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Pragmatic Characteristics of Serbian Requests by Native Hungarian Students

This paper examines the characteristics of requests made in Serbian by students who are native Hungarian speakers from Vojvodina, within the framework of interlanguage pragmatics. Data were collected using a discourse completion test, in which participants were asked to make both low- and high-imposition requests directed at interlocutors differing in terms of social and societal distance. While a previous phase of the research explored the request strategies employed through a contrastive analysis, the current study focuses on analyzing the specific features of the formulated requests, taking into account the use of internal and external modifications that affect the politeness of the utterances. The study also addresses the influence of participants' native language and intercultural differences. The findings shed light on the participants' pragmatic competence, while the results can be used to improve the teaching of Serbian as a non-native language.

Keywords: request, Hungarian language, Serbian language, modifiers, pragmatics