these two topics at the end of the study.

Keywords: attitudes, Hungarian, non-dominant varieties, status