Speech Acts in the History of English

Summary / Zusammenfassung
In the context of this project, specific speech acts are studied in the history of the English language. Did earlier speakers of English use the same speech acts that we use today? Did they use them in the same way? How did they signal speech act values and how did they negotiate them in case of uncertainty? Specific speech acts that have already been studied in detail within this project include insults, apologies, and compliments.

As a next step, a larger project is planned on expressive speech acts. In these speech acts the expression of the speaker's feelings takes precedence over other functions. Relevant examples are greetings, farewells, compliments, apologies, insults and so on.

Publications / Publikationen


flying to flaming. Journal of Historical Pragmatics 1.1, 67-95.

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