

Summary

Linguistic expressions can refer to the world or other language expressions. The subject of the dissertation is a group of metapredicative operators in the form of *maximum*, *minimum*, *maksymalnie*, *minimalnie*. These units do not have their representatives in the world, they function only within the language, i.e. at "meta" levels.

The primary objective of this study is to analyze the syntactic-semantic connectivity of the units *maximum*, *minimum*, *maksymalnie*, *minimalnie*, identify their constraints, and distinguish grammatical homonyms of the operators studied. This analysis aims to contribute to the understanding of the lexical and grammatical system of contemporary Polish, particularly at its "meta" levels.

The title operators open the syntactic positions for lexemes belonging to various classes, most commonly co-occurring with verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and other metaexpressions. These operators enable speakers to position the content of their statements at either the highest or lowest point on a scale. *Maximum*, *minimum*, *maksymalnie*, and *minimalnie* require co-occurring units that include a component of 'change'. The lexemes *maximum* and *minimum* can be classified as nouns, indefinite numerals, or metapredicative (limitation) operators. On the other hand, *maksymalnie* and *minimalnie* exhibit homonymy, functioning as both gradation and limitation operators. Notably, the first of the operators combines exclusively with forms of equal degree, while the second co-occurs only with adjectives and adverbs in the comparative degree. When these operators function as metaexpressions within a sentence, they are reducible from the syntactic structure.

The work consists of an introduction, six chapters, and a conclusion. The first three constitute the theoretical part, which presents (a) a chronological review of the grammatical classification of Polish lexemes from the 1920s to the present day (taking into account the distinction between traditional, structural, and semantic syntax), (b) the methodological assumptions of the dissertation, in line with the principles of structuralism, and (c) descriptions of the units studied in selected general dictionaries of the Polish language from the Vilnius Dictionary to the Great Dictionary of the Polish Language of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The next three chapters concern (d) the adjectives *maksymalny*, *minimalny* and their place in the system of contemporary Polish language, (e) the syntactic and semantic connectivity of the operators *maksymalnie*,

minimalnie, as well as (f) the grammatical homonymy of the expressions *maximum* and *minimum*.

13.01.2025

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