

## Author's voice and text structure: Features, moves and sections in the *Associação Portuguesa de Linguística* abstracts (2001 – 2010)

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This paper focuses on the 142 abstracts published in the “Associação Portuguesa de Linguística” (APL) *Proceedings* between 2001 and 2010 (<http://www.apl.org.pt/actas.html>). It aims to retrace the genre's evolution towards an international model, according to what Portuguese Linguistics gate-keepers adopt, recommend and accept. The analysis is based upon an *Interactionnisme Sociodiscoursif* framework (Bronckart 1996, Stoean, 2009) and a Text Linguistics combined model (Adam 2001; Coutinho and Miranda 2009). Methodology includes data analysis of external and internal linguistic properties, of content selection and order, and text comparison in a diachronic perspective. The *corpus* shows a marked evolution in linguistic features related to stance, peer-readers' attraction devices, contents selection and order. Earlier abstracts are either Portuguese versions or English translations: the authors' voices are clearly distinctive through devices such as personal pronouns and marked verbal forms (*fizemos, consideramos*). Furthermore, longer sentences, frequent hedging devices, subordinate constituents, heavy subjects (Bennett, 2011), longer GPs and a variety of text plans confirm that text and sentence structures are unmistakable signs of a “Portuguese identity”. These features are scarcer in abstracts from later years, which also present more coordinated constituents, nominal phrases and conventional IMRaD plans, usually found in English abstracts from other academic communities (Flowerdew, 2002; Hyland, 2004, 2012; Martín-Martín, 2005; Swales, 2004). These choices follow a standard model that becomes visible by the end of the decade. Overall, the evolution shows that the building up of the abstract as a genre is linked to an on-going process of identity change in this academic community (Fløttum, 2012). Although the APL is mainly focused on Portuguese language issues, its abstracts present a more standardized version of the genre. The process may have its consequences on the authors' identities as well, as they struggle between standard internationalization in English and individual stance in Portuguese.

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