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About the Journal

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Official Title

Linguistic Cues to Social Meaning

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Aims and Scope

This is an annual peer-reviewed journal focused on linguistics and communication.

Editorial Board (EB) Composition

EB consist of the editors from two countries—Germany and Ukraine.

The journal has a full-time professional publisher.

Gender distribution of the editors: 16.66% women, 83.34% men, 0% non-binary/other, and 0% prefer not to disclose.

Frequency

All papers are published into a single annual (January-December) volume which will fill throughout the year as each new paper is published.

Publishing Model

The *Linguistic Cues to Social Meaning* is a fully open access online-only and peer-reviewed publication.

Type of Peer Review

The journal employs “double blind” reviewing.

Article Publishing Charge (APC)

Manuscripts should be submitted online at website: www.linguisticcues.org. After review, if the paper is accepted for publication, authors will be required to pay the APC.

The APC for article published in the *Linguistic Cues to Social Meaning* is 420 Euro (i.e., \$500 USD), excluding taxes. Applicants for third-level higher education (i.e., PhD researchers) are exempt from any payment (fees) for processing, reviewing, and/or publishing articles submitted and completed by them independently (without co-authors).

Types of Articles Published by the Journal

Editorials, Guest Editorials, Original Articles, Review Articles, Discussions, Review of Articles, Book Reviews, Letters to the Editors, Commentaries, Viewpoints, and Publisher's Notes.

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FIGURE. Certificate of state registration of the *Linguistic Cues to Social Meaning* in the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine dated February 19, 2021. Since the Law of Ukraine "On Media" came into force on March 31, 2023, the Journal was re-registered in the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting.

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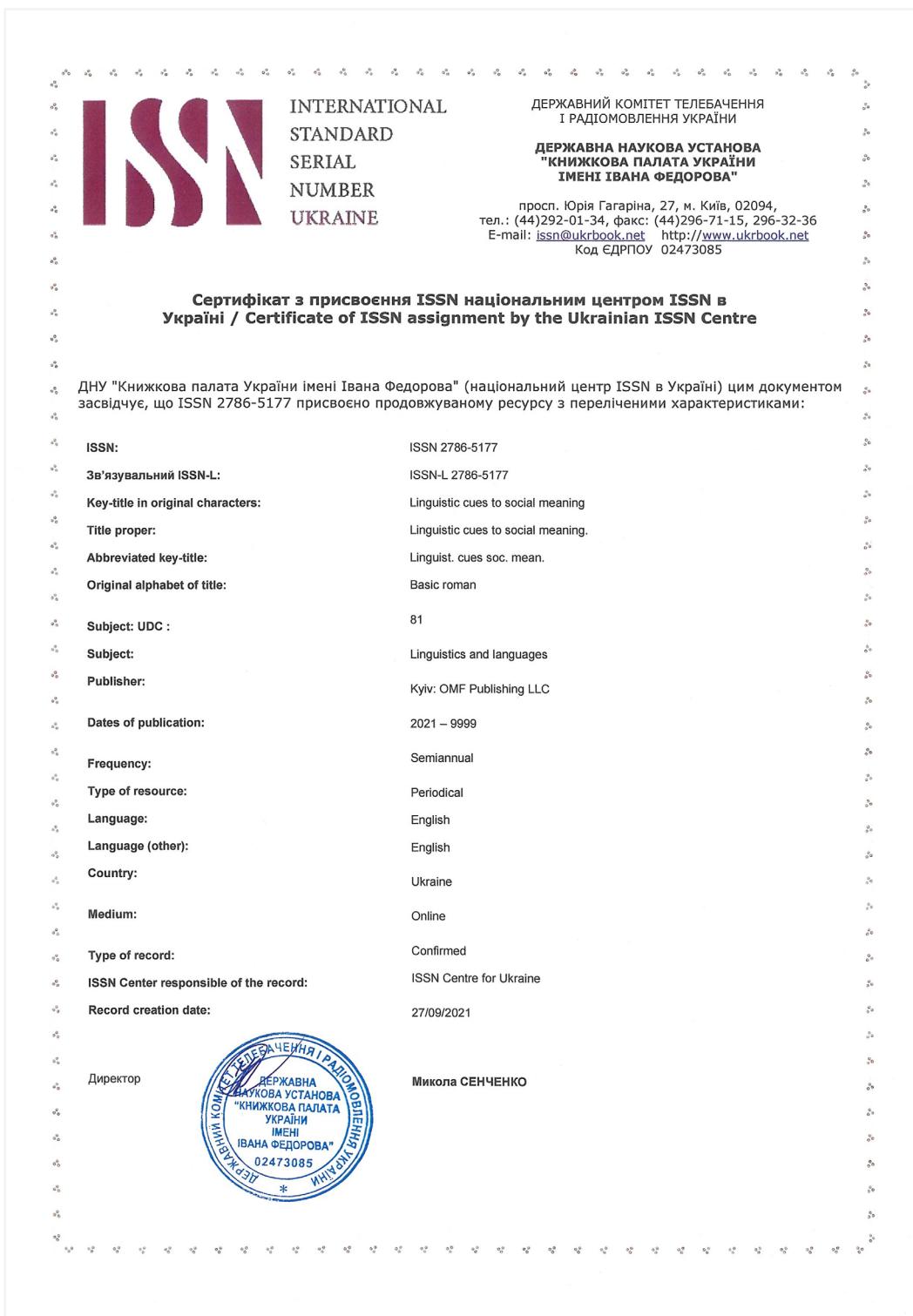


FIGURE. Certificate of the International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) assignment to the *Linguistic Cues to Social Meaning*. The ISSN assigned by the Ukrainian ISSN Center, Ivan Fedorov Book Chamber of Ukraine, State Scientific Institution.

Journal in Social Media

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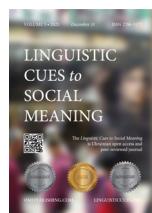
FIGURE. Post on the official Instagram page of the *Linguistic Cues to Social Meaning* journal (@linguistic_cues) in collaboration with the official Instagram page of the publisher (i.e., OMF Publishing, LLC) (@omf_publishing). Text of the post published on July 27, 2025, reads: "We are pleased to introduce an in-depth specialist in the Finnish language, Dr. Kucher @igor.nordictravel, to the Editorial Board of the *Linguistic Cues to Social Meaning* @linguistic_cues!"

- PhD thesis: Kucher I.A. Structural and Cognitive Modelling the Lexico-Semantic Field of the Verbs of Motion in the Finnish and Ukrainian Languages.
- Thesis for a Candidate's Degree (PhD) in Philology, Specialty 10.02.17 – Comparative, Historical and Typological Linguistics. – Kyiv National Linguistic University, Kyiv, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, 2016."

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COURTESY

Journal's cover image courtesy of the Publisher, Ievgen I. Fesenko (Kyiv, Ukraine). Image demonstrating the society view from the coffeehouse window as of March 2017. Location: 313–317 Hennessy Rd, Wan Chai, Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region (SAR), China. The photo shows a highly populated and prosperous city. The provisional estimate of the Hong Kong population was 7,409,800 at end-2017 according to the statistics released by the Census and Statistics Department, The Government of the Hong Kong SAR. Official languages in Hong Kong are Chinese and English.



EDITORIAL

Data Base of Addressing a Person in World Literature Shows a Key to Social Stabilization

Igor P. Fesenko

This volume of the *Linguistic Cues to Social Meaning* continues study of addressing number to a single person in public space with the aim to minimize the connected social risks.

The **first** article is exactly a Letter to the Editor having been applied to the *Nature* in 2009 presenting historical and geographical peculiarities of Transition from Singular to Plural Form in Single-Person Addressing [1].

The **second** article of the Volume presents a Data

Base of Plural Addressing a Person in works of the world literature, calculated by FESENKO.LAB and CHASNYK.LAB, enriched since the monograph of 2018 (Fig 1) [2]. Besides, this Volume contains in the **third** article – the quantitative analysis of 15 texts of the English literature since Chaucer's time to the XXI century in terms of addressing number. It illustrates gradual growing and achieving saturation – dominant use of plural addressing in the English language in parallel with a social stabilization. A

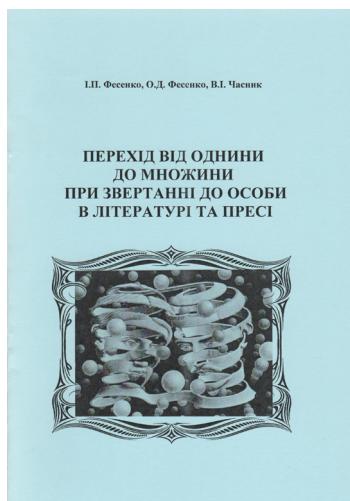


FIGURE 1. Cover page of the monograph titled "Transition from Singular to Plural Form in Single-Person Addressing in Literature and Mass Media" (1st edition, 2018) [2].

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preliminary comment of the analysis of Data Base of Plural Addressing a Person in the French literature you will find in the **fourth** article.

The Editorial Board invites readers and authors to quantitative analysis in their native communication area, i.e. strict counting of plural and singular addressing in their native literature seeking for trends and tendencies.

GENERATIVE AI STATEMENT

The author(s) declare that no Generative AI was used

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1. Fesenko, I. P. (2009) *Nature of transition from singular to plural form in single-person addressing* [Unpublished manuscript: *Nature* manuscript ID 2009-4-03926 (PDF EJP-10_150340_13649)]. National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.
2. Fesenko, I. P., Fesenko, O. D., & Chasnyk, V. I. (2018) *Transition from singular to plural form in single-person addressing in literature and mass media* (1st ed.). FOP Maydachenko I. V.



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Nature of Transition from Singular to Plural Form in Single-Person Addressing

Igor P. Fesenko

ABSTRACT

When addressing a single individual in most languages, choosing between the singular and plural number of second person takes place [1-3]. The right number of addressing is essential for the contacting persons, and determines positioning of the two communicants. The singular number of addressing may be considered as a form of verbal aggression [4]. Hypothesis for the unconscious level involved in the process of applying the singular or plural number to single individual includes situations implying both formal and informal relations [5]. However, the precise role of the subconscious during this process is unknown. Here we show that the universal change-over in the several tongues from using single to plural pronouns for second person occurs. We found in comparison studies within a few European languages (Latin, Romanian, Greek, German, French, Ukrainian, Russian, Modern Latin, English) that a good indication of the general transition from singular to plural addressing a single person is observed. Furthermore, we found that the choice of the addressing number is to be analyzed on the unconscious level, and a state of discomfort or anxiety is a consequence if the individual is addressed in singular. Our results demonstrate how from the biological standpoint this regular change of the addressing form is attributable to the fact that a human being as a creature with a herd instinct feels additional unconscious sense of safety when addressed in plural. We anticipate our assay to be a starting point for more sophisticated linguistic and social studies of the second person plural addressing of one person. For example, cultural and migration aspects of the addressing could be analyzed, including evaluation of the safety level of the society. Furthermore, the taking into account the universal change-over in the manner of second person addressing may be an additional important target of the anti-terrorist activity.

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INTRODUCTION

Addressing a single person involves some difficulties of the non-uniqueness of singular and plural pronouns in the German [1], Ukrainian [3, 6], Russian [2, 4] and French languages [7], i.e. corresponding analogs of *thou* and *you* in English. The ambiguity is connected with conscious choosing one of these two forms when speaking or writing to a person. On the unconscious level, the choice of the addressing number may be analyzed and cause a state of discomfort or anxiety in the case of singular form. At the same time, a good indication of the general transition from singular to plural addressing a single person in some languages is observed. This paper deals with a comparison studies within a few languages of the change-over from a standpoint of addressing, and the biological reasons of this phenomenon, unconscious instinctive level giving reasonable explanation of the transition.

Latin

Latin was an official state language as well as a language of literature, science, education and communication over some 2000 years being in use from ancient Rome Empire up to XIX century in some European countries. The Latin language of the ancient Romans used addressing in the singular form even in the case of addressing Emperor, e.g. „Ave, Caesar imperator, marituri te salutant” [8]. M. Vergilius (70-19 B.C.) wrote: „Tu regere imperio populos, Romane, memento. Hae tibi erunt artes pecisque imponere morem”. The fox in the Phaedrus’s (15 B.C. – 70 A.D.) tale said to the crow: „O, qui tvarum, Corve, pennarum est nitor!” [9].

A number of reasons of shrinking of the Latin language use have been discussed in literature. Still, one more reason should be studied, that is change-over to the languages which use both singular and plural addressing to a person. From the psychological standpoint it gave more instinctive feeling of safety for the individual. For the lack of instrumentation to study this phenomenon on unconscious level we can examine some languages succeeding Latin from the addressing point of view.

Romanian

In the Romanian language, second person pronouns

both in single and plural tense are used. The distinction has been developed in the Romanian language where both general and polite forms of single tense appeared. The polite singular form *dumnevoastre* can be treated as an additional step from single to plural form of addressing individual.

Greek, German, French, Ukrainian, Russian

In the Greek, German, French, Ukrainian and Russian languages, the general *you* form for the second person is common for the official relations, direct speech or writing to a stranger, as well as in Ukraine to mother and father. In these languages, the singular pronoun *thou* for the second person has taken on a two-fold meaning – intimacy or contempt depending on the situation [1, 10-12].

K. Smolka [1] considers it essential in German to apply the plurals *you*, *your* to an official, senior, stranger thus avoiding possible conflict when the singular pronouns are used. Even a schoolmate happened to meet after few years should be addressed in plural. The singular pronouns to the second person are applied in the German language to the singular member of a family, sport club, etc.

Although A. Sadomora considers *thou* in Ukrainian most intimate and thus worth to be predominant, using it in the official relations is not recommended by the Ukrainian linguists for it may have a negative effect on an addressee implying contempt or rudeness [3, 8]. L. Matsko and L. Kravets [3] are on the opinion that the plural form *you* (the respected plural) is to be used both in written and oral addressing.

It is commonly supposed in modern Russian linguistics that plural addressing to an individual is specifically West-European [2]. The process of its adopting in Russian was most intensive during XIX century. V. Dahl [13] in 1882 assumed that the singular addressing is predominantly Russian, and attributed use of the plural *you* to the person that is a few persons worth. Nowadays, specialists distinguish a positive and negative meaning of the singular addressing [14]. When speaking to any person in Russian it is necessary to decide what form of addressing to choose in order not to humiliate an interlocutor. Yu. Shcherbinina [4] explains that using *thou* in an official communication, when addressing a stranger or unfamiliar, a senior breaks the harmony of relations and provokes rejection, irritation, or protest.

Modern Latin

The modern Latin language goes beyond the severe requirements of the classic Latin, in particular in the singular addressing law. Th. Procopovicz in 1720 wrote a letter to A. H. Franke in plural, e.g. "Vos iudicaveritis melius" (You will see it better) [15]. In "Urbi et orbi" of 25.12.2007, the Pope Benedict XVI hadn't used the second person singular form. Translators generally use the plural pronoun vos in the recent translations into Latin, e. g. "... et spero vos etiam scire, ..." („...and I hope You also know..) [16].

English

It is generally agreed that the extension in English of plural pronouns of the second person to apply to the singular number had implications mainly of a social nature (for instance see M. Schlauch [5]). At the same time M. Schlauch uses the word "unconsciously" depicting the process at the beginning of the XV century, when the plurals *ye, you, your* were applied more and more generally to single individuals. This occurred not only in situations implying formality and respect, but also in informal relations. In Britain, the middle class dominated from 1642-1660 throughout the XVIII century (period of relative stability). The wealthy middle class allied itself with and continued to make use of court and aristocracy, but the leadership had now definitely changed hands and the tone in culture was modified accordingly [5]. More and more writers who set the tone in polite letters came from the middle class and they unconsciously propagated its ideas of propriety in their handling of language and their setting forth of its structure in handbooks of grammar and rhetoric.

The contemporary English language demonstrates almost dominant use of the plural pronoun of address from the fact that the single-plural transition being almost fully completed. The words *thou* and *art* have only old use or Biblical meaning thus losing their humiliating effect. The Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English [18] gives the meaning of the words *thou* and *thee* as old use for *you*, giving an example "Shall I compare thee to a summer day".

DISCUSSION

Common misleading exists that there is no

difference in English between *thou* and *you* [1, 18, 19], i.e. the English *you* = *you* or *thou* in the corresponding language. But M. Schlauch made an impressive case in favor of the transfer from *thou art* to *you are* in the English language. In the contemporary English language *thou* and *art* have only old use or Biblical meaning, having lost their humiliating effect. That is why the native English speakers can see no psychological problem in the *you-thou, are-art* use. But in the languages studied in this work *thou* may cause a sense of irritation when used in a certain situation.

The singular addressing is becoming marginal in the languages examined (Greek, German, French, Ukrainian, Russian, Modern Latin). Respectively the full transformation of the second person addressing into dominantly plural form in the English language may be attributed mainly to the domination of the fair-play rule in the society.

The observed singular-plural transition phenomenon in one-person addressing may be reasonably explained by an unconscious reaction of the human nature to the singular either in positive or negative meaning, causing an instinctive feeling of worrying, anxiety and danger, i. e. horror of loneliness. An application of plural pronouns to the second singular person may be considered as a subconscious factor of reassurance.

CONCLUSIONS

Analysis of addressing a single person in Latin, Romanian, Greek, German, French, Ukrainian, Russian, Modern Latin and English shows that the change-over from single to plural pronouns for second person occurs. From the biological standpoint, this regular change is attributable to the fact that a human being as a creature with herd instinct feels additional unconscious sense of safety when addressed as a single individual in plural, all other positive conditions being equal.

GENERATIVE AI STATEMENT

The author(s) declare that no Generative AI was used in the creation of this manuscript.

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Data Base of Plural Addressing a Person

Igor P. Fesenko^{1,*} and Vasyl I. Chasnyk²

ABSTRACT

This article presents a data base (Table 1) of plural addressing a person in works of the world literature, calculated by FESENKO.LAB and CHASNYK.LAB, enriched since the monograph of 2018.

TABLE 1. Data Base of Plural Addressing a Person in Works of the World Literature.

Book Title, author, year, language		Sum of plural and singular addressing a person	Content of plural addressing a person
FESENKO LAB			
<i>Divine Comedy: Inferno</i> Dante A. 1321 (Italian) Translated Lozinsky M. 1942 (Russian) Translated Strikha M. 2013 (Ukrainian)	<i>counting</i> <i>counting</i>	164 229	.05 .10
<i>Canterbury Tales</i> Chaucer G. 1390–1395 (English) Translated Kashkin I. Rumer O. 1988 (Russian) Translated Strikha M. 2017 (Ukrainian)		1720 2309 3019 2914 607	.52 .54 .51 .36 .35
<i>Doctor Faustus</i> Marlow Ch. 1589–1592 (English) Translated Strikha M. 2017 (Ukrainian)		424 415	.39 .11
<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> Shakespeare W. 1592 (English)		1022	.69
Retold Litvinova A. 1936 (Russian English) Translated Rylsky M. 1949 (Ukrainian)		46 1157	1.00 .43

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TABLE 1. Continued

Book Title, author, year, language		Sum of plural and singular addressing a person	Content of plural addressing a person
<i>Paradise Lost</i> Milton J. 1667 (English)		15 94 216 371 500 610 693 847 1032 1223 1339 1391	.07 .17 .08 .11 .12 .11 .10 .08 .08 .08 .07 .07
<i>Paradise Regained</i> Milton J. 1671 (English)		395	.02
<i>Le Diable Boiteux</i> Lesage AR.1707 (French) Translated Eds. Gunst E. 1993 (Russian)	counting	137	.96
<i>Robinson Crusoe</i> Defoe D. 1719 (English) Translated Stockdale 1790 (French) Translated Trusov Ya. 1797 (Russian) Translated Khatunceva O. 1993 (Ukrainian) Translated Verlag Carl Ueberreuter 2001 (German) Translated Vasilevich A. 2014 (Belarusian) Translated Shyshmariova M. 1908 (Russian) Translated Tysovska N. 2011 (Ukrainian)	counting	376 20 11 305 222 288 83 328	.91 1.00 .18 .48 .45 .44 .55 .49
<i>Lettres Persanes</i> Montesquieu Ch. 1721 (French) Translated Eds. Gunst E. 1993 (Russian) counting		136	.05
<i>Les Bijoux Indiscrets</i> Diderot D. 1748 Translated Eds. Gunst E. 1993 (Russian)	counting	123	.98
<i>Polidor</i> Lomonosov M. 1751 (Russian)		22	.00
<i>The Garden of Divine Songs</i> Skovoroda H. 1753–1785		375	.05
<i>Ruslan and Ludmila</i> Pushkin A. 1820 (Russian) Translated Tereshchenko M. 1949 (Ukrainian)		213 225	.01 .02
<i>Faust</i> Goethe J. 1773–1831 (German) Zueignung Translated Zhukovsky V. 1808 (Russian) Zueignung Translated Pasternak B. Eds. Anikst A. Vilmont N. 1976 (Russian)	counting	7 10 100	1.00 .00 .55
<i>Shelmenko the Orderly</i> Kvitka-Osnovianenko H. 1838 (Ukrainian, Russian, French)		1045	.68
<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> Beecher Stowe H. 1852 (American English) Translated Volzhyna N. 1959 (Russian) Translated 2016 KM-BOOKS (Ukrainian)		2997 1339 3137	.94 .40 .38
<i>The Artist</i> Shevchenko T. 1856 (Russian) Translated Biletsky L. 1959 (Ukrainian) Translated Belenko A. 1989 (English)		496 485 406	.68 .66 1.00

TABLE 1. Continued

Book Title, author, year, language		Sum of plural and singular addressing a person	Content of plural addressing a person
<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i> Carroll L. 1865 (English) Translated Nabokov V. 1923 (Russian) Translated Panchenko V. 2021 (Ukrainian)		405 503 518	1.00 .47 .33
<i>Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There</i> Carroll L. 1872 (English) Translated Panchenko V. 2018 (Ukrainian)		695	.023
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> Twain M. 1876 (American English)		979	.99
<i>The Bear</i> Chekhov A. 1888 (Russian) Translated Frayn M. 1988 (English)		141 207	.60 1.00
<i>The Proposal</i> Chekhov A. 1888 (Russian) Translated Frayn M. 1988 (English)		270 223	.80 1.00
<i>Swan Song</i> Chekhov A. 1888 (Russian) Translated Frayn M. 1988 (English)		87 +54-3	.14 .95
<i>The Sneeze</i> plays and stories by Chekhov A. 1888 Translated and adapted by Frayn M. 1988 (English)		+648-3	1.00
<i>Mowgli</i> Kipling R. 1894 (English) Translated Radienko D. 2008 (Ukrainian)		264 357 444 585 451 576 720 927	.31 .32 .35 .29 .21 .20 .23 .20
<i>Heart of Darkness</i> Conrad J. 1902 (English)		351	1.00
<i>The Wind in the Willows</i> Grahame K. 1908 (English) Translated Tokmakova I. 1986 (Russian)		793 1085	1.00 .10
<i>The Ransom of Red Chief</i> Henry O. 1910 (American English)		92	1.00
<i>Pygmalion</i> Shaw DB. 1912 (English) Translated Pavlov M. 2015 (Ukrainian)		1242	.91
<i>Ganc Tewier der Milchiker</i> Alejchem Sh. 1914 (Hebrew) Translated Raytsyn Ye. 1948 (Ukrainian) Translated Dresnerowa A. 2003 (Polish)	counting counting	297 318	.54 .67
<i>Under Fire</i> Barbusse H. 1916 (French) Translated Tereshchenko M. 1948 (Ukrainian)		1110	.17
<i>Anakonda</i> Quiroga H. 1917, 1918, 1921, 1936 (Spanish) Translated Koval S. Berezhny A. Butsenko O. Kryshen M. 1989 (Ukrainian)		1313	.57
<i>The Good Soldier Švejk</i> Hašek J. 1923 (Czech) Translated Zaluzhny O. 1956 (Ukrainian) Translated Bohatyrev P. 1967 (Russian) Translated Masliak S. 1990 (Ukrainian) Translated Masliak S. Ed. Luchuk I. 2009 (Ukrainian) Translated Zguriška Z. 2017 (Slovak)	counting counting counting 4083 counting counting	65 118 115 118 98	.77 .86 .71 .64 .78 .89

TABLE 1. Continued

Book Title, author, year, language		Sum of plural and singular addressing a person	Content of plural addressing a person
Chapaiev Furmanov D. 1923 (Russian)		774	.18
97 M.Kulish 1924 (Ukrainian)		880	.25
Short Stories Vyshnia O. 1919–1924 (Ukrainian)	<i>counting</i>	642	.53
The Great Gatsby Fitzgerald F. 1925 (American English)		61 107 173 239 293 337 494 530 582	1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00 1.00
Translated Pinchevsky M. 1975 (Ukrainian)		72 128 207 346 394 580 624 698	.29 .42 .61 .64 .64 .63 .60 .61
Bitter Almond Fairy Kocherga I. 1925 (Ukrainian)		904	.61
Professor Dowell's Head Belyaev A. 1925 (Russian)		937	.92
The Sun Machine Vynnychenko V. 1926 (Ukrainian)	<i>counting</i>	392	.53
The Twelve Chairs Ilf I. Petrov E. 1928 (Russian)			
Translated Pylynska M. 1989 (Ukrainian)		1638	.76
Lyrics Rylsky M. 1918–1929 (Ukrainian)		90 133 207 258 337	.13 .14 .15 .13 .16
Pathetic Sonata Kulish M. 1929 (Ukrainian)		640	.55
The Little Golden Spider Donchenko O. 1928 (Ukrainian)	<i>counting</i>	309	.28
Beladonna Mynko V. 1929 (Ukrainian)	<i>counting</i>	191	.43
Donna Anna Brasiuk H. 1929 (Ukrainian)	<i>counting</i>	807	.44
The Dirt Holota P. 1929 (Ukrainian)	<i>counting</i>	212	.32
The Entertainment Holota P. 1929 (Ukrainian)	<i>counting</i>	131	.24
The Nameless Novel Vanchenko P. 1930 (Ukrainian)		194	.30
Awakening in the Night Shokoplas Yu. 1930 (Ukrainian)		149	.97
The Little Golden Calf Ilf I. Petrov E. 1931 (Russian)		1212	.80
How the Steel Was Tempered Ostrovsky N. 1934 (Russian)		1777	.27
One Night Strokovsky N. 1935 (Russian)		51	.59

TABLE 1. Continued

Book Title, author, year, language		Sum of plural and singular addressing a person	Content of plural addressing a person
<i>Vanadium</i> Strokovsky N. 1935 (Russian)		345 995	.50 .52
<i>The Pedagogical Poem</i> Makarenko A. 1936 (Russian) Translated Yezernitsky L. Ed. Petrovsky V. 1973 (Ukrainian)		3483	.51
<i>Descendants of the Scythians</i> Vladko V. 1937 (Ukrainian)		1339	.62
<i>The Big Sleep</i> Chandler R. 1939 (American English) Retold Kerr R. 1991		391	1.00
<i>For Whom the Bell Tolls</i> Hemingway E. 1940 (American English)	counting	942 1611 1764	.70 .72 .72
<i>Steel and Tenderness</i> Tychyna P. 1941 (Ukrainian)		673	.24
<i>The Little Prince</i> de Saint-Exupery A. 1943 (French) Translated Gall N. 1999 (Russian)		346 385	.20 .17
<i>The Mission of Mr Perkins in the Land of the Bolsheviks</i> Korniichuk O. 1944 (Ukrainian)		556	.92
<i>My Son</i> Sosiura V. 1944 (Ukrainian)		161	.11
<i>The Sentence is not Subject to Appeal</i> Shilman P. Minz B. 1945 (Ukrainian)		192 743	.64 .60
<i>The Second Confession</i> Stout R. 1949 (American English) Translated Ed. Damirly Yu. 1993 (Russian)	counting counting	129 117	1.0 .71
<i>Humor and Satire</i> Oliynyk S. 1954 (Ukrainian)		387	.42
<i>The Lord of the Rings. The Fellowship of the Ring. Book I. Volume 2. Chapter 6-12.</i> Tolkien J. 1955 (English)		425	.99
<i>The Drawing No. 407</i> Lin M. Sin Kh. 1957 (Mandarin Chinese) Translated Modenov S. Sinko T (Ukrainian)		240	.46
<i>Too Many Clients</i> Stout R. 1960 (American English) Translated Kusko N. 1993 (Russian)		1402	.81
<i>Harriet the Spy</i> Fitzhugh L. 1964 (American English)		867	1.00
<i>Jesus Christ Superstar</i> Rice T. 1970 (English)		409	1.00
<i>Space Mowgli</i> Strugatsky A. Struhatsky B. 1971 (Russian) Translated Sagan A. Ed. Shchavursky B. 2011 (Ukrainian)	counting	51	0.20
<i>Muana Puo</i> Pepetela 1978 (Portuguese) Translated Berezhny A. 1985 (Ukrainian)		97	.06
<i>Mayombe</i> Pepetela 1971 (Portuguese) Translated Berezhny A. 1985 (Ukrainian)		1290	.17
<i>Forever Young. 1500-Years Old Kyiv in Soviet Poetry</i> (95 authors) Ed. Osadchuk P. 1982 (Ukrainian)		623	.05
<i>Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets</i> Rowling J.K. 1998 (English) Translated Morozov V. Eds. Malkovich I. Polishchuk P. 2017 (Ukrainian)		1100 1158	1.00 .11

TABLE 1. Continued

Book Title, author, year, language		Sum of plural and singular addressing a person	Content of plural addressing a person
<i>Mytkozaur from Yurkivka</i> Stelmakh Ya. 2000 (Ukrainian)		1131	.27
<i>Spies</i> Frayn M. 2002 (English)		492	1.0
<i>Dreams from My Father</i> Obama B. 2004 (American English)			
Translated Valevska N. 2021 (Ukrainian)	counting	102	.06
<i>Pavlik Morozov</i> Poderviansky L. 2005 (Ukrainian)		249	.33
<i>Kuzkina Mat</i> Suvorov V. 2011 (Ukrainian)		398	.42
<i>Head of Jacob</i> Deresh L. 2011 (Ukrainian)		833	.29
<i>Mamay</i> Kalynets I. 2012 (Ukrainian)		175	.09
<i>The Life</i> Proian O. 2012 (Russian)		1522	.22
<i>Aenil</i> Kuzmenko D. 2012 (Ukrainian)		813	.26
<i>Wonna Be Jazz and Rock-n-Roll</i> Makhno V. 2013 (Ukrainian)		205	.06
<i>Do Not Plant a Gualdar-Rose Near the House</i> Tochkovsky V. 2014 (Ukrainian)		140	.16
<i>Poetic Legend about the Fate of Nereida Lidia</i> Ilnitska L. 2014 (Ukrainian)		11	.27
<i>Purifying via the Truth</i> Metelytsia V. 2015 (Ukrainian)		460	.32
<i>Korsun Garland to Kobzar</i> (39 authors) Ed. Metelytsia V. 2015 (Ukrainian)		347	.51
<i>Malice at the Palace</i> Bowen Rh. 2015 (English)		1861	1.00
<i>Lawyer from Lychakivska</i> Kokotiukha A. 2015 (Ukrainian)		59	.61
		122	.60
		281	.76
		389	.68
		458	.65
		1394	.75
<i>Plural "You" to Everyone</i> Chasnyk V. 2016 (Russian)		134	.95
<i>Virgin of Mlynyshche</i> Lys V. 2016 (Ukrainian)		1551	.22
<i>Necklace of Ukraine</i> Korsunskaya T. 2016 (Ukrainian)		29	.21
<i>Hryhory Skovoroda. Narcissus and Philosopher</i> Malynochka A. 2016 (Russian)		342	.13
<i>Strong Name Nadia</i> Savchenko N. 2016 (Ukrainian)		1318	.40
<i>All the Birds in the Sky</i> Anders Ch. 2016 (American English)		1655	1.00
<i>Spring of Soul</i> Tymofiev V. 2017 (Ukrainian and Russian)		142	.03
<i>The Invaluable Gift</i> Chasnyk V. 2017 (Russian)		228	.96
<i>A Book of Verses for Children</i> Sharoyko V. 2017 (Ukrainian)		21	.38
<i>Let Physics Blossoms among Sciences</i> Chornomorets N. 2018 (Ukrainian)		77	.39
<i>Meetings and the Time</i> Chasnyk V. 2018 (Russian and Ukrainian)		131	.95
<i>The Bells of Maidan</i> Portnykov V. 2018 (Ukrainian)		370	.61
<i>The Churchill Factor</i> Johnson B. 2014 (English)		428	.70
Translated Hirych Yu. 2021 (Ukrainian)			

TABLE 1. Continued

Book Title, author, year, language		Sum of plural and singular addressing a person	Content of plural addressing a person
<i>Spouse Diplomat</i> Yurchuk O. 2020 (Ukrainian)		414	.98
<i>Anyone, but only not me</i> Kruk H. 2021 (Ukrainian)		368	.19
CHASNYK LAB			
<i>Boris Godunov</i> Pushkin A. 1825 (Russian)		417	.24
<i>Poltava</i> Pushkin A. 1828 (Russian)		147	.00
<i>Eugene Onegin</i> Pushkin A. 1831 (Russian)		330	.40
<i>Dubrovsky</i> Pushkin A. 1832 (Russian)		349	.52
<i>Masquerade</i> Lermontov M. 1835 (Russian)		795	.51
<i>The Captain's Daughter</i> Pushkin A. 1836 (Russian)		772	.27
<i>Princess Ligovskaya</i> Lermontov M. 1836 (Russian)		285	.86
<i>A Hero of Our Time</i> Lermontov M. 1840 (Russian)		1091	.62
<i>The Three Musketeers</i> Dumas A. 1844 (French) Translated Valdman V. Lifshits D. Ksanina K 1976 (Russian)		6730	.92
<i>Twenty Years After</i> Dumas A. 1845 (French) Translated 1977 (Russian)		6838	.93
<i>Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea</i> Verne J. 1870 (French) Translated Yakovleva NG. Yakovleva NP. Korsh E. 1956 (Russian)		798	.93
<i>The Mysterious Island</i> Verne J. 1874 (French) Translated Yakovleva NG. Yakovleva NP. Korsh E. 1956 (Russian)		742	.83
<i>A Dog's Heart</i> Bulgakov M. 1925 (Russian)		739	.88
<i>The Golden Key</i> Tolstoy A. 1936 (Russian)		342	.28
<i>The Master and Margarita</i> Bulgakov M. 1940 (Russian)		2218	.67
FESENKO LAB			
<i>PLAYBOY UKRAINE</i> 2014 N 12 (Russian)		341	.57
<i>PLAYBOY UKRAINE</i> 2016 N 11 (Russian)		291	.49
<i>PLAYBOY UKRAINE</i> 2017 N 3 (Russian)		386	.56
<i>PLAYBOY UKRAINE</i> 2020 N 7 (169) Декабрь (Russian)		286	.62
<i>PLAYBOY UKRAINE</i> 2021 April-May (Russian)		232	.53
<i>PLAYBOY UKRAINE</i> 2022 N 1 (Ukrainian)		291	.21
<i>MEGAPOLIS</i> 2016 N 11 (Russian)		264	.75
<i>BURDASTYLE.UA</i> 2016 N 11 (Russian)		383	.97
<i>Bulvar Gordona</i> 2017 (Russian and Ukrainian)	N 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	296 125 253 192 279 432 209	.64 .56 .60 .70 .66 .49 .73

TABLE 1. Continued

Book Title, author, year, language		Sum of plural and singular addressing a person	Content of plural addressing a person
<i>Bulvar Gordona</i> 2017 (Russian and Ukrainian)	N 13	434	.82
	14	469	.33
	16	336	.74
	17	418	.82
	18	335	.48
	19	361	.53
	20	341	.53
	21	283	.80
	22	333	.53
	23	368	.65
	24	304	.57
	25	259	.57
	26	365	.80
	28	435	.50
	29	423	.54
	30	437	.59
	31	401	.35
	32	267	.58
	33	241	.76
	34	494	.53
(Ukrainian) 2022 №2(870)		370	.79
(Ukrainian) 2022 N 10-14(879-882)		303	.85
(Ukrainian) 2022 № 16(884)		173	.60
(Ukrainian) 2022 № 20(888)		175	.88
<i>Poluvannia ta Rybolovlia (Hunting and Fishing)</i> 2017 (Ukrainian)	N 1	182	.32
	3	129	.58
	4	174	.49
	5	217	.57
	6	191	.49
	7	152	.60
<i>Nadrossia</i> 2021 (Ukrainian)	N 28 (12356)	78	.49

GENERATIVE AI STATEMENT

The author(s) declare that no Generative AI was used in the creation of this manuscript.



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Quantitative Analysis of English Literature from 1395 (Chaucer) to 2015 (Bowen)

Igor P. Fesenko

ABSTRACT

Correlation between transition in the English language to dominantly plural addressing and the social stabilization in England is estimated. The time dependence of calculated plural addressing a person in the English literature shows saturation value of 1.00 already in XIX century.

KEY WORDS

English literature, addressing number, singular, plural, social stabilization

INTRODUCTION

Counting a sum of singular and plural addressing in a text gives the possibility to estimate a tendency of using plural addressing (*pluralis maiestaticus*) as a dignifying aspect of the communication. The aim of this paper is to analyze the tendency of using plural addressing a person in the English literature.

Experimental

Number of addressing a person in a communication sentence is determined by the number of an addressing noun/name and/or a verb. One sentence may contain one or more addressing both singular and plural. Counting them in a text is illustrated in the examples:

Singular addressing a person:

– *Professor, are thou drinking coffee?* (One singular

addressing)

Plural addressing a person:

- *Professor, are you drinking tea?* (One plural addressing)
- *Professor, you are drinking tea, aren't you?* (Two plural addressing)

When there is no subject of addressing in a sentence, and a verb is in plural or singular form, we take it as an addressing a reader and count it respectfully as plural or singular:

You will remember, if you have read the tales in the first Jungle Book,... (R. Kipling) (two plural addressing)

Results and Discussion

Singular and plural number of addressing have been counted in the texts of the English literature

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from G. Chaucer to R. Bowen [1-15] and presented in the Data Base of Plural Addressing a Person [16].

The results as a total sum of singular and plural addressing, as well as calculated content of plural addressing a person in the text, show an evolutionary rise and saturation (Fig 1).

Two exceptions of this tendency are observed – *Paradise Lost* by J. Milton (1667) and *Mowgli* by R. Kipling (1894). *Paradise Lost* by J. Milton has very low content of plural addressing a person what correlates with a social position of the author being a defender of the killing of Charles I. *Mowgli* by R. Kipling (1894) has a relatively low content of plural addressing and may be explained by the fact that the author was trying to give a view of communication reality in India with its native tongues and mostly common singular addressing.

Prof. M. Schlauch [17] suggested a correlation between a transition from singular to plural addressing a person in the English language accomplished circa 1700 and the social stabilization in England. Indeed, after 1700 the killings, for example, members of the royal families have been ceased. The last queen assassinated by the English society was Maria Stuart in 1587, and the king – Charles I in 1649.

CONCLUSIONS

For the first time, the proposed by Prof. M. Schlauch correlation between the social stabilization in England and a transition in the English language to dominantly plural addressing is estimated quantitatively. The time dependence of plural addressing a person in the English literature shows saturation value of 1.00 already in XIX century.

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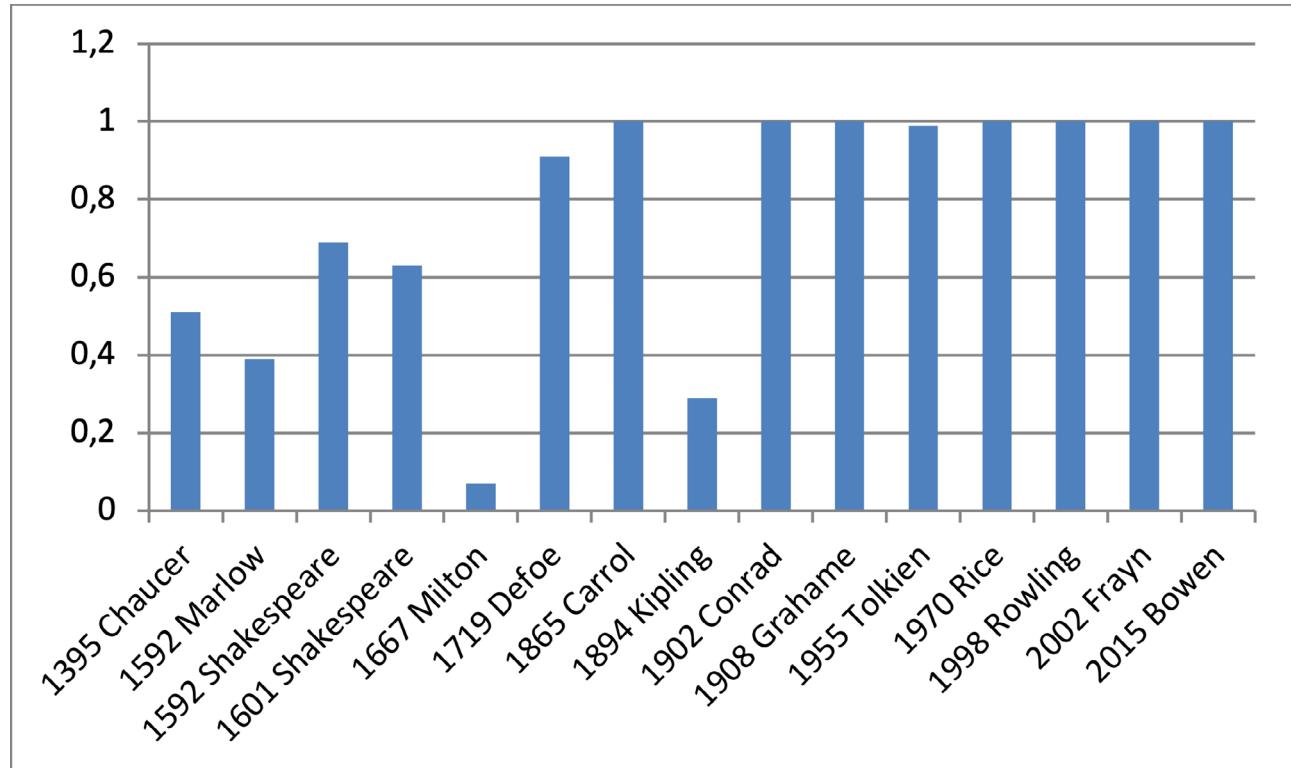


FIGURE 1. Content of plural addressing a person in texts of the English literature.

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COMMENTARY ARTICLE

Analysis of Addressing in Works of the French Literature

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When discussing a polite addressing an interlocutor per YOU there is a need in an independent evaluation of the point whether your interlocutor agrees or not with you on the matter. Thus the coefficient of politeness (content of plural addressing a person) has been arisen showing the relations in dialogues in literature works. Therefore it's not someone's point of view but an impartial reality intrinsic to a literature work of a given author; this reality can be tested by anybody because calculating the number of addressing in the text is a relatively easy task. Besides, not only some regularity in frequency of one another addressing of the characters is revealed (per YOU or THOU), but the correlation of politeness coefficient is observed with a popularity of a given literature work among readers of different ages, tastes and times.

And more to say, time is an independent parameter, collecting the literature works in terms of our new criterion – coefficient of politeness.

New possibilities for research in the literature texts are opened then – in terms of polite or impolite addressing people in a communication process.

On the other hand, the way the characters communicate depends solely on author, on her/his wish and understanding of the very historical background and time of the literature plot. How realistic is the background, how satisfactory it

approaches and characterizes the depicted events – the historians, literature critics and readers know better. Variety of estimations may be a vast one. Nevertheless, having at our disposal one more criterion for independent estimating the literary work is an additional advantage.

Dumas made characters of the novel *The Three Musketeers* – French noble men of 1600th – living in a plot, rich in adventures [1]. They address one another in plural, but in the hot moments of their risky life they suddenly use THOU, e.g. Atos and d'Artanian. He (d'Artanian) is addressed in singular more than any other character – 172 times of total 531 singular addressing in the novel. The sum of plural and singular addressing in the novel is huge – 6730, and mostly all of them are plural. The coefficient of politeness is equal correspondingly to 0.92 [2].

In a novel *Twenty Years After* [3] – as bulky as *The Three Musketeers* – the politeness coefficient is a little bit higher and is equal to 0.93. The positive gain – the difference – is caused by the less sum of addressing their servants by the noble French.

J. Verne in his novel *Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea* [4] gave some different types of addressing a person – plural (per YOU), singular (per THOU), and singular (per third person). In this way, the author shows some unexplained social meanings. We are reading that a professor Pier

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Aronaks (40 years old) saw only one tiny drawback in his servant Konsel (30 years old) – he addressed the professor only in a third person. At first sight it is a form of politeness, but when we take into account the number of a verb used in communication, this manner may be a mimicry in order to hide the singular addressing in return to low politeness of the professor with addressing a servant per THOU. During all their adventures, in most critical moments the professor never used YOU to his devoted Konsel. Although the form of addressing “My friend” is polite and comfortable, the number of addressing used by the professor permanently was singular. This is a code of J. Verne for the French language of XIX century. Konsel have heard singular addressing from the professor 47 times. That makes 78% from total 60 singular addressing in the text of ***Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea***. Moreover the professor addressed in singular twice both Ted

Land and captain Nemo. The chosen by J. Verne way of communication implicates something to the French Society.

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