

## SYNTACTIC INNOVATIONS IN THE BULGARIAN CHILD LANGUAGE

VELKA POPOVA

KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKY UNIVERSITY OF SHUMEN

labling@shu.bg

**Abstract:** The article analyses problems related to the mastery of the Bulgarian language at early and preschool age. An attempt has been made to show the significance of the “syntactic beginning” for the linguistic achievements in ontogenesis on the basis of some observations on the speech production of five Bulgarian children. The focus of this research is on syntactic innovations, which, in the context of the system’s potential, compensate for the child’s linguistic and cognitive deficits and create conditions for expanding and enhancing his/her linguistic competence. Speech data is analyzed and interpreted both “vertically” and “horizontally”. This double-oriented research paradigm creates favorable conditions for the optimal realization of the main goal we have set, namely the syntactic innovation phenomenon to be presented not so much and not only “vertically” as a deviation from the norm, but also “horizontally” as a supporting language mechanism that provides the relevant development phase with child-friendly constructions.

**Keywords:** Child language, Bulgarian, Syntactic innovations

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✉ *Prof. Velka Popova, PhD*  
Department of Bulgarian Language  
*Konstantin Preslavski* University of Shumen  
115A Universitetska St., Shumen 9700, Bulgaria