

A CONTRASTIVE STUDY OF DEONTIC MODALITY IN GEORGE ORWELL'S *ANIMAL FARM*

ALEXANDRA STAN*

Abstract Modality is characterized by the important fact that it may be found within the grammar of all languages, which cannot be said of mood, for instance, another category of grammar. The present paper aims to identify deontic modal markers, specifically four English modal verbs, in George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, and analyze the grammatical / lexical instruments used for rendering them into five Romanian translated editions. The conclusions reveal that, although English seems easier in lexicalizing the meanings of modality, Romanian tends to be more explicative and thus, more comprehensive, due to its analytic character, which provides it with more variety in the choice of words.

Keywords Deontic modality, modality markers, contrastive study, directives, commissives.

1. Introduction

Modality enables speakers to relate to propositional content and voice their attitudes toward real or unreal situations described through language. Various linguists have found a huge inventory of means for expressing modality. Therefore, if the English language makes use of such instruments as the modal auxiliaries, the semi-modal verbs (*have to*, *ought to*, *need to*), adverbs (*perhaps*), nouns (*possibility*, *duty*), adjectives (*possible*), participles (*demanding*), and lexical verbs (*wonder*), Romanian includes such means as mood, adverbs and adverbials, lexical verbs with modal meanings, and modal verbs (*a trebui*, *a (se) putea*). The present paper will focus on deontic modality in English as expressed solely through four English modal verbs, namely *could*, *must*, *shall*, and *should*, and through all the other linguistic means in Romanian.

Most contrastive studies regarding deontic modality have focused on legal texts, which is understandable, given the characteristics of this type of modality. Contrastive studies

* Transilvania University of Braşov. alexandra.stan@unitbv.ro.
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(English-Romanian) of deontic modality in fiction are lacking. Through its theme of the institution of dictatorship, George Orwell's novella *Animal Farm*, published in 1945, contains rich material filled with deontic modal markers that express obligations and interdictions. The aim is to identify these modal markers in the English text, as well as the translations and strategies used to render them into Romanian, and not to critique or suggest alternatives for the Romanian translations. The article starts by setting the theoretical framework for the study by defining and classifying modality (2.1), briefly discussing the English modal verbs (2.2) and deontic modality (2.3). The practical analysis which follows is divided into two subsections (3.2.1 and 3.2.2), and the last part provides an overview of the most relevant findings.

2. Theoretical Background

2.1 Definition and classification of modality

Palmer¹ defines modality as “the grammaticalization of speakers’ (subjective) attitudes and opinions”, relating to the whole sentence, and notices that it may be found in many languages. The author expresses the idea that it is highly unlikely for a modal system not to exist in every language, claiming that it may be grammaticalized differently and the actualization may be performed with different grammatical means. English, for instance, possesses the system of the modal verbs.

Lyons,² as well as Palmer himself, distinguishes between two kinds of modality: *epistemic* (“concerned with matters of knowledge, belief” or “opinion, rather than fact”) and *deontic* (“concerned with the necessity or possibility of acts performed by morally responsible agents”). Von Fintel³ defines modality as the “category of linguistic meaning having to do with the expression of possibility and necessity”, and operates a six-fold taxonomy: *alethic*, *epistemic*, *deontic*, *bouletic* / *boulomaic*, *circumstantial*, and *teleological*.

A slightly different terminology was used by Quirk⁴ to illustrate the same two types of modality: *intrinsic* (for deontic) and *extrinsic* (for epistemic). The former expresses such notions as *permission*, *obligation*, and *volition*, which involve a certain degree of human control over events, whereas the latter is representative for *possibility*, *necessity*, and *prediction*, which typically involve human judgment of what is likely or unlikely to happen.

McGregor,⁵ on the other hand, highlights two main types of modality (*epistemic* and *deontic*), and three other secondary types (*competential*, *potential*, and *irrealis*). *Competential*

¹ F.R. Palmer, *Mood and Modality* (London: CUP, 1986), 16.

² quoted in F.R. Palmer, *Mood and Modality* (London: CUP, 1986), 18.

³ Kai von Fintel, “Modality and language,” *Encyclopedia of Philosophy – Second Edition*, edited by Donald M. Borchert (Detroit: MacMillan Reference USA, 2006), 1.

<https://web.mit.edu/fintel/fintel-2006-modality.pdf> (accessed on 23 March 2024).

⁴ Randolph Quirk, Sidney Greenbaum, Geoffrey Leech, and Jan Svartvik, *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (London: Longman, 1997), 219.

⁵ William B. McGregor, *Semiotic Grammar* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1997), 228.

modality is another name for *dynamic* modality, while *potential* modality refers to an unactualized situation which might (have) occur(red), but did not / has not (yet) (which is different from the epistemic type of possibility expressed in, for instance, *might (have) occur(red)), but I don't know*). *Irrealis* points to the fact that the situation is not actualized at the time of speech.

Moving on to the Romanian literature on modality, *Gramatica Limbii Române II*⁶ defines it as:

the semantic, partially grammaticalized, category, which expresses the speaker's reference to a propositional content, his cognitive, volitive or evaluative attitude towards the state of events, real or potential, described through language.

[my translation]

Here, four types of modality are listed: *epistemic* (or *cognitive*), *deontic* (sub-divided into *prescriptive* and *volitive*), *appreciative* (or *evaluative*), and *dynamic* (considered a pseudo-modality). A fifth one is mentioned, as belonging to the field of logic, *alethic* modality, which refers to the objective truth of a proposition.

Modality in Romanian is regarded as a fundamentally subjective category, in such constructions with the 1st person singular, and in impersonal constructions which are apparently objective. However, there are different degrees of subjectivity within the category of modality. The epistemic, the deontic volitive, and the appreciative types of modality are considered far more subjective in character than the deontic prescriptive modality.⁷ Before approaching the topic of deontic modality, a description of the system of English modal verbs is salutary.

2.2 The English modal verbs

The modal verbs belong to the auxiliary class of verbs and are referred to as *modal auxiliaries*. Their features are the following, as enumerated in Thomson and Martinet⁸:

- a) they have no final -s in the 3rd person singular;
- b) they always form the negative and the interrogative according to the auxiliary pattern *modal + not* and respectively *modal + subject*;
- c) they have no proper past tenses, except for four verbs (restricted use only): *could, might, should, would*;
- d) they cannot be used in the continuous tenses;

⁶ Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române II* (Bucharest: Editura Academiei Române, 2005), 673.

⁷ Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române II* (Bucharest: Editura Academiei Române, 2005), 674.

⁸ Audrey Thomson and Agnes Martinet, *A Practical English Grammar* (Oxford: OUP, 1986), 110.

- e) they always require an infinitive, although sometimes it is understood and not mentioned (e.g. *Can you help me? Yes, I can (help you)*);
- f) they cannot occur in non-finite functions (infinitive, participle or imperative).

There are three classes of modals: the *central* modals (*can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, will, would*), the *marginal* modals (*dare, need, ought to, used to*), and the *modal idioms* (*had better, would rather / sooner, BE to, HAVE got to, etc.*), from which only the first class will be considered important to this discussion.

Here are the meanings of the central modals *can / could, may / might, must, shall / should, will / would*⁹:

- *can / could* - possibility, ability, permission
- *may / might* - possibility, permission
- *must* - (logical) necessity, obligation or compulsion
- *shall* - prediction (with 1st person subjects), volition (with 1st person subjects)
- *should* - tentative inference, obligation
- *will / would* - prediction, volition (intention, willingness, insistence).

The next subsection focuses on deontic modality and four modal verbs which have been identified as deontic modality markers in the present analysis: *could, must, shall, and should*.

2.3 Deontic modality

What is referred to as deontic (from the Greek *deon*, which means *duty*) modality “indicates whether the proposition expressed by the sentence is obligatory or permissible according to some normative background such as law, morality, convention, etc.”¹⁰

McGregor¹¹ reveals the values of deontic modality on the following scale: *obligatory – acceptable – permissible – unacceptable – forbidden*. *Obligation* and *permission* are the relevant notions which need to be described, for a better understanding of the semantics of deontic modality.

Obligation is defined as “necessity that is centered on some” person(s).¹² For instance, the utterance

⁹ cf. Randolph Quirk, Sidney Greenbaum, Geoffrey Leech, and Jan Svartvik, *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (London: Longman, 1997), 221-230.

¹⁰ Chung-hye Han, “Deontic modality, lexical aspect and the semantics of imperatives,” *Linguistics in Morning Calm* 4, (Seoul: Hanshin Publications, 1999), 1.
<http://www.sfu.ca/~chunghye/papers/morningcalm.pdf> (accessed on 23 March 2024).

¹¹ William B. McGregor, *Semiotic Grammar* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1997), 229.

¹² Charles W. Kreidler, *Introducing English Semantics* (London: Routledge, 1998), 241.
https://repository.dinus.ac.id/docs/ajar/English_Semantics_Kreidler.pdf (accessed on 23 March 2024).

You **must** drink all your milk.
 may be paraphrased as follows:
 It is necessary for you to drink all your milk.

Permission may seem a weak version of **obligation**, but Frawley¹³ considers these two categories separately. Permission cannot be graded into obligation, or vice versa.

*A scale of obligation expresses deontic distance between the reference world and the expressed world in terms of **duty**; and a scale of permission expresses deontic distance between the reference and expressed world in terms of **allowance**.*¹⁴ [emphasis added]

Huddleston¹⁵ equates obligation with *deontic necessity*, and permission with *deontic possibility*. Frawley¹⁶ clarifies the impossibility of an overlap between the two values: weak obligation is not equal to strong permission. Both values have their own scales. For example, let us take the following set of three sentences, where we have *obligation* in decreasing measure:

- a. You must drink all the milk. (order – high obligation)
 - b. You should drink all the milk. (in between a. and c.)
 - c. You might drink all the milk. (suggestion – very low obligation)
- Such a scalar classification is also met with *permission*:
- a. You may stay up late. (the strongest permission)
 - b. You can stay up late. (less strong)
 - c. You could stay up late. (the least strong)

Deontic modality in Romanian is defined as the modality indicating “the degree of obligation or permission described in a sentence, in reference to a body of pre-existent norms.”¹⁷ Again, the values describing deontic modality are **obligation** and **permission**.

Many linguists have developed another term for deontic modality: *root* (originally coined by Hofmann in 1976) modality. This term encompasses the non-epistemic senses of modals and deals with obligation, permission, volition, and ability. However, it not only includes deontic modality in its sphere, but also dynamic modality. According to Hoyer¹⁸: “root is an unfortunate term for it implies that this type of modality is the more basic,” which is why he prefers the umbrella term *nonepistemic*. Epistemic modality seems to be more clearly defined than other types of modality.

¹³ William Frawley, *Linguistic Semantics* (Hillsdale, New Jersey: Erlbaum, 1992).

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 422.

¹⁵ Rodney Huddleston, *Introduction to the Grammar of English* (London: CUP, 1984), 168.

¹⁶ Frawley, *Linguistic Semantics*.

¹⁷ Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române II* (Bucharest: Editura Academiei Române, 2005), 689.

¹⁸ Leo Hoyer, *Adverbs and Modality in English* (London: Longman, 1997), 4.

Frawley¹⁹ outlined three main characteristics of deontic modality. The first characteristic involves the distinction between the two categories of obligation and permission and their differences, which have already been discussed. The second characteristic is *futurity*, or the “directionality of the events.”²⁰ Deontic modality is, in other words, future-oriented, *i.e.* the direction of the obligation / request / order given by a speaker cannot extend into the past. The description of the obligation / request / order may, however, be encoded in the past. The last characteristic of deontic modality, according to Frawley,²¹ is *other-orientation*. Whereas epistemic modality centers on the self (with the speaker’s knowledge or beliefs, being speaker-situated and source-oriented), deontic modality includes a sense of objectivity, being other-situated and goal-oriented: “Obligations and permissions denote the involvement of the speaker *in the other*”²² [emphasis in the original]. In other words, the commitment of others is involved.

According to Palmer,²³ the features of the deontic modals are the following:

a) impossible co-occurrence with the perfective and the progressive aspects:

*You may have gone to meet your friend. (permission)

*He must have gone now. (obligation)

Hoye²⁴ lists “three exceptions to the progressive / perfective diagnostic which include the deontic (obligational) uses of SHOULD and OUGHT TO and the dynamic use of COULD, where no such restrictions apply.”

b) they require a [+animate] subject

*This table may leave. (permission)

*This coconut must leave now. (obligation)

c) the past tense forms of *may*, *can*, and *will* are *might*, *could*, and *would*, which do not function as past tense equivalents in the epistemic sense, but as subjunctives in counterfactual sentences; “there will normally be no past tense forms, for by their nature performatives cannot be in the past,”²⁵ except in reported speech.

Deontic modality in English may be expressed by moods such as the imperative and the *prescriptive* (cf. Jespersen²⁶), clausal representations (*it is obligatory that you...*), adjectives (*obligatory*), nouns (*obligation*), lexical verbs (*order*, *demand*), and modals (*must*, *may*, *can*). In Romanian, the grammatical instruments with which deontic modality is possible are moods

¹⁹ William Frawley, *Linguistic Semantics* (Hillsdale, New Jersey: Erlbaum, 1992).

²⁰ Ibid., 424.

²¹ Frawley, *Linguistic Semantics*.

²² Ibid., 425.

²³ F.R. Palmer, *Modality and the English Modals* (London: Longman, 1990).

²⁴ Leo Hoye, *Adverbs and Modality in English* (London: Longman, 1997), 75.

²⁵ Palmer, *Modality and the English Modals*, 70.

²⁶ quoted in F.R. Palmer, *Mood and Modality* (London: CUP, 1986), 10.

such as the imperative, the conjunctive with imperative value, the *hortative* conjunctive²⁷ (*Să mergem!*), modal verbs (*a trebui* and *a putea*) or adverbs (*măcar*).

3. The analysis

3.1 The material

The linguistic material was extracted from George Orwell's novella, *Animal Farm*,²⁸ published in 1945, and from five Romanian translations: Ona Frantz 2018²⁹ (translation 1, hereinafter T1), Mihnea Gafița 2022³⁰ (translation 2, or T2), Lucian Popa 2022³¹ (translation 3, or T3), Raluca Ghențulescu 2023³² (translation 4, or T4), and Teodora Moise 2023³³ (translation 5, or T5).

The first stage of the research was identifying the modal markers of deontic modality in the English text by using the feature *ctrl+f* to find the instances of modal verbs. Next, the clauses or sentences in which the deontic markers occurred were extracted (see **Appendix**) in order to provide context. The last step was to find the equivalents in the Romanian translations and list the grammatical and / or lexical means used to render the nuances of modality.

The only deontic modal markers found in *Animal Farm* are **could** (1 occurrence out of 76), **must** (22 occurrences of 26), **shall** (5 occurrences of 25), and **should** (17 occurrences of 33).

3.2 The deontic modal markers

The deontic modal markers found in the material are grouped according to two types of deontic modality, discussed by Palmer³⁴: **directives** and **commissives**.

3.2.1 Directives

Directives occur when the speaker tries to get the hearer(s) to do something, and are expressed in the novella through the modal verbs (underlined in the **Appendix**) **could** (reported speech of *can*), **must**, **shall**, and **should**. Further on, directives expressing **permission** and **obligation** will be described and exemplified. All the examples are listed in the **Appendix**.

²⁷ Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române II* (Bucharest: Editura Academiei Române, 2005), 690.

²⁸ George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Global Grey, 2021). <https://www.globalgreybooks.com/animal-farm-ebook.html> (accessed on 23 March 2024).

²⁹ George Orwell – *Ferma Animalelor* second edition, trans. Ona Frantz (Iași: Polirom, 2018).

³⁰ George Orwell – *Ferma Animalelor* revised translation, trans. Mihnea Gafița (Bucharest: Litera, 2022).

³¹ George Orwell – *Ferma Animalelor*, trans. Lucian Popa (Bucharest: Clasicai literaturii, 2022).

³² George Orwell – *Ferma Animalelor* fourth edition, trans. Raluca Ghențulescu (Bucharest: Cartex 2000, 2023).

³³ George Orwell – *Ferma Animalelor*, trans. Teodora Moise. (Bucharest: ASTRO, 2023).

³⁴ F.R. Palmer, *Mood and Modality* second edition (London: CUP, 2001).

I / Permission

a) **affirmative could** (giving permission in reported speech)

1. She was telling them that all animals were now comrades and that any sparrow who chose could come and perch on her paw; but the sparrows kept their distance.³⁵

Into Romanian:

○ verb *a putea* in the indicative mood, imperfect + present conjunctive

T1, T2: putea să vină să se așeze

T3: putea să vină să se cocoțe

○ verb *a putea* in the indicative mood, present conditional + present conjunctive

T4: ar putea să vină să se așeze

T5: ar putea să se așeze

II / Obligation

a) **affirmative must** (expressing *internal obligation* – when the speaker is exercising his own authority over himself; also, it “usually implies that the speaker is in a position of some authority”³⁶)

1. To that horror we all must come-cows, pigs, hens, sheep, everyone.³⁷

Into Romanian:

○ the verb *a fi* in the indicative mood, present + deontic adjectives *silit, obligat* + present conjunctive

T1: sîntem siliți să ne îndreptăm

T2: suntem siliți s-ajungem

T3: suntem obligați să ajungem

○ indicative mood, future (expressing a promise or threat, see **3.2.2**)

T4: veți ajunge

T5: vor avea aceeași soartă

2. What then must we do?³⁸

Into Romanian:

○ verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present + present conjunctive (also example 5, T4, T5; example 10, T2, T3; example 12, T1, T3; example 21, T1, T2)

T1: trebuie să facem

³⁵ George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Global Grey, 2021), 12.

³⁶ F.R. Palmer, *Modality and the English Modals* (London: Longman, 1990), 73.

³⁷ Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 3.

³⁸ Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 3.

- o verb *a fi* / *a avea*³⁹ in the indicative mood, present + *de* + the supine (also example 12, T4, T5)

T2: e de făcut; T4: este de făcut

T3, T5: avem de făcut

5. “Comrades”, he said, “there is a point that must be settled.”⁴⁰

Into Romanian:

- o verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present + participle (also example 12, T2)

T1, T3: trebuie lămurită; T2: trebuie rezolvată

10. For that day we all must labour, / All must toil for freedom’s sake.⁴¹

Into Romanian:

- o indicative mood, future

T1: vom trudi, vom munci

T4: vom lupta

- o imperative sentence, present *hortative* conjunctive⁴²

T2, T4: să trudim

T5: să muncim, să trudim

- o adverb *musai*⁴³ + present conjunctive

T3: musai să trudim

13. These Seven Commandments would now be inscribed on the wall; they would form an unalterable law by which all the animals on Animal Farm must live for ever after.⁴⁴

Into Romanian:

- o verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, imperfect + present conjunctive (also example 14, T1, T3, T4, T5; example 15, T1, T4, T5; example 16, T1; example 17, T1, T3, T4, T5)

T1: trebuia să guverneze

T2: trebuia să trăiască

T4, T5: trebuiau să respecte

- o verb *a urma* in the indicative mood, imperfect + present conjunctive

³⁹ Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române II* (Bucharest: Editura Academiei Române, 2005), 691.

⁴⁰ George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Global Grey, 2021), 3.

⁴¹ Ibid., 4.

⁴² See Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române II*, 690.

⁴³ See ibid., 691.

⁴⁴ Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 9.

T3: urmau să trăiască

14 According to Napoleon, what the animals must do was to procure firearms and train themselves in the use of them.⁴⁵

Into Romanian:

- verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, perfect conditional + present conjunctive (also example 15, T2)

T2: ar fi trebuit să procure (the translation of *do* is omitted in favor of the translation of *to procure*)

15. According to Snowball, they must send out more and more pigeons and stir up rebellion among the animals on the other farms.⁴⁶

- impersonal structure *a fi nevoie*⁴⁷ in the indicative mood, imperfect + present conjunctive

T3: era nevoie să fie trimiși

16. Certainly the animals did not want Jones back; if the holding of debates on Sunday mornings was liable to bring him back, then the debates must stop.⁴⁸

Into Romanian:

- verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, imperfect + participle (also example 17, T2)

T2: trebuiau desființate

T3: trebuiau curmate

T4, T5: trebuiau oprite

21. We must get help at once," said Clover.⁴⁹

Into Romanian:

- verb phrase *a avea nevoie* (suggesting deontic necessity⁵⁰) in the indicative mood, present

T3: avem nevoie

T4, T5: ai nevoie

b) **negative must** (laying an obligation not to act)

3. And remember, comrades, your resolution must never falter.⁵¹

⁴⁵ George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Global Grey, 2021), 20.

⁴⁶ Ibid., 20.

⁴⁷ Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române II* (Bucharest: Editura Academiei Române, 2005), 692.

⁴⁸ Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 21-22.

⁴⁹ Ibid., 44.

⁵⁰ Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române II* (Bucharest: Editura Academiei Române, 2005), 692.

⁵¹ Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 3.

Into Romanian:

- impersonal verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present + present conjunctive (also example 4, T3-T5; example 6, T2-T5; example 7, T1-T5; example 8, T2-T5, example 9, T2-T5; T5; example 18, T1-T3)

T1 : nu trebuie să șovăiți

T2 : nu trebuie să vă părăsească

T3 : nu trebuie să vă șovăie

T4, T5 : nu trebuie să vă pierdeți

4. No argument must lead you astray.⁵²

Into Romanian:

- imperative sentence, present *hortative* conjunctive (also example 8, T1; example 9, T1)

T1: să nu vă abateți

T2: să nu vă rățăsească

him.⁵³ 6. And remember also that in fighting against Man, we must not come to resemble

Into Romanian:

- affirmative verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present + present conjunctive, negative

T1: trebuie să nu ajungem

18. Remember, comrades, there must be no alteration in our plans.⁵⁴

Into Romanian:

- indicative mood, future

T4: nu vom aduce

T5: nu va apărea

c) **negative shall** (interdiction)

1. No animal shall wear clothes. No animal shall sleep in a bed. No animal shall drink alcohol. No animal shall kill any other animal.⁵⁵

Into Romanian:

- imperative sentence, present *hortative* conjunctive

T1: să nu poarte, să nu doarmă, să nu bea, să nu ucidă

⁵² George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Global Grey, 2021), 3.

⁵³ Ibid., 3.

⁵⁴ Ibid., 27.

⁵⁵ Ibid., 9.

- indicative mood, future

T2, T3: nu va purta, nu va dormi, nu va bea, nu va ucide

- verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present + present conjunctive

T4, T5: nu trebuie să poarte, nu trebuie să doarmă, nu trebuie să bea, nu trebuie să ucidă

d) **affirmative *should*** (tentative for *must*, strong recommendation, indicating “what the speaker thinks is right”⁵⁶)

2. And what has happened to that milk which should have been breeding up sturdy calves?⁵⁷

Into Romanian:

- verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, perfect conditional + present conjunctive (also example 3, T1, T2, T4, T5; example 10, T4, T5; example 17, T2)

T1, T2: ar fi trebuit să hrănească

T4, T5: ar fi trebuit să facă mari

- impersonal verb *a se cuveni*⁵⁸ in the indicative mood, perfect conditional + present conjunctive (also example 3, T3; example 8, T3)

T3: s-ar fi cuvenit să hrănească

4. Ribbons, he said, should be considered as clothes, which are the mark of a human being.⁵⁹

Into Romanian:

- verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present conditional + participle (also example 6, T1, T4, T5)

T1, T5: ar trebui considerate

T4: ar trebui private

- verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present + participle (also example 6, T2, T3)

T2: trebuie considerate

T3: trebuie socotite

4. All animals should go naked.⁶⁰

Into Romanian:

⁵⁶ F.R. Palmer, *Mood and Modality* second edition (London: CUP, 2001), 76.

⁵⁷ George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Global Grey, 2021), 2.

⁵⁸ Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române II* (Bucharest: Editura Academiei Române, 2005), 691.

⁵⁹ Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 8.

⁶⁰ Ibid., 8.

○ verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present + present conjunctive
T1-T3: trebuie să umble

○ negative verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present + present conjunctive
T4, T5: nu trebuie să poarte

8. There was much discussion as to what the battle should be called.⁶¹

Into Romanian:

○ verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, imperfect + participle

T1: trebuia denumită

○ verb *a fi* in the present conjunctive + participle

T2: să fie numită

○ verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present conditional + present conjunctive
(also, example 11, T1; example 17, T1, T5)

T4: ar trebui să fie numită

T5: ar trebui să se numească

10. The harvest was a little less successful than in the previous year, and two fields which should have been sown with roots in the early summer were not sown because the ploughing had not been completed early enough.⁶²

Into Romanian:

○ verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, perfect conditional + participle

T1: ar fi trebuit însămânțate

○ verb *a urma* in the indicative mood, imperfect + present conjunctive

T2, T3: urmau să fie însămânțate

11. The hens, said Napoleon, should welcome this sacrifice as their own special contribution towards the building of the windmill.⁶³

Into Romanian:

○ verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, imperfect + present conjunctive (also, example 15, T1, T3; example 17, T4)

T2: trebuiau să salute

T3, T4: trebuiau să întâmpine

T5: trebuiau să considere

⁶¹ Ibid., 17.

⁶² George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Global Grey, 2021), 23.

⁶³ Ibid., 24.

15. Boxer looked at Napoleon to know whether he should crush the dog to death or let it go.⁶⁴

Into Romanian:

- verb *a strivi* in the present conjunctive

T2: să strivească

- verb *a putea* in the indicative mood, present + infinitive

T4: poate ucide

T5: poate zdrobi

17. Not only the most up-to-date methods, but a discipline and an orderliness which should be an example to all farmers everywhere.⁶⁵

Into Romanian:

- verb *a putea* in the indicative mood, imperfect + infinitive

T3: puteau fi

According to Palmer,⁶⁶ “deontic modals may occur after verbs of insisting, deciding, intending, etc., where the verb itself is an indication of the performative.” Taking this observation into account, the case for the deontic modal marker *must* is illustrated through the *italicized* words in the **Appendix**, examples 11 (*were agreed*), 19 (*announced*), 20 (*it was laid down as a rule*), and for *should* through the *italicized* words in examples 1 (*it had been agreed*), 5 (*a unanimous resolution was passed*), 7 (*it was agreed*), 9 (*to be accepted*), 12 (*absolutely necessary*), 13 (*decreed*), 14 (*decreed*), and 16 (*had commanded*).

3.2.2 Commissives

Through *commissives*, the second type of deontic modality discussed herein, the speaker commits himself / herself to doing something (thus actualizing promises or threats) by using the modal *shall* with 2nd and 3rd person forms.

2. Remember, comrades, there must be no alteration in our plans: they shall be carried out to the day.⁶⁷

Into Romanian:

- verb *a trebui* in the indicative mood, present + participle

T1: trebuie îndeplinite

⁶⁴ Ibid., 31.

⁶⁵ George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Global Grey, 2021), 50.

⁶⁶ F.R. Palmer, *Modality and the English Modals* (London: Longman, 1990), 188.

⁶⁷ Orwell, *Animal Farm*, 27.

- verb *a fi* in the indicative mood, future + participle

T2: vor fi executate

T3: vor fi aduse la îndeplinire

T4: va fi terminată

- phrase *a duce la bun sfârșit* in the indicative mood, future

T5: vom duce la bun sfârșit

4. Conclusions

This paper set out to determine the English modal markers that express deontic modality in George Orwell's novella, *Animal Farm*, and to extract the grammatical / lexical means for translating them from five Romanian editions. The synthetic and analytic character that a language possesses is relevant when it comes to lexical and grammatical constructions. Regarding this issue, both English, and Romanian seem to have their advantages and disadvantages.

For instance, the synthetic character of English allows it to actualize the markers of modality more easily than Romanian (thus seeming poorer lexically), which is analytic (and thus requires more than one word). But its disadvantage is that it is rather prone to ambiguity, as a result of its advantage. For instance:

- the modal *must* in example 10, T1 and in example 18, T4 and T5 is translated by means of the indicative mood, future, resembling the use of *shall* in 3.2.2;
- the same modal *must* in example 13, T3 is translated using the verb *a urma* in the indicative mood, imperfect, resembling the use of *would* in the same sentence;
- the modal *should* in example 8, T2 is translated using the present conjunctive, which can have imperative (and deontic) reading after specific connectors like *what* (=cum) in reported speech⁶⁸; the same situation occurs in example 15, T2, with the connector *if* (=dacă)⁶⁹;
- in example 10, T2 and T3, *should* is translated using the verb *a urma* in the indicative mood, imperfect, nonsuggestive of deontic modality.

On the other hand, Romanian (as a consequence of its analytic character) is richer than English in lexical instruments and in its informational content, due to the great variety of words chosen to actualize any type of modality.

⁶⁸ Academia Română, *Gramatica Limbii Române I* (Bucharest: Editura Academiei Române, 2005), 389.

⁶⁹ Ibid.

An interesting step in this direction could be to apply the theory of translation studies to this, or other fictional work, in order to examine and discuss the translation principles and procedures used in rendering modal markers in multiple translated editions.

Appendix

Examples containing deontic modal markers, extracted from George Orwell's *Animal Farm*⁷⁰

Could

1. She was telling them that all animals were now comrades and that any sparrow who chose could come and perch on her paw; but the sparrows kept their distance. (p. 12)

Must

1. To that horror we all must come-cows, pigs, hens, sheep, everyone. (p. 3)
2. What then must we do? (p. 3)
3. And remember, comrades, your resolution must never falter. (p. 3)
4. No argument must lead you astray. (p. 3)
5. "Comrades", he said, "there is a point that must be settled." (p. 3)
6. And remember also that in fighting against Man, we must not come to resemble him. (p. 3)
7. No animal must ever live in a house, or sleep in a bed, or wear clothes, or drink alcohol, or smoke tobacco, or touch money, or engage in trade. (p. 3)
8. And, above all, no animal must ever tyrannise over his own kind. (p. 3)
9. No animal must ever kill any other animal. (p. 4)
10. For that day we all must labour, / All must toil for freedom's sake. (p. 4)
11. All were agreed that no animal must ever live there. (p. 8)
12. But there is another matter that must be attended to. (p. 9)
13. These Seven Commandments would now be inscribed on the wall; they would form an unalterable law by which all the animals on Animal Farm must live for ever after. (p. 9)
14. According to Napoleon, what the animals must do was to procure firearms and train themselves in the use of them. (p. 20)
15. According to Snowball, they must send out more and more pigeons and stir up rebellion among the animals on the other farms. (p. 20)
16. Certainly the animals did not want Jones back; if the holding of debates on Sunday mornings was liable to bring him back, then the debates must stop. (pp. 21-22)
17. The needs of the windmill must override everything else, he said. (p. 24)
18. Remember, comrades, there must be no alteration in our plans. (p. 27)
19. One Sunday morning Squealer *announced* that the hens, who had just come in to lay again, must surrender their eggs. (p. 28)

⁷⁰ George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (Global Grey, 2021).

20. About this time, too, *it was laid down as a rule* that when a pig and any other animal met on the path, the other animal must stand aside. (p. 42)
21. “We must get help at once”, said Clover. (p. 44)

Shall

1. No animal shall wear clothes. No animal shall sleep in a bed. No animal shall drink alcohol. No animal shall kill any other animal. (p. 9)
2. Remember, comrades, there must be no alteration in our plans: they shall be carried out to the day. (p. 27)

Should

1. *It had been agreed* that they should all meet in the big barn as soon as Mr. Jones was safely out of the way. (p. 1)
2. And what has happened to that milk which should have been breeding up sturdy calves? (p. 2)
3. And you, Clover, where are those four foals you bore, who should have been the support and pleasure of your old age? (p. 2)
4. Ribbons, he said, should be considered as clothes, which are the mark of a human being. All animals should go naked. (p. 8)
5. *A unanimous resolution was passed* on the spot that the farmhouse should be preserved as a museum. (p. 8)
6. A bird’s wing, comrades, he said, is an organ of propulsion and not of manipulation. It should therefore be regarded as a leg. (p. 13)
7. So *it was agreed* without further argument that the milk and the windfall apples (and also the main crop of apples when they ripened) should be reserved for the pigs alone. (p. 14)
8. There was much discussion as to what the battle should be called. (p. 17)
9. It had come *to be accepted* that the pigs, who were manifestly cleverer than the other animals, should decide all questions of farm policy, though their decisions had to be ratified by a majority vote. (p. 18)
10. The harvest was a little less successful than in the previous year, and two fields which should have been sown with roots in the early summer were not sown because the ploughing had not been completed early enough. (p. 23)
11. The hens, said Napoleon, should welcome this sacrifice as their own special contribution towards the building of the windmill. (p. 24)
12. It was *absolutely necessary*, he said, that the pigs, who were the brains of the farm, should have a quiet place to work in. (p. 25)
13. He ordered the hens’ rations to be stopped, and *decreed* that any animal giving so much as a grain of corn to a hen should be punished by death. (p. 29)
14. Napoleon *decreed* that there should be a full investigation into Snowball’s activities. (p. 29)
15. Boxer looked at Napoleon to know whether he should crush the dog to death or let it go. (p. 31)

16. Napoleon *had commanded* that once a week there should be held something called a Spontaneous Demonstration, the object of which was to celebrate the struggles and triumphs of Animal Farm. (p. 42)
17. Not only the most up-to-date methods, but a discipline and an orderliness which should be an example to all farmers everywhere. (p. 50)