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***THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS IN THE DESCRIPTION OF
MODAL PARTICLES IN THE BULGARIAN AND CROATIAN LANGUAGES***

Abstract

This research reviews the theoretical paradigms and the approaches applied in studying modal particles within the sentence and at text/discourse level. Various aspects of the functioning of particles used for commenting on the truthfulness of the utterance, such as наистина, действително, всъщност // stvarno, zbilja, doista, ustvari, are discussed. The analysis of the excerpted material applies an integral approach combining their structuralistic description with an examination of their modifying function in the context of speech interaction. Depending on the different components in their meaning (cognitive, presupposition, and pragmatic), utterance commenting particles function as modifiers of the propositional content and of the illocutionary profile of the utterance, and as connecting and modifying words at text level.

Keywords: particles, modification, modality, speech acts, connectors, textual cohesion