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The Treatment of 'subjunctive mood' in the Description of Grammatical Systems of Spanish and Hungarian: A Comparative Study

ABSTRACT

The subjunctive mood (*subjuntivo*) is an integral part of Spanish. It is also a pivotal element of Hungarian. Acquisition of its use is a big challenge, both for learners of Spanish and Hungarian. In comparison to Spanish, however, the status of the subjunctive in Hungarian is a highly debated issue and, consequently, the intricacies of its semantics may be underappreciated and result in being neglected in many reference grammar books. In the study, we propose a typology of semantic functions of the subjunctive that takes into consideration the perspective of both language systems, which can be useful in learning and teaching Hungarian as a foreign language.

Keywords: subjunctive mood, Hungarian as a foreign language, comparative study, descriptive grammars, semantic functions

1. Introduction

The aim of the following study is the comparison of the use of the subjunctive mood in Spanish and Hungarian taking into consideration its semantic functions[1]. We are especially interested in providing an outline of differences and similarities between the descriptions, explaining how the subjunctive mood functions in the respective language systems. Our analysis will be guided by comprehensive grammar handbooks as well as reference books and will be further elaborated by our own observations. To find a new way for the generalization of very often overlapping semantic conditions behind the complexities of the subjunctive and in order to present the results of comparing and contrasting the two linguistic traditions, we will propose our own classification adjusted to the peculiarities of the two, genetically not related to each other's languages.

All the examples used here come from the parallel corpus gathered in the course of the analysis which includes language material extracted from *Grimm corpus based learners' dictionaries* (www.grimmonlineszotar.hu), *Linguee corpus*

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[1]   The term *semantic functions* is used here in the sense of Butler (2003, p. 343).

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dictionaries (www.linguee.hu) and examples provided by the *Google search engine*. These examples were obtained as an output returned for key words and expressions illustrating the use of the subjunctive, taken from the descriptive grammars of Spanish and Hungarian which will be briefly discussed in the following sections.

2. The subjunctive mood

Mood (or mode) is commonly defined as a morpho-syntactic category that serves to express the evaluation of a proposition (Sanchez Naranjo, 2014). In terms of morphology, mood is associated with the verbal paradigms and as such it should not be confused with the notion of modality which is generally treated as a larger – semantic and functional category, within the boundaries of which the morpho-syntactic mood is only one possible way of expressing modality in language (Ridruejo, 1999). Both in Spanish and Hungarian, mood is understood as a verbal category marked by inflectional affixes added to the stem of a verb. Thus, the term *mood* can be perceived as a morpho-syntactic realization of the semantic category of modality which is generally concerned with the status of the proposition and describes the ontological evaluation of the event, for instance speaker's judgment with reference to the *realis/ irrealis* opposition (Palmer, 2001). While in the case of mood, modality is formally expressed by the modification of the verbal form, in other modal systems, modality can be marked by an addition of various types of modal words or particles such as modal verbs used in English and other Germanic languages.

According to Jespersen (1924, p. 314), one of the characteristic features of the subjunctive mood is simply that of being subordinate. The fact that subjunctive mood is typically used in subordinate clauses is also stressed by its denomination which was originally introduced by medieval Latin grammarians. The more common term for subjunctive was post-classical Latin *coniunctivus, but subiunctivus* was especially favored by Priscian (5th–6th century AD) whose *Institutiones grammaticae* constitutes the culmination of the history of Greco-Roman language science (Brown, 2005). The term *subjunctive* (Latin *subiunctivus* 'subjugated', 'subjoined') is a semantic calque or in other words, loan-translation of the Classical Greek participle *hypotaktiké* that literally means 'subordinate' (Sampanis, 2012). Palmer (2001) points out, however, that the subjunctive mood can be also used in main clauses (e.g., *Quizás pueda ayudarte. Quisiera una copa de vino. ¡Vivan los novios!)* and distinguishes between the dependent and the non-dependent usages of the subjunctive.

The subjunctive is one of the three moods traditionally recognized in Spanish[2]. The two others being the indicative and the imperative. In the following study,

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[2] Sanchez Naranjo (2014) claims that there are two main moods in Spanish: the indicative and the subjunctive. The same opinion is shared by Zsoldos (2011, p. 36): "A nyelvészek abban egyetértenek, hogy a portugálban és a spanyolban két alapvető igemód van: az egymással oppozícióban álló *indicativo* (a tények, a valóság, a realitás módja) és a *conjuntivo/subjuntivo* (a bizonytalanság, az irrealitás módja)".

we will focus mainly on the semantic characteristics of the subjunctive which, broadly speaking, stress that in Spanish the subjunctive mood is used to talk about desires, doubts, wishes, conjectures, hypothetical events and possibilities. The indicative mood, on the other hand, expresses facts and other statements that are believed to be true and concrete, whereas the imperative mood is primarily used to give commands. Thus, semantic approaches generally consider that the meaning of the subjunctive is related to the speaker's attitude toward the information being reported and claim that semantic considerations such as presupposition, assertion and specificity, among others, play the most important role in the distribution of the Spanish subjunctive (Ridruejo, 1999).

The analysis of the Spanish subjunctive mood conducted in this study is mainly based on Spanish descriptive grammars (*gramáticas descriptivas*)[3] and monographic accounts whose aim is not only purely linguistic, but also pedagogical and didactic in nature. These, first of all, include the following publications: *El subjuntivo: valores y usos* (Borrego, Asencio & Prieto, 1985), *Indicativo y subjuntivo*, (Bosque, 1990), *Gramática de la lengua española* (Alarcos, 1999), *La Gramática descriptiva de la lengua española* (Bosque & Demonte, 1999), *Gramática básica del estudiante de español* (Alonso et al., 2005). Most of the Spanish example sentences used here, however, have been changed or substituted by similar Google-searched contexts to make them compatible with the Hungarian data.

3. Approaches to the subjunctive mood in Hungarian
In contrast to Spanish and other Romance languages, where the use of the subjunctive mood is considered to be one of the major grammatical features and the hallmark of these languages, the recognition of the subjunctive mood in the grammatical system of Hungarian is problematic or even controversial (Sárkány, 2018). This is partly due to the fact that in Hungarian, the subjunctive is traditionally not distinguished from the imperative due to their formal overlapping – both of them are marked by the suffix *-j* which can further undergo contextual assimilation.[4] Another, more fundamental reason behind this stance can be associated with the fact that Hungarian is not an Indo-European language and the

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[3]   In an interview, the editors of *Gramática de la lengua española* describe the aims of a descriptive grammar in the following way: "Por ser una obra descriptiva, y por su parentesco con la gramática tradicional, creemos sinceramente que cualquier persona culta y con interés por el idioma puede abordarla. Pero una parte importante de su público serán los profesores que tienen que explicar cómo funciona la lengua española a sus alumnos. También otros se beneficiarán de su existencia: los profesores y creadores de materiales para la enseñanza de español a extranjeros …" (Millán (2020).

[4]   Sárkány (2018) provides interesting evidence that – in some special cases – the subjunctive mood can be distinguished from the imperative mood in Hungarian according to the formal criteria when the word order is taken into consideration. The distinction between the Hungarian subjunctive and the imperative is also proposed in Tóth (2005, 2014).

application of the originally Latin grammatical classifications to the description of its linguistic system is very often biased since it does not reflect the internal logic of Hungarian grammar. Nevertheless, as the results of our study show, it seems to be justified to talk about the subjunctive mood in Hungarian and a lot of similarity between its use in Spanish and Hungarian can be observed.

The problem of the use of the subjunctive mood in Hungarian or its possible equivalents is very often neglected or overlooked in many theoretical or generatively-oriented comprehensive accounts of Hungarian grammar. For example, Kiss (2002, p. 43), in the chapter on "modality, tense, mood" in Hungarian, when enumerating the types of inflectional morphemes the Hungarian verb combines with, only mentions the use of the epistemic/deontic modality, conditional mood and -*j* suffix expressing imperative/subjunctive mood. No detailed elaboration or explanation of how the subjunctive mood functions is provided as the author concentrates her attention mainly on tracing morphosyntactic projections and generating trees of more theoretical than practical importance.

Kiefer (2000) and Kiefer (2006), in turn, follow a traditional approach which claims that that there are three moods in Hungarian: indicative, imperative and conditional[5]. In the case of the imperative mood, its accounts in both Kiefer (2000) and Kiefer (2006) are rather scarce (no more than one-two pages long or very short references in selected chapters) and concentrate on its structure as well as its historical development rather than semantic properties or its functions. According to Kiefer (2006, p. 304, 320), the marker of the imperative mood can be traced back to Proto-Finno-Ugric or Uralic *-*k* which later in Ugric languages, including Hungarian, vocalized to -*j*.

In the functionally and cognitively-oriented grammar of the Hungarian language (Tolcsvai-Nagy, 2017), on the other hand, the references to the Hungarian subjunctive mood are quite numerous – the term *kötőmód* is mentioned eight times in the Index – but no account, exclusively devoted to this grammatical category, is proposed. On the whole, the subjunctive mood is mostly discussed in the context of subordinated clauses and types of sentences. In Hungarian, the term *subjunctive mood* is rendered as *kötőmód* [binding mood] or *kötőmódú igés szerkezet* [subjunctive verbal construction] and its marker (*kötőmód jele*) is assumed to be the suffix -*j* (Tolcsvai-Nagy, 2017, p. 835). In the case of other grammar books and studies referring to Romance languages written in Hungarian, the equivalent of *subjunctive mood* is *kötőmód* in the majority of Hungarian publications, but in some of them, it is also translated as *felszólító mód* [imperative mood] (Zsoldos, 2011)[6].

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[5]   The original wording goes as follows: "A magyar nyelv három igemódot különbeztet meg: kijelentő, felszólító és feltételes módot" (Kiefer, 2006, p. 304).

[6]   The original quotation has the following form: "A magyar kiadású leíró nyelvtanokban többnyire kötőmódként szerepel, de előfordul felszólító mód néven is" (Zsoldos, 2011, p. 36).

Since the use of the subjunctive mood is one of the biggest challenges a learner of Hungarian has to face, the problem has received more attention in the descriptive grammars of Hungarian intended to be used by foreigners. However, none of them provides any reference or comparison to the use of subjunctive mood in Spanish or other Romance languages and they generally focus on how the verbal forms are constructed and conjugated in various paradigms – which, in the case of Hungarian, is an extremely complex task in itself. Furthermore, in many grammar books, only the term *indicative mood* is given and no mention is made to *subjunctive mood*.

The problem of the use of subjunctive mood in Hungarian receives the biggest coverage in *Gyakorló magyar nyelvtan/A Practical Hungarian Grammar* (Szita & Görbe, 2009), but its authors use the term *imperative mode* only and apply a Hungarian-English comparative perspective. Similarly, in *A magyar mint idegen nyelv grammatikája/A Grammar of Hungarian as a Foreign Language* (Budai, 2015), the whole chapter is devoted to the discussion of the imperative mood. In *Practical Hungarian Grammar* (Törkenczy, 2005), on the other hand, the chapter devoted to the use of the subjunctive mood is called: *The Conjunctive-Imperative*. In contrast to this, the author of *Hungarian: An Essential Grammar* (Rounds, 2001) does not use the word *imperative* at all and sticks to the term *subjunctive* throughout her book. In the Index, under the entry for *imperative*, the following information is provided: *see subjunctive*.

4. Semantic functions of the subjunctive mood in Spanish and their Hungarian counterparts

4.1. The semantic function of *demanding desired states*
The results of our analysis show that the biggest degree of equivalence in the use of the subjunctive mood in Spanish and Hungarian is achieved in the function of *demanding desired states* where one person expresses a wish toward a third person or with reference to a given state of matters that should be transformed or changed. This function corresponds to the traditional categories of influence (*influencia*) and volition (*voluntad*) in descriptive grammars of Spanish. It is typically realized by means of subordinate clauses introduced by verbs such as:

querer/akar [to want]
(1)
 Laura quiere que tú **limpies** el baño. Laura azt akarja, hogy **tisztítsd** meg a fürdőszobát [Laura wants you to clean the bathroom] (Grimm)[7].

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[7]   For ease of comparison, the forms of subjunctive are given in bold. All the examples come from our comparative corpus which was compiled according to the rules described in the Introduction.

desear/akar, óhajt, kíván [to desire, to wish]

(2)

¿Qué desea que **piense** y **haga** su público después de su discurso? Mit akar, hogy a közönség **gondolkodjon** és **csináljon** beszéde után? [What do you want your audience to think and do after your talk?] (Grimm).

sugerir, aconsejar, recomendar/javasol, tanácsol [to suggest, to advise]

(3)

Sugiero que Alfonso **lea** este libro. Azt javaslom, hogy Alfonso **olvassa** el ezt a könyvet [I suggest that Alfonso read this book] (Google).

pedir, rogar, solicitar/kér, felszólít [to ask, to request]

(4)

Amnistía Internacional pide al gobierno español que **presione** a Chile. Az Amnesty International felszólítja a spanyol kormányt, hogy **gyakoroljon** nyomást Chilére [Amnesty International calls on the Spanish government to put pressure on Chile] (Google).

exigir/követel [to demand]

(5)

Exigimos que **se vaya**. Azt követeljük, hogy **távozzon** [We demand that he leave] (Google).

mandar, ordenar/parancsol [to order]

(6)

Te ordeno que **pongas** tu habitación en orden de inmediato. Azt parancsolom neked, hogy azonnal **tegyél** rendet a szobádban [I order you to put your room in order immediately] (Grimm).

permitir, dejar/enged, lehetővé teszi [to allow]

(7)

No voy a permitir que me **insulten**. Nem engedem, hogy **sértessenek** [I will not allow them to insult me] (Google).

prohibir/megtilt [to forbid]

(8)

Te prohíbo que **salgas** de casa. Megtiltom, hogy **elmenj** otthonról [I forbid you to leave home] (Grimm).

impedir/megakadályoz [to prevent]

(9)

No puedes impedir que **me vaya**. Nem akadályozhatod meg, hogy **elmenjek** [You can't stop me from leaving] (Grimm).

causar, hacer que/okoz, rávenni [to cause]

(10)

Hace que alguien **venga** de un lugar más distante a uno más cercano. Azt okozza, hogy valaki egy távolabbi helyről egy közelebbire **jöjjön** [It causes someone to come from a more distant place to a closer one] (Google).

As can be seen in the examples above, the function of *demanding desired states* in both Spanish and Hungarian is realized by *statements of influence*[8]. In the 10 types of statements of influence presented in (1) – (10), the subject of the verb in the main clause tries to influence the outcome of the action in the subordinate clause by wanting, ordering, needing, causing, allowing, prohibiting, advising, persuading or encouraging it to happen, or by avoiding it. When the subject of the main verb is not the same as the subject of the subordinate verb, the subjunctive must be introduced in both Spanish and Hungarian. In Spanish, it is preceded by the subordinate conjunction *que* 'that' and in Hungarian by *hogy* [that]. In Hungarian, however, the use of the subordinate conjunction *hogy* (in Hungarian *kötőszó* [binding word]) is often optional, very much like the use of the subordinate conjunction *that* in English, as shown in the examples (14a) and (14b).

The use of the subjunctive in the function of *demanding desired states* is not always dependent on the function of subordination and the subordinate mood expressing this semantic function can be used in main clauses as well. Thus, the symmetry between Spanish and Hungarian is continued when we consider such parallel sentences as:

(11)
 ¡**Viva** el presidente! **Éljen** az elnök [Long live the president!] (Grimm).

(12)
 ¡Que **se vaya**! Hadd **menjen** el! [Let him go!] (Grimm).

(13)
Que Polonia **crezca** fuerte y el pueblo **viva** en un bienestar. Lengyelország **erősödjön**, és a nép jólétben **éljen** [May Poland grow strong and the people live in well-being][9] (Google).

It should be also observed that both in Spanish and Hungarian, some verbs belonging formally to the 10 types of statement of influence presented in (1)-

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[8]   Tóth (2005, pp. 177–178) uses the term *directives* for this class of verbs and enumerates the following Hungarian representatives of the category: *parancsol, megparancsol, felszólít, rászól, kér, megkér, utasít, kíván, elrendel, javasol, biztat, buzdít, követel, ajánl, tanácsol, könyörög, kényszerít, kötelez, meghagy, rászorít, rimánkodik, ráhagy, mond, megmond, figyelmeztet, üzen, ír, szól, felhatalmaz*. In Spanish, a list of *verbos de influencia* is given, for example, in *Gramática de la lengua castellana* (1917), nueva edición, reformada, Madrid: Real Academia Española.

[9]   The use of the subjunctive in the sentences of this type is very similar to that which is often described as *deseo ritual* in Spanish (Bosque, 1990). In the following examples of this use, only those Hungarian equivalents are given where the parallel use of the subjunctive in the function of 'ritual desire' can be observed, e.g., *que aproveche* [enjoy your meal], *que duermas bien/aludj jól* [sleep well], *que tengas mucha suerte* [good luck], *que te vaya bien* [all the best], *que mejores* [get well], *que Dios te proteja/Isten éltessen* [may God protect you] (in Hungarian literally: May God make your life long, usually used in the sense of Happy birthday*), que Dios te bendiga/Isten áldjon meg* [God bless you], *que tengas un buen viaje* [have a good trip], *que lo pases bien/érezd jól magad* [have a good time].

(10) may not imply the function of *demanding desired states* in certain contexts. In these cases, they are followed by the indicative. Consider, for example, the difference between these two sentences:

(14)
a. Me dice que **siga** adelante. Azt mondja, (hogy) **menjek** tovább [He tells me to go ahead] (Grimm).

b. Me dice que la vida sigue adelante. Azt mondja, (hogy) az élet megy tovább [He says life goes on] (Grimm).

The verb *decir/mond* [to say, to tell] can be used for reporting facts (14b) and then, it is followed by the indicative in a subordinate clause or it can express orders (14a), in which case, it is obligatorily followed by the subjunctive subordinate clause and semantically belongs to the function of *demanding desired states*.

4.2. The semantic function of *achieving aims*

The function of *achieving aims* is very closely related to that of *demanding desired states*. Nevertheless, it deserves to be assigned to a separate semantic category because of its frequent and consistent association with the use of the subjunctive mood in Hungarian. In Spanish, on the other hand, it is often realized by the use of the infinitive. The subjunctive mood in the function of *achieving aims* is typically used after the subordinate conjunction *ahhoz, hogy* [so that], *azon célból, hogy* [for the purpose of] or *azért, hogy* [in order to] and it typically conceptualizes the projection of reality in accordance to our plans, needs and aims:

(15)
Mucha gente vive en el campo para poder (para que **pueda**) estar más al aire libre. Sokan élnek vidéken azért, hogy többet **lehessenek** a szabadban [Many people live in the countryside to be able to spend more time outdoors] (Grimm).

In many contexts where in Hungarian the subordinate clause is used to express purpose of an action and where the subject of the main clause is the same as the subject of the subordinate clause, the subjunctive is obligatory in Hungarian while in Spanish the infinitive preceded by *para* [in oder to] is used in the function of *achieving aims*:

(16)
Trabajan duro para cuidar su hogar y su tierra. Keményen dolgoznak, hogy **gondoskodjanak** az otthonukról és a földjükről [They work hard to take care of their home and their land] (Grimm).

The use of the subjunctive in the function of *achieving aims* can be also triggered by some verbs expressing intention, purpose, pursuit of goals (e.g.,

lograr, conseguir/elér [to achieve, to attain]) or certain nominal phrases used in the main clause such as *el objetivo es que/a cél az, hogy* [the aim is that]:

(17)
Logra que le **den** la custodia de los tres niños. Eléri, hogy neki **ítéljék** mindhárom gyermek felügyeleti jogát [She succeeds in being granted the custody of the three children] (Google).

(18)
El objetivo es que el investigador **obtenga** una imagen clara sobre la presencia o ausencia de cada criterio. A cél az, hogy a kutató világos képet **kapjon** az egyes kritériumok meglétéről vagy hiányáról [The objective is for the researcher to obtain a clear image of the presence or absence of each criterion] (Linguee).

4.3. The semantic function of intensifying quantification/negation

The subjunctive mood can be used to inteinsfy some logical operations such as quantification (inclusion) and negation (exclusion). Both in Sapanish and Hungarian, the subjunctive accompanies contexts where the speaker wants to intensify the meaning of everything or in all circumstances and which corresponds to the use of the universal quantifier in logic[10]:

(19)
Pase lo que **pase**, tenemos la intención de continuar apoyándonos mutuamente en estos esfuerzos. Bármi is **történjen**, továbbra is támogatni szándékozunk egymást ezekben az erőfeszítésekben [Whatever happens, we do intend to support each other in these efforts] (Google).

(20)
Sea como **fuere**, nos hemos visto obligados a aceptar este arreglo anudado al margen de nosotros. Bárhogy is **legyen**, kénytelenek voltunk elfogadni ezt a tőlünk elválasztott megállapodást [Be that as it may, we were obliged to accept this arrangement hatched without us] (Linguee).

(21)
Cualquiera que **sea** el operador turístico, hay precios fijos para los niños. Bármelyik utazásszervezőről **legyen** is szó, rögzített árak vannak a gyerekek számára [Whatever tour operator we take, there are fixed prices for children] (Google)

(22)
No hay diferencias entre los idiomas, **sean** hablados por una minoría o una mayoría. Nincs különbségek nyelvek között, kisebbségi vagy többségi nyelvről **legyen** szó [There are no differences between languages, no mater whether they are spoken by a minority or majority] (Linguee).

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[10] The universal quantifier is marked by the use of the following formula ($\forall x$) and it can be linguistically interpreted as 'For all x' or 'Whatever x you choose' (Grygiel, 2013).

In Spanish, the subjunctive accompanies another logical operation – that of negation, but in analogical Hungarian, the conditional or the indicative mood is preferred in these contexts:

(23)
No hay ninguno que me **guste**. Nincs olyan, ami tetszene/tetszik [There is none that I like] (Grimm).

(24)
No digo que **sea** el mejor remedio. Nem mondom, hogy ez lenne/lesz a legjobb orvoslás [I'm not saying it's the best remedy] (Grimm).

In Hungarian, on the other hand, the subjunctive is used in negatively construed contexts where the subject of a sentence does not know which choice should be made, which option to choose or what to do. The Spanish equivalent construction here uses the infinitive:

(25)
 No sé cómo describirlo. Nem tudom, hogy hogy **írjam** le [I don't know how to describe this] (Grimm).

(26)
No tengo ni idea qué hacer. Fogalmam sincs mit **csináljak** [I have no idea what to do] (Google).

(27)
 ¿Qué película debería ver? Milyen filmet **nézzek**? [What movie should I watch?] (Grimm).

4.4. The results of the comparative analysis in the remaining semantic functions
The use of the subjunctive mood in Spanish is generally assumed to be extended onto such semantic functions as *expressing doubt*, *expressing hope, expressing surprise* and *expressing possibility*. However, in Hungarian the subjunctive is not used in the majority of statements associated with these meanings:

(28)
Si yo **fuera** rico. Ha gazdag lennék [If I were rich] (Grimm).

(29)
Espero que yo lo **sepa** hacer. Remélem tudom, hogyan kell csinálni [I hope I know how to do it] (Google).

(30)
Me sorprende que **pienses** eso. Meglep, hogy ezt gondolod [I'm surprised that you think this] (Grimm).

(31)
 Ojalá que todo **salga** bien. Remélem, hogy minden jól megy./Bárcsak minden jól menne [I hope that everything goes well] (Grimm).

The corpus of examples in our analysis shows that, in Hungarian, when constructions associated with the expression of possibility, such as *lehetséges, hogy* [it is possible that], are matched with the expression of surprise, then the use of the subjunctive is possible in Hungarian as well:

(32)
Lehetséges, hogy ne **legyen** számla a csomagban? ¿Es posible que no **haya** una factura en el paquete? [Is it possible that there is no invoice in the package?] (Google).

(33)
Lehetséges, hogy valaki **szeresse** az ellenségét? ¿Es posible que alguien **ame** a su enemigo? [Is it possible for someone to love their enemy?] (Grimm).

Additionaly, the use of the subjunctive is obligatory in Hungarian after a number of expressions associated with the meaning of *possibility* and *hope,* but in Spanish their sense may be often rendered by the infinitive rather than the subjunctive:

(34)
A kis létszámú csoportos óra ugyanúgy **lehetőséget biztosít arra, hogy** sokat **beszélhessünk** angolul. Las clases en grupos con pequeño número de participantes también brindan la oportunidad de hablar mucho inglés entre nosotros [Classes with a small number of participants also provide the opportunity to speak a lot of English between us] (Linguee).

(35)
Ráadásul itt **mód van arra** is**, hogy** sokat **kérdezzünk** egymástól. Además, aquí hay posibilidad de preguntarse el uno al otro [Besides, there's a possibility to ask a lot of questions here] (Grimm).

(36)
Kubica szerint **nem zárható ki, hogy** ismét az F1-ben **versenyezzen**. Según Kubica, no se puede descartar que **vuelva** a competir en F1 [According to Kubica, it cannot be ruled out that he will compete in F1 again] (Google).

(37)
A titkosított átvitel ellenére **nem zárható ki, hogy** harmadik fél az átadott adatokhoz **hozzáférjen** vagy manipulálja azokat. A pesar de la transmisión encriptada, no se puede descartar que terceras personas **puedan** acceder o manipular los datos transmitidos [Despite the encrypted transmission, it cannot be ruled out that third parties may access or manipulate the transmitted data] (Linguee).

(38)
Alig várom, hogy eljöjjön az a nap. No puedo esperar a que **llegue** ese día [I can't wait for that day to come] (Grimm).

Conclusion

The use of the subjunctive mood in Hungarian, in many respects, resembles the semantic functions it may assume in Spanish. Generally speaking, Hungarian and Spanish always use the subjunctive to express a state that is a future (or later in time), desired and hypothesized projection of reality which is meant to be contrasted by the speaker with the present, objective state of affairs. The element of futurity which makes an integral part of the semantics of the subjective mood is responsible for the fact that many occurrences of the subjunctive in Hungarian can be aligned with the counterpart occurrence of the infinitive in Spanish. In the occurrences expressing explicit hypotheses, for example in conditional clauses, the Spanish subjunctive is replaced with the conditional mood in Hungarian. For the expression of many emotions, on the other hand, Hungarian prefers the use of the indicative in cases where the subjunctive is obligatory in Spanish.

The knowledge of the semantic functions of the Spanish subjunctive, which is a thoroughly studied and successfully applied theme in Spanish descriptive grammars, can be used for teaching many aspects of the subjunctive (imperative) in Hungarian. It seems that learners and teachers of Hungarian as a foreign language, especially those with a prior knowledge of Spanish or other Romance languages, can benefit to a greater extent from an approach which relies on a comparative perspective and builds on already acquired linguistic competences.

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