

The functional description of Czech *jinak* and Upper Sorbian *hinak/hewak* between usage differences and different grammatical traditions

According to the most recent Czech academic dictionary (ASSČ), the word *jinak* occurs in three basic functions: as an adverb (with the meaning ‘differently’, ‘else’), as a conjunction (‘otherwise’, ‘or’, ‘also’) and, standing in the initial position of a sentence/clause, as a particle (‘anyway’). Upper Sorbian often translates *hinak* for the adverbial usage, while the other two functions mostly can be translated with the equivalent *hewak*. This also corresponds to the German equivalents *anders* to the former use, and *sonst*, *ansonsten*, *anderweitig* to the latter.

However, in Faska’s descriptive grammar of Upper Sorbian, *hewak* and *hinak* are both listed as non-congruent confrontative-differing comparing pronouns with different ranges of semantic-syntactic functions (Faßke & Michalk 1981, 657). Especially for *hewak*, with its usage oscillating between content words (adverbial) and function words (particle, conjunction), this approach seems more comprehensive than with the help of parts-of-speech labels as cited above from the ASSČ. Compare the following examples of Upper Sorbian *hewak* in a clear adverbial usage from the Upper Sorbian corpus *Hotko*:

(1) *Njejsym tež jenička serbska mać w hewak němskim mustwje, a tak su so němscy starši hižo na serbske rozmołwy zwučili.*

‘I’m also not the only Sorbian mum in the otherwise German team, so the German parents have already got used to Sorbian conversations.’

(2) *»Wón lětsa hišće bóle tži hač hewak«, wona rjekny.*

‘“He’s lying even more than usual this year,” she said.’

Other adverbial usages correspond to Czech constructions with adjectives such as *jiný*, e. g.:

(3) *Štó da bě hewak hač tónle šmotawy čerwjeny hepjel wina na jeje njezbožu?*

‘Who else was to blame for her accident but that filthy red lout?’

Moreover, while in Czech the particle *jinak* is listed as a part of the particle constructions *jak jinak* (*než*),

‘how else (but)’ the Upper Sorbian equivalents *kak hewak* (*hač*) can be seen as free constructions with *hewak* as a connecting pronoun, which is used similarly with other interrogatives, e. g., *štó hewak* ‘who else’, *hdže hewak* ‘where else’.

In our paper, we consider how to apply our research of this borderline, lexical-grammatical phenomenon into a purely practical guide for a dictionary entry. Our questions include what level of information is ideal for users, so as not to overwhelm them. In other words: how much should we simplify and generalize (various) descriptions from grammars (cf. e.g. Aijmer 2006 or Martinková 2014). Departing from the original version of Jiří Mudra’s entries for both Upper Sorbian words, we analyze further material from monolingual and multilingual corpora as well as further Upper Sorbian and German dictionaries and grammars. It seems evident that Upper Sorbian *hewak* has widely adapted the various functions of German *sonst* and *ansonsten* which leads us to the comparison with German formal descriptions of these lexical items and their translations to Czech. In doing so, we identify differences in language usage on the one hand and terminological differences and different grammatical traditions as a source of intercultural non-comprehension on the other.

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