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Poland

PF 2014 (LXV): 387–402

Oddziaływanie łaciny i czeszczyzny na składnię liczebników w średniowiecznej polszczyźnie

The impact of Latin and Czech on the syntax of numerals in the Medieval Polish language

Słowa kluczowe: kontakt językowy; interferencja; staropolszczyzna; składnia historyczna

Keywords: language contact; interference; Old Polish; historical syntax

Summary

This article attempts to determine the impact of languages important in the Middle Ages in the cultural and social sphere, that is Latin and Czech, on the development of the grammatical category of numerals. The author draws attention to the fact that the nature of these influences is different for each of the indicated languages. The impact of Latin had a systemic character, and manifests itself in a gradual formal categorization of number words. Factors contributing to the formation of the numeral as a part of speech include: Roman system of digital recording, adjectival nature of the Latin numerals, and the lack of dual number in Latin. The Czech influence is seen mainly in the syntax of nominal groups with numerals from 5 to 10, which in the dependent case is based on agreement, the occurrence of a singular neuter form of verbs and in numeral groups with conjunctive {a}.