

Applying Eugenio Coseriu's Linguistic *Organon* to Synonymy

Taking as a starting point Eugenio Coseriu's coherent and unitary linguistical theory (also called *integral linguistics*), we have tried to apply, within the general study of synonymy (lexical, phraseological and lexico-phraseological), distinctions such as: language as *activity* [*enérgeia*], *competence* [*dýnamis*] and *product* [*érgon*] to its three levels (*universal, historical and individual*); *norm* and *system*; *historical language* and *functional language*, etc. From this point of view, the Romanian language (as a historical language) is seen as a "*collection*" of *functional languages*. As far as we are concerned, we were interested in pointing out, for each of Coseriu's levels in turn, the difference between *synonymy in actu* (the real one) and *synonymy in potentia* (the virtual or potential one). We also aimed at drawing attention to the importance of competence (mainly the idiomatic and expressive ones) in the analysis of different types of synonymy as "knowledge" in using the synonyms.