

A Corpus-based German/Spanish contrastive analysis of metaphorical adjectival formations containing body parts

Word formation is one of the essential forms of vocabulary expansion in the German language and leads to a very large lexical richness. Due to the combination of words or word components, a variety of properties can be expressed and described.

This contribution focuses on a group of adjectives to which contrastive linguistics (German/Spanish) has so far devoted relatively limited attention. Semantically, these are word formations whose base word denotes a somatism and presents interesting features on several levels of analysis (lexicon, phonetics and phonology, morphology, syntax and morphosyntax, semantics, pragmatics and socio-cultural context).

Since the phenomenon described is particularly productive in German and, we assume, less so in Spanish, this study aims to outline a contrastive analysis between these two languages in order to explore cross-linguistic correspondences, and to test the starting hypothesis.

Keywords: Word formation, Adjectives, Somatisms, Contrastive linguistics.