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Sentence Form and Function in Travel Forum Contributions

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Z á s a d y p r o v y p r a c o v á n í :

Cílem této bakalářské práce je prostudovat komunikativní funkci vět v příspěvcích diskuzních fór s cestovatelskou tematikou. Autorka charakterizuje žánr diskuzních fór z hlediska média, účastníků a cíle komunikace. Dále se bude věnovat problematice komunikativní funkce vět (oznámení, otázka, rozkaz atd.) a jejich formálního vyjádření (např. deklarativní, interogativní, imperativní struktura). Vztah mezi formou a funkcí interpretuje z pragmatického hlediska v rámci teorie přímých a nepřímých mluvních aktů. Pro potřeby analýzy sestaví korpus s dostatečným množstvím jazykového materiálu; výsledky kvantitativní analýzy interpretuje na stylistické a pragmatické rovině, tj. zejména z hlediska komunikativní funkce diskuzních fór a diskurzí role příspěvatele.

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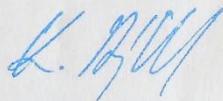
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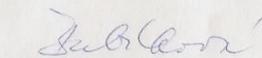
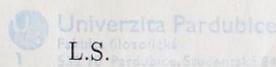
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Annotation

This thesis is devoted to sentence forms and functions in discussion forum contributions from the viewpoint of stylistics and pragmatics. The theoretical part discusses different types of clause structures and functions they express. Furthermore, the concept of speech acts focusing on a direct and indirect speech act is described. The analytical part studies the clause structures, functions and speech acts in travel forum contributions.

Keywords

sentence functions, sentence forms, speech acts, computer-mediated communication, discussion forum

Název

Forma a funkce vět v jazyce diskuzích fór s cestovatelskou tematikou

Anotace

Tato bakalářská práce je zaměřena na formální vyjádření a komunikativní funkce vět v příspěvcích diskuzních fór z pohledu stylistiky a pragmatiky. Teoretická část práce se zabývá větnými strukturami a komunikativními funkcemi, které vyjadřují. Dále představí koncept mluvních aktů se zaměřením na přímý a nepřímý mluvní akt. Analytická část zkoumá větné struktury, funkce a mluvní akty v příspěvcích cestovních fór.

Klíčová slova

komunikativní funkce vět, formální vyjádření vět, mluvní akty, počítačová komunikace, diskuzní fórum

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List of Abbreviations

CMC – computer-mediated communication

DSA – direct speech act

ISA – indirect speech act

TA – Trip Advisor

LP – Lonely Planet

Introduction

This paper focuses on sentence forms and functions in discussion forums. The aim is to observe the aforementioned grammatical phenomena and define speech acts of the clauses in travel forum contributions. Moreover, the objective is also to study the frequency of individual structures and functions.

The thesis is divided into theoretical and analytical parts. The former provides the theoretical background of sentence functions and structures. Firstly, the terms sentence form and function are introduced. Then, the concept of speech act theory is explained. The focus is centred on direct and indirect speech acts. Thirdly, the sentence functions are examined. Therefore, statements, questions, directives, and exclamations as well as additional illocutionary forces are described. In the subchapters, the attention will be also paid to sentence forms, that is declarative, interrogative, imperative and exclamative structures. The last chapter of the theoretical part is dedicated to the genre of computer-mediated communication with respect to travel forums. Moreover, the main features of the computer mediated communication genre are presented.

The analytical part applies the concepts provided in the theoretical part to the travel forum contributions. Firstly, the aim and purpose of the quantitative analysis is defined. Secondly, the source of the corpus is characterized. The corpus was assembled from Trip Advisor and Lonely Planet Thorn Tree travel forums and is available with the classification of the clauses at the end of the thesis. The corpus study consists of 54 travel forum contributions providing 240 instances of clause structures expressing a direct or indirect speech act. Subsequently, the corpus data are analysed from stylistic and pragmatic points of view. The analytical part is divided into the direct speech act and indirect speech act sections where the individual sentence functions and structures are compared and the particular instances are discussed. In the last chapter, the final summary of the analysis is provided and supported by graphs and comments on the findings.

1 Sentence Functions

Sentence functions refer to an author's purpose in uttering a sentence, phrase or clause. Crystal (2003) states: "Traditional grammars recognized four types of sentence function: statement, question, command, and exclamation." (p. 218). Sentence functions may correspond with the sentence structures but it is important to separate these two concepts as they do not always agree. The sentence functions, statement, question, directive, and exclamation, belong to the semantic class, on the other hand, the sentence structures, declarative, interrogative, imperative and exclamative associate with the syntactic class (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 804; also in Huddleston, 1993). Biber, Conrad, and Leech (2012) refer to sentence functions as speech act functions. They note that a statement, in general, informs and no specific response from the hearer is expected. Similarly, an exclamation does not require a response. Nevertheless, it shows strong feelings of the speaker. On the other hand, a question seeks information therefore a reply is required. When using a directive, an action from the hearer is expected and thus its direct function is to command or request (p. 248).

Moreover, there are more sentence functions identified. The function of a question can be realised by different types of structures, for example declarative. Similarly, directives may have different functions than commanding, such as giving a piece of advice, instructions or warning, etc. (Crystal, 2003, p. 218). According to Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech, and Starvik (1972), the sentence functions very often overlap: "For example, the single sentence *I'd love a cup of tea*. not only conveys information, but expresses a feeling and even (by implication) urges action on the listener," (p. 387).

In addition, there is the category of an echo utterance which is does not comply with any of the main types. The echo utterances are primarily used in conversation and they repeat what someone else has just uttered in order to clarify the addressee's doubts. Furthermore, any of the main sentence types can be repeated. (Crystal, 2003, p. 218).

It is important to mention the terminology used by Downing and Locke (1992) as well as Huddleston (1993). They refer to sentence functions as illocutionary force which is taken from the speech act theory. Moreover, Downing and Locke (1992) recognize only three main types of illocutionary acts: "to give information, to ask for information and to give a directive," and the illocutionary act expressing an exclamation is described as an additional one (p. 165). As can be seen, illocutionary acts correspond with sentence functions used by other grammarians mentioned above.

2 Sentence Forms

There are four basic structural types of a main clause: declarative, interrogative, imperative and exclamative. It is important to realize that each independent clause is “used to perform a speech act function” (Biber et al., 2007, p. 202).

Although a clause may have more than one function, Huddleston and Pullum (2002) note that the sentence structures belong to the grammatical system thus one clause structure cannot “belong to more than one of the categories: they are mutually exclusive” (p. 855).

Huddleston (1993) suggests referring to structural types as *clause types*. Provided that there is a multiple sentence, the separate clauses need to be classified individually as sometimes the whole sentence cannot be identified as one structural type (p. 350; also Huddleston & Pullum, 2002). However, the term clause types could be misleading as some grammarians use this term for clause patterns, such as SVO (subject-verb-object), SVC (subject-verb-complement), etc. (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 720).

In the terminology of other grammarians, Downing and Locke (1992), the sentence structures of main clauses are described as mood structures. The mood structures are defined by mood elements which are the main elements of the clause, that is a subject and the finite verb form. For this reason, the mood element is only present in finite independent clauses. They also claim that the mood element is the main part of the clause by which the illocutionary acts may be realised. Yet independent subordinate and minor clauses may perform illocutionary force even though neither of them contain the mood elements. Moreover, they recognize only three main clause types as an exclamation can be performed by a modified declarative structure (pp. 167 - 168).

As can be seen the relations between sentence forms and functions are more complex. In the first place, the sentence forms do not always correspond with the particular sentence functions (Quirk et al., 1972, p. 387). In fact, according to Downing and Locke (1992) any sentence function may be expressed by almost any sentence structure (p. 166). As mentioned above, sentence functions often exceeds to another function. So in the following chapters the individual functions and structures are described.

3 Speech Acts

In this chapter, the speech act analysis is defined. To begin with, J.L. Austin, a philosopher of language, was the first one who started to examine speech acts. His speech act theory was later

developed by Searle, as Cruse (2011) puts it (p. 363). Yule (2010) notes that “communication depends on not only recognizing the meaning of words in an utterance, but recognizing what speakers mean by their utterance” (p. 127). Therefore, he adds that the people who communicate together should share their assumptions and expectations (p. 128). In other words, the context and common background information are very important factors to succeed in communicating.

Moreover, the speech act theory has two approaches to determine the types of speech acts – speech act classification by Austin and further developed by Searle and direct and indirect speech act distinction by Searle (1979). In this paper, the speech acts are classified according to their directness or indirectness.

3.1 Speech Act Theory

First of all, the speech act theory is going to be described. Yule (1996) notes that when performing a speech act, in fact, performed three acts are performed – locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary. Locutionary act is the basic utterance with a certain sense. Illocutionary act which is performed by communicative force carries the function that the speaker intends to use. Besides, the communicative force, or the purpose is also called the illocutionary force. The third act, also known as perlocutionary effect, deals with the intended effect on feelings, thoughts or action of the hearer (Yule, 1996, pp. 48-49; Cruse, 2011; Quirk et al. 1985).

Cruse (2011) further divides the illocutionary force into *explicit*, which can be identified by means of lexical (performative verbs) or grammatical (sentence forms) features, and *implicit*, which is not fully specified and is based on the context (p. 365). In addition, Huddleston and Pullum (2007) distinguish a primary and a secondary illocutionary force. As sometimes the primary illocutionary force is expressed by means of the secondary one, for an example making an offer by stating (p. 859).

Moreover, Cruse (2011) compares the definition of Austin (1962) with the one of Lyons (1977) who also distinguishes three types of acts: “produce an utterance, compose a sentence, contextualize” (Cruse, 2011, pp. 364). As can be seen, the locutionary act corresponds with the first two acts of Lyons.

Additionally, the interpretation of an utterance is determined by means of a speech event which are circumstances surrounding the utterance, such as time, place and other utterances (Yule, 1996, pp. 47-48).

Yule (1996) states: “the term speech act is interpreted quite narrowly to mean only the illocutionary force of an utterance which is also the most discussed” (p. 49). To determine the intended illocutionary force, *Illocutionary Force Indicating Devices and felicity conditions* were introduced. The devices use the force of performative verbs. Such verbs indicate the speech act being performed. Other devices include sentence structures, punctuation, intonation and tone of the voice. The other aspect to decode the illocutionary force is the felicity conditions which is basically the context and situation in which the utterance is uttered. Felicity conditions are further divided into general, content, preparatory, sincerity and essential condition (Yule, 1996, pp. 49-51).

3.2 Direct and Indirect Speech Acts

As mentioned above, Searle (1979) proposes that speech acts can be divided into direct and indirect. He defines the indirect speech act as: “one illocutionary act is performed by way of performing another” (p. 31). Yule (2010) suggests the theory is based on the relation between the sentence form and performed illocutionary act. Therefore, the syntactic structures realising the prototypical sentence functions are classified as a direct speech act. To illustrate, an interrogative structure *Do you study?* has the illocutionary force of a question. On the other hand, if the syntactic structure, for example an interrogative structure *Could you close the door?*, has function other than a question, in this case a request, it is classified as indirect speech act (p. 134; also Yule 1996). In addition, the indirect speech acts are regarded as more polite than direct ones. (Yule, 2010, p. 135). In the terminology of Downing and Locke (1992) a direct speech act is referred as a direct illocution (p. 166). They add that the situational context is very important as the same utterance can have different illocutionary force in different situations (p. 167).

As can be seen, according to this theory, direct speech acts correspond to the use of interrogative structure with the illocutionary force of a question, declarative structure with the function of the statement, imperative structure with the function of the command or request, and exclamative structure expressing an exclamation.

Huddleston and Pullum (2007) determine two characteristics of indirect speech acts. The first one is different propositional content from the intended one. The second one is different illocutionary force from the associated clause structure (p. 862).

4 Statements

A statement is something that you say or write that gives information or an opinion (Oxford Learner's Dictionaries Online 2016).

4.1 Declarative Structure

First of all, statements are typically realized by a declarative structure. The declarative structure is formed by a subject which is followed by a predicate and complementation unless it is not modified by an inversion or ellipsis (Biber et al., 2007, p. 203). Besides, the subject may be sometimes omitted, especially in an informal conversation (Crystal, 2003, p. 218). Furthermore, there are seven major structural types to form a simple declarative clause – SV, SVO, SVC, SVA, SVOO, SVOC, SVOA (Quirk et al., 1985, 720). So the declarative structure is the basic, unmarked one and it can be affirmative or negative. If the declarative clause ends with a full stop and is accompanied by falling intonation, it is typically interpreted as a statement (Downing & Lock, 1992, pp. 171-172; Huddleston, 1993, pp. 357-358).

4.2 Statement Functions

The main function of a statement is to convey information or express an opinion. The speaker is committed to the truth of the claim which is expected to be based on evidence (Downing & Locke, 1992, p. 358). Biber et al. (2012) note: “A statement gives information and expects no specific response from the addressee.” (p. 248). This definition shows that the main function of the statement is simply to state how things are.

Example sentences:

This is my pen.

Looks like snow. – omitted subject

Although no response is expected, people often react to statements, especially to keep a conversation flowing. For this reason, there are used phrases, such as *Mmm, Really?, ok*, etc. to show interest, surprise or acknowledgement that the addressee listens. Similarly, as a response, a question may be posed to obtain more information (Leech & Starvik, 1993, p. 114).

4.2.1 Rhetorical Question

Despite interrogative structure, this type of clause has the illocutionary force of a statement, to be precise the emphatic statement. In fact, a positive rhetorical question functions as a strong

negative statement, as in *How shall I know?*. On the other hand, a negative question is like a strong positive statement, as in *Isn't it beautiful?*. (Quirk et al., 1972, 349). There is no answer expected because the point of the statement with a question-like structure is to draw the attention, which is often employed by public speakers, political leaders, and other representatives (Crystal, 2003, p. 218).

5 Questions

5.1 Interrogative Structure

Naturally, the travel forum contributions contain different types of questions. A question is typically formed by the interrogative structure. To create an interrogative structure, a VS (verb-subject) clause type is used therefore the operator is placed in front of the subject (Biber et al., 2012, p. 249). This type of word order is usually used for yes/no, wh-, alternative, exclamatory questions and question tags. Huddleston and Pullum (2002) divide interrogative structures only into two categories - open and closed. The former has many possible responses, on the other hand, the latter expect only yes/no response (p. 853).

Along with the interrogative structure, yes/no questions have raising intonation and a question mark at the end. Moreover, this type of question typically contains non-assertive forms, for example *any* and *ever*; assertive forms, such as *something*, *somebody*, and negative forms like *never*, *nobody* alternatively, negative verb forms (Quirk et al. 1985, p. 808). Sometimes the interrogative structure is ellipitd, especially in informal situations, as in example: *Got what you want?* – operator and subject are omitted (Biber et al., 2012, p. 451).

To create a wh-question, a wh-element is used in the initial position. This means that wh-word is followed by VS-order. Although there is an exception when the wh-element is the part of a prepositional complement. In this case, there is an option to put the preposition at the beginning of the sentence making a formal construction or the preposition can be placed at the end of the clause. An example of the former would be *On what did you base your prediction?*, the latter *What did you base your prediction on?*. Wh-elements include *when*, *why*, *who*, *whom*, *whose*, *what*, *which*, *where* and, also *how*. Each of them asks for a specific element in the clause. Furthermore, this type of interrogative structure is accompanied by falling intonation (Quirk et al., 1985, p 817). In addition, Biber et al. (2007) also describe an alternative to the wh-element *why*: *how come* which is used especially in informal style (p. 204).

There are two ways to form an alternative question. Similarly to yes/no questions, alternative questions may begin with the operator which is followed by the subject. However, the sentence is accompanied by falling intonation at the end. The second type of alternative questions is actually a compound of a wh-question and elliptical alternative question, as in *Which ice-cream would you like? Chocolate, vanilla or strawberry?* (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 823). Huddleston and Pullum (2002) consider the *or* element as the coordinator between two clauses so there is not any alternative structure but the alternative question is expressed by the yes/no construction (p. 870).

The interrogative structure is also used to create an exclamatory question. Although being positive in meaning, the exclamatory questions contain a negative element. The exclamatory question has not only an exclamation mark at the end but also falling intonation. Comparatively, to stress the auxiliary verb and the subject, positive verb form may be used without changing positive meaning of the exclamatory question (Crystal, 2003, p. 218).

5.2 Question Functions

The main purpose of a question is to seek information (Crystal, 2003, 218). However, Huddleston and Pullum (2002) add, “a question on its own is informationally incomplete, it needs the answer to complete it” (p. 867). In general, there are three major types of questions determined according to the type of response they expect as well as their structure (Crystal, 2003, p. 218). Firstly, there are questions that expect affirmative or negative reply, as in *Have you finished your homework?*, those are called yes/no questions. Another category of questions, wh-questions, allows an answer from the open range of possibilities and contains a wh-element, for example *Where do you live?*. The last type of question is called an alternative question. This type question requires as the response one of the presented alternatives, as in *Would you like to go to a restaurant or to the cinema?* (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 806). There is also a different segmentation of questions used by Huddleston (1993) who uses two major groups –wh interrogative and non-wh interrogative. The non-wh interrogative group includes yes/no questions and x-questions which correspond to alternative questions (p. 366).

Moreover, Huddleston and Pullum (2002) characterise the questions as closed and open, which corresponds with their classification of closed and open interrogative structures. However, on the semantic level, the classification of closed questions is further divided into polar and alternative. The open questions are called variable questions (p. 867). This classification is in

accord with the description of yes/no questions, alternative questions and wh-questions. In the following subchapters, the individual types of questions are discussed.

5.2.1 Yes/no Questions

The function of a yes/no question is to ask whether a proposition is true or false. Only *yes* or *no* answer is expected from the addressee. Naturally, there are also used other replies, such as *certainly*, *maybe*, *I don't know*, *etc.* which show different degrees of certainty (Biber et al., 2012, p. 251). Huddleston and Pullum (2002) describe other possible variants to yes/no answer with the same meaning, such as *I do*, *I have*, *etc.* for the positive answer and *I didn't*, *I did not*, *etc.* for the negative one (p. 866).

Moreover, Quirk et al. (1985) describe three types of yes/no questions depending on their form – positive, negative and neutral. The yes/no questions which contain non-assertive forms are neutral – neither positive nor negative response is expected, as in example *Did anybody clean the dishes yesterday?*. A positively-biased yes/no questions indicates that the agreement is expected. A positive question typically uses assertive forms, as in *Did someone buy milk yesterday?*. On the contrary, the negative orientation of this type of question is supported by a negative form, as in *Don't you trust me?*. Although even a positive question could have a negative meaning, as in *Do you really want to leave now?* Furthermore, negatively-biased questions are accompanied by the element of surprise or disbelief and are close to exclamations. However, in some cases, negatively-biased questions may express disappointment or annoyance especially when speaker's hopes are destroyed by a new evidence (pp. 808-809).

5.2.2 Wh-questions

The main function of wh-questions is to obtain missing information. The wh-word which is at the beginning of the clause relates to the missing element (Biber et al., 2012, p. 250). There is no limit to the number of possible answers. This is the reason why Huddleston and Pullum (2002) classify this type of question as open (p. 867). Quirk et al. (1985) also describe the wh-questions but they refer to this type of questions as information questions and demonstrate different functions of each wh-element:

Who put the glass on my table? – asking for a subject

Which car did you take? – asking for an object

Whose beautiful antiques are her? – complement of subject

How far did you take your dog? – complement of object

When did you meet my brother? – adverbial

Where do you work? - adverbial

How did you do it? – adverbial

How much does it cost? - adverbial

How long have you been living here? - adverbial

How often do you visit your grandparents? - adverbial (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 818)

Furthermore, according to Huddleston and Pullum (2002) two or more wh-elements can be coordinated. The elements may have the same function, as in the example: *How many pencils and how many notebooks have you prepared?* or different functions, as in *Where and when did you take it?* (p. 874).

In addition, Huddleston and Pullum (2002) describe the occurrence of “the bare infinitival construction” which can be found in independent clauses typically beginning with *why*, as in *Why not go to see the game?*. This type of structure indicates that the speaker thinks there is not any excuse therefore it is always considered as a suggestion. The example sentence would be interpreted as *I suggest that you go to see the game*. On the other hand, a finite construction *Why don't you go to see the game?* could be interpreted either as an indirect directive or the speaker could be asking for valid reasons (p. 874).

5.2.3 Alternative Questions

An alternative question gives the addressee options which he or she can choose from as the reply. The clear indicators of this type of question are the conjunction *or*, as in the example below, and the falling intonation at the final alternative (Biber et al., 2012, p. 251). Huddleston and Pullum (2002) add that there might be more than two options (p. 869).

A: *Do you want tea or coffee?*

B: *Tea.*

Besides, the intonation is an important factor to distinguish a yes/no question from the alternative one (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 823; Huddleston & Pullum, 2002). As mentioned before, the yes/no questions have raising intonation whereas the alternative questions have falling intonation To demonstrate:

1. A: *Shall we go to see a movie or stay at home?* B: *Stay at home.*
2. A: *Shall we go to see a movie or stay at home?* B: *No, let's go to the park.*

The first pair of sentences is an example of the alternative question. The respondent has chosen from the options in the question. The second one is an example of a yes/no question and the addressee simply responded *no* to the question. Huddleston and Pullum (2002) add one grammatical feature which distinguishes the alternative from the yes/no question - the adverb *either* which signals that it is unambiguously an alternative question (p. 870).

5.2.4 Tag Questions

First of all, question tags are not independent clauses, however, they also have an illocutionary force. The purpose of a tag question which is added to the end of a sentence is to seek confirmation. There is an assumption which is communicated by the statement expressed by a declarative structure and an expectation which is signalled by the question. In other words, a sentence containing a question tag involves a statement and a question (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 811). Furthermore, there is a difference between the statement and the question tag in terms of polarity. This means that a negative question tag follows a positive statement and vice versa. Nevertheless, it is possible to use a positive question tag with a positive statement (Biber et al., 2012, p. 252), as in the following example:

A: *You are in love with him, are you?*

B: *Yeah*

According to Crystal (2003), the function of a tag question differentiates dialects and occurs especially in British English (p. 218). Interestingly, the question tags may have the opposite function. Depending on the tone of the voice, there is a different degree of irritation. As in the example below: “spoken mildly, with a low falling tone, is just a slight put-down; spoken more emphatically and with a level tone, it is unpleasantly rude,” (p. 299).

A: *When will the train arrive?*

B: *We'll know when it gets here, won't we.* (Crystal, 2003, p. 299).

5.2.5 Declarative Question

A declarative question asks for confirmation, expresses surprise or disbelief. This type of question is formed by the declarative structure. However, raising intonation and a question mark at the end of the sentence is used, as in *It is raining?*. This type of question is usually used in spoken conversation. (Downing & Locke, 1992, pp. 171-172; Huddleston, 1993, p. 358). Moreover, the illocutionary force of a declarative question does not match with the interrogative construction therefore it is regarded as the indirect speech act (Huddleston & Pullum, 2002, p. 882).

Before moving on to the next chapter, a distribution of questions should be covered. According to Biber et al. (2012), all of the mentioned types of questions, in general, occurred more frequently in conversations than in writing; and yet fragments and tags create most of a conversation (p. 252).

6 Directives

6.1 Imperative Structure

An imperative structure typically uses base form of the verb (with no preceding *to*) and usually no subject (Crystal, 2003, p. 219). In addition, such clauses lack “modals, as well as tense and aspect markers” (Biber et al., 2012, p. 254). However, according to Quirk et al. (1985), the progressive and perfective aspects are possible, albeit very rare (p. 827). Although the basic imperative structure usually does not include a subject and a verb is in the plain form, other structural types need to be considered.

First of all, directives may include the subject. The basic imperative structure only indicates that the omitted subject should be expressed by the second person pronoun *you* by the presence of *yourself*, as in *Behave yourself!*, or possessive pronoun *your own*, as in *Take your own pen!*. Usage of the tag question *will you* also proves that the subject is the second person pronoun. So pronoun *you* may be added in order to stress the subject. When it occurs, the subject precedes the main verb and is not separated by any punctuation, as in *You go to bed!*. To identify the addressee, a vocative can be used. It is important to realize that unlike subject, vocative can be inserted anywhere in the sentence (Quirk et al., 1985, pp. 828 - 829).

Provided that a directive is aimed at the first-person plural, the verb *let* and subject *us*, often contracted to the form *let's*, are placed before the base verb form. To form a directive for the first-person singular, *me* is used as the subject (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 829). Nevertheless, Huddleston and Pullum (2007) note that *let* in the sense *allow* is used across all sentence forms but *let* used as a marker of the first-person imperative does not carry any lexical meaning (p. 924).

The third person can be addressed by adding pronouns like *someone*, *everybody*, *nobody*, etc. The type of imperative structure aimed at third person can be used with or without the form *let* (Quirk et al., 1985, p. 830). Besides, Huddleston and Pullum (2007) point out that the imperative structure aimed at the third person also contains the base form of the verb, e.g.

Everybody put your hands up!. So the structure is clearly distinguishable from the declarative one indicating the third person singular present tense form. They also add that bare plurals, *of you* construction as a complement, definite noun phrases and proper names may occur as the third-person subject (pp. 925 - 926)

All of the imperative structures mentioned above can be used either in a positive or a negative form. In order to negate basic imperative structure, imperative structures with second person pronoun or third person subject, the auxiliary *do* and negative particle *not* are added before the base form of the verb. In contrast, to apply negation on the first person imperative structure, the negative particle *not* is placed after *let*, as in *Let's not say anything about it.* (Quirk et al., 1985, pp. 830-831).

In some situations, a speaker wants to emphasise the demanded action. Quirk et al. (1972) refer to this type of imperative 'persuasive or insistent imperative' which can be formed by placing the operator *do* in front of the base verb form (p. 407). Swan (2009) adds that only in an imperative structure, auxiliary *do* can be followed by the verb *be* (p. 269).

Moreover, Swan (2009) also deals with the word order when using *always* and *never* with the imperative structure. In this case, the adverbs are placed at the beginning of the clause, for example *Never speak to me like that again.* (p. 269).

Interestingly, Crystal (2003) claims that there are two restrictions of the application of imperatives. In general, it is not possible to use stative verbs, for example *need*, as commands (p. 219). Quirk et al. (1972) also believe that the imperative structures should be formed by using dynamic verbs yet in certain circumstances, stative verbs may be explained as dynamic (p. 403). The second restriction is on the usage of imperative verb forms with adverbials referring to the past time period (Crystal, 2003, p. 219).

Huddleston (1993) takes the view that the term imperative structures does not cover all of the structures expressing directives. For this reason, he proposes the term jussive which is a more general term for sentence structures. The jussives are separated into two groups - imperative and non-imperative, which include various subtypes. The imperative group contains the basic imperative structure, the imperative structure with a grammatical subject and the structures with the verb *let*. The non-imperative group deals mainly with subordinate clauses or main clauses in the form of fixed expressions like *Long live...*, *So help me the God...*, etc. This group also includes more formal structures which are typical for debating style, to demonstrate *If that is what he meant, let him do it* (pp. 360-364).

6.2 Directive Functions

Many grammarians use for the directives the term commands. However, according to Crystal (2003), the term commands is not precise because it is only one of the many interpretations of directive clauses which instruct someone to do (or not to do) something (Crystal, 2003, p. 219). Furthermore, a directive call for some future action or behaviour that is expected from the addressee (Huddleston, 1993, p. 352). The function of directives can vary depending on the situation and a kind of demand made on the addressee. The following cases show the types directive illocutionary forces by Quirk et al. (1985), as well as different types of the imperative structure:

Order, command: *Open the gate!*

Prohibition: *Don't jump.*

Request: *Close the window, please.*

Plea: *Help me!*

Advice, recommendation: *Make a cup of tea for your sore throat.*

Warning: *Be careful!*

Suggestion: *Let's go to the cinema.*

Instruction: *Take the second turn right and go straight on.*

Inviting: *Take a seat.*

Offer: *Have a piece of chocolate.*

Granting permission: *Take as many as you like.*

Good wishes: *Have a good night.*

Imprecation: *Get out!*

Incredulous rejection: *Oh, come now. (You don't really mean that.)*

Self-deliberation: *Let me think.* (p. 831)

Depending on the context, content and the tone of voice, use of second person subject may add either “a somewhat impatient, irritated, aggressive, or hectoring effect” or “the opposite effect of soothing reassurance, encouragement, support” (Huddleston & Pullum, 2007, p. 926). For an example of the first set of feeling: *You get out!* and the second: *You have a cup of coffee and tell me all about it!*

Moreover, although modals, e.g. *must, should, can*, cannot be used in an imperative structure, the variety of the illocutionary force of directives is similar to theirs (Huddleston & Pullum, 2007, p. 929).

Huddleston and Pullum (2007) note, “with orders, commands and demands, compliance is required: failure to comply is countenanced” (p. 930). They divide the additional functions of directives into two groups – *wilful* and *non-wilful* depending on who benefits from the presented proposition. Wilful directives include requests, pleas and the action is in the favour of the speaker. On the other hand, non-wilful directives include advice, recommendations, warnings, instructions which are more in the interest of the hearer. Besides, permissions are in the interest of the hearer but the authority gives permission or prohibition. Invitations and offers are at the boundary between the two groups as the compliance may be desirable (pp. 930-931).

6.2.1 Requests

Requests are often more appropriate than commands as the addressee is asked not told whether he or she is willing or able to do something (Huddleston & Pullum, 2007, p. 930). What is more, to address a politer request, the imperative structure is often turned into an interrogative structure: *Will you close the window? Would you mind closing the window?* or a declarative structure: *I wonder if you would kindly close the window.* The directives with the interrogative structure functioning as request are used with the auxiliaries *will, would, can* and *could* (in the positive as well as negative forms). Typical phrases used with statements are, apart from the already mentioned *I wonder if, I would be very grateful, I would appreciate* (Leech & Starvik, 1993, pp. 146-147).

Huddleston and Pullum (2007) divide the interrogative directives into four categories and add typical expressions – ability (*can, could, would it be possible, are/will you be able*), desire and willingness (*would/will you, do you mind, would you care to*), deontic necessities (*must, have*), and reason (*why*) (pp. 939-941).

6.2.2 Advice, suggestions

Leech and Starvik (1993) remark that advice, suggestions and invitations are used to influence other people. Nevertheless, the addressee decides what to do (pp. 147-148). Huddleston and Pullum (2007) add that with suggestions “there is not the same accountability as there is with advice” (p. 930). In other words, the speaker does not take the responsibility that his or her suggestion is the best for the addressee. As Leech and Sarvik (1993) show, the illocutionary act of giving a directive may be expressed not only by the imperative structure but also declarative or interrogative structures. The declarative structures are often altered by modal verbs – *could, might* to indicate suggestions and *should* and *ought to* to indicate advice. Moreover,

performative verbs and constructions, such as *had better*, *If I were you* for advice and *let's*, *why don't we*, *what about* expressing suggestions are typically used (p. 148)

6.2.3 Wishes

Directives interpreted as wishes are not under control of neither the speaker nor the addressee. Imperative structures expressing wishes have limited usage in terms of situations (Huddleston & Pullum, 2002, p. 933). With regards to other forms expressing wishes, the declarative structure may be created to express the speaker's wishes and the interrogative structure to consult the wishes of others. Apart from performative verbs wish or want, constructions such as *would like*, *would prefer*, or *would rather*, *shall* and *should* are used (Leech & Starvik, 1993, p. 142).

6.3 Markers of Politeness

Quirk et al. (1985) state: "...the illocutionary force depends on the relative authority of speaker and hearer and on the relative benefits of the action to each" (p.831). The markers of politeness typically occur when requesting, inviting and offering and there are several different ways to make an imperative structure less stern. Huddleston and Pullum (2007) describe markers of politeness which may tone down the force of the directive. They include *please*, *just*, *kindly*, and interrogative tag *will you* used after a negative command (p. 930). Besides, Leech and Starvik (1993) add other possibilities to soften a directive – by adding tags *why don't you* and *won't you* (p. 146). On the other hand, to express strong irritation, the imperative structure is used with the stressed subject, as in *You be quiet!* (Quirk et al. 1972, p. 403).

7 Exclamations

7.1 Exclamatory Structure

Exclamatory structures are typically begin either with *what* or *how* and end with an exclamation mark. The wh-element *what* is followed by a noun then the subject and verb, for an example: *What a lovely day it is!*. The structure beginning with *how* is followed by an adjective or an adverb then the subject and verb, for example *How well he swims!*. Alternatively, *how* can be followed only by a subject and a verb. However, exclamatory sentences are often reduced to a noun phrase, adjectival phrase or adverbial phrase. That is, the

subject and verb are omitted, as in *What a lovely day!* (Quirk et al., 1985, pp. 833-834). Moreover, Huddleston (1993) suggests that wh-element *what* is usually used in informal style but *how* is more common in formal sentence structures (p. 373), also in Swan (2009). In addition, Huddleston and Pullum (2007) separate the exclamatory *how* from the interrogative one by using degree determinatives like *very*, *absolutely*, *completely*, *etc.* which are possible to add only to an exclamatory structure. Furthermore, exclamative *what* uses the indefinite article *a* with the singular countable nouns whereas the interrogative *what* does not (p. 919).

7.2 Exclamation Functions

The main purpose of exclamations is to show excitement or strong feelings, such as surprise, anger, shock, etc. (Crystal, 2003, p. 219). Huddleston (1993) interprets exclamations as sentences containing an emotive element which can be “overlaid on a statement (i), a question (li) or a directive (lii)”, as in the following examples:

i *What a rogue he was!*

li *How on earth did you do it so quickly?*

lii *Take that bloody grin off your face!*

(Huddleston, 1993, p. 352)

The exclamations which have the declarative construction often occur with the emphatic *so* or *such*, as in *You are so brave!* (Swan, 2009, p. 196; Leech & Starvik, 1993).

7.2.1 Exclamatory Questions

Exclamatory questions have an interrogative structure but the illocutionary force of exclamations. They also express strong emotions. Although, in comparison with exclamations, exclamatory questions invite the hearer to agree. Although exclamatory questions are usually negative in form, the sentence has a strongly positive meaning, as in *Wasn't it amazing!*. Positive form of the sentence can also be used but it is less common, for example *Was she cheeky! (I will say she was!)* (Crystal, 2003, 218).

8 Classification of the Genre

A travel forum is an Internet community for travellers focusing on topics about travelling. It is a way to communicate with people across the world to exchange ideas, pieces of advice, opinions and experiences.

8.1 Historical Background

Herring (1996) quoting Rheingold and Licklider et al. notes that computer networks were created in 1960s in order to make information transfer between computers. However, nowadays, computers have become one of the most frequent form of human-to-human communication (p. 2). Herring (2008) refers to such communication displayed through computer-mediated communication (CMC) devices as Internet language. Other frequently used terms are computer-mediated language, computer-mediated discourse, online discourse and electronic discourse and Netspeak. However, each of them focuses on slightly different areas. In the 1990s, there were two basic modes of CMC – email and chat rooms. During the next two decades, the computer mediated communication has expanded to blogs, wikis, social network sites, instant messaging, and Internet telephony (Herring, 2008). Earlier, only one form of computer-mediated discourse was recognized yet differences between asynchronous and synchronous communication were suggested (Herring, 2007).

8.2 Genre of Travel Forums

Travel forums are, in fact, discussion forums which are part of very-large-scale conversations. According to Sack (2000), very-large-scale conversations include thousands of people from all over the world who exchange messages on daily basis (p.73).

Different kinds of CMC could be characterized in accordance with a faceted classification scheme by Herring (2007). The scheme is divided into medium and situation factors. Medium factors cover synchronicity, message transmission, persistence of transcript, size of message buffer, channels of communication, anonymous messaging, private messaging, filtering, quoting, and message format. Situation and social factors include participation structure, participation characteristics, purpose, topic or theme, tone, activity, norms, code (in more detail Herring, 2007).

These factors are going to be examined in terms of Trip Advisor and Lonely Planet Thorn Tree travel forums. To begin with medium factors, the synchronicity is classified as asynchronous. This means that there is no need for the contributors to be logged on simultaneously to be able to send and receive messages (Herring, 2007; 2010). The message transmission on the travel forums is message-by-message, in other words, one-way transmission. As users cannot see whether somebody is typing a message until he posts it online (Herring, 2007). Moreover, there is mostly a long-term persistence of the contributions and anybody, even the people who are

not registered on the travel forums, can access the first contribution which was posted several years ago, however, the old topics are closed and it is not possible to comment on them. At the same time, the operators of the travel forums have the right to remove any contribution which does not meet their guidelines for forum. Moreover, there is no limit to the number of characters in posts. As for the channels of communication, the posts are text only. Although they often include links to other websites (videos, images, hotels, etc.) relating to the topic. The forum is pseudonymous as each user creating his own profile, which can be registered via social networks, such as Facebook or Google, selects a nickname and nationality. And then it depends on the members how much information they reveal. On a profile, it is possible to upload pictures, add some text or interest tags. Apart from the nickname and nationality, the date of registration, last activity and number of contributions can be seen. In terms of private messaging, it possible to write a private message to other members. Finally, the order of messages is always the same – each discussion topic has an initial contribution, which is always arranged as the first and then the responses are arranged below - starting from the first, oldest, one and the most up-to-date post is at the end of the conversation.

Furthermore, the situational factors are described. The communication on travel forums is public but the exact number of participants cannot be estimated as not all the members of Trip Advisor or Thorn Tree contribute to the forums. Regarding the participation characteristic, the age, roles, gender, nationality, experience and relationships of the participants differ. The purpose of the travel forums is to exchange opinions, advice, and travel experiences in a discussion. Obviously, the general topic is travelling. Moreover, the concrete subject of a conversation, such as Tickets from Gatwick airport to the city centre, can be browsed by destination. Each country is also divided more specifically by regions, cities and national parks. The tone of posts is informal and friendly and primarily, the English language is used.

8.3 Features of Computer Mediated Communication

Computer-mediated language has characteristics of both speech and writing thus sometimes referred as written speech, visible conversation or speech writ down (Herring, 2010; 2008; 2001). According to Crystal (2004), some features of spoken language are “short constructions, phrasal repetition, and a looser sentence construction” (p. 40). CMC in the form of a text does not contain sound, therefore characteristics accompanying sentences, such as intonation, cannot be evaluated (Herring, 2008). In general, Herring (2001) states: “computer-mediated language is less correct, complex and coherent than standard written language” (p. 616). Furthermore,

CMC has influenced lexicon and the Internet neologisms have been created. The typical structural CMC features include abbreviations in conversations, such as *asap*, emoticons, word formatives, and change in spelling. Graphology is also distinctive so different types of fonts and styles are used. In addition, the change in orthographic features, such as random use of capitals or no capitals or absent punctuation, has been noticed. Moreover, the words or messages in capitals are interpreted as shouting and the absent punctuation may affect the grammatical construction and lead to ambiguity. On the other hand, different usage of punctuation or kinds of symbols, for example #, *, etc., have been incorporated into the Internet conversations (Crystal, 2004, pp. 82-90).

9 Analysis

In this part of the thesis, the analysis of the sentence forms and functions and the types of the speech acts in online travel forum contributions is presented.

First, the aim of the research is covered. Then, the sources of linguistic corpuses are introduced. Thirdly, the analysis itself is performed. The principles of sentence functions, structures and speech acts described in the theoretical part of this thesis are applied to specific travel forum contributions. Finally, the overall occurrence of direct and indirect speech acts as well as comparison of initial and responding contributions are supported with graphs and commented. To begin with, the aim of the research is to map the types of sentence structures and illocutionary forces used by the contributors of travel forums, and define the type of speech acts. Moreover, the aim is also to investigate what sentence structures and functions are typically found in the contributions and to comment on the frequency.

9.1 The Source of the Corpus

The selected examples are assembled from two well-known travel forums, namely *Trip Advisor* (TA) and *LonelyPlanet – Thorn Tree* (LP). Only the contributions related to English speaking countries, namely Australia, Canada, Ireland, USA and the United Kingdom, were examined. So the corpus is composed of a wide range of topics related to travelling. To be able to determine sentence functions and types of speech acts, the whole conversations were selected. No changes of the sentences were made and the contributions in the corpus are as their authors posted them on the travel forums.

The entire corpus consists of 186 sentences some of which contain more clauses which makes it altogether 240 direct or indirect speech acts. Moreover, there were classified additional 18 non-clausal utterances. Although they do not have complete structure, they express some illocutionary force. To create the corpus, I used 11 conversations, 4 from *Lonely Planet Thorn Tree* and 7 from *Trip Advisor* travel forums. The number of contributions which were examined is 54, out of which 20 is from *Thorn Tree* and 34 from *Trip Advisor*, and they were posted by 48 contributors. In the appendix, each conversation has a number from 1 to 11 which labels the first, initial, post. Then each responding contribution below the initial post is further labelled by a number, e.g. 2.3. Each sentence has the number of a conversation, contribution, as well as its own number within the contribution separated by slash mark. To illustrate, 2.3./2 means conversation number 2, contribution 3, the second sentence. Each instance is defined with the function, structure and speech act. The identification of clauses is supported by detailed comments in the following chapters.

The clauses are examined from the viewpoint of direct and indirect speech acts. First, the direct speech act clauses are analysed which are subdivided into statements, questions and requests. Then, the indirect speech act clauses are discussed and subdivided into requests, suggestions, advice, questions, wishes, exclamations, and plea.

9.2 Direct Speech Act

Clauses which have direct relations between form and illocutionary act are marked as direct speech act (DSA). In the corpus, 142 instances representing the direct speech act performed the functions of statements, questions or requests.

9.2.1 Statements

The first analysed category of direct speech acts concerns statements. As stated in (5.2.), the main purpose of statements is state a fact or express opinion. They are typically expressed by the declarative structure. Statements with the matching declarative structure represent direct speech act unless the structure was classified as incomplete. In this case, it does not contain a subject and a finite verb form. Clauses with declarative structure and functioning as statements representing direct speech belong to the largest group as these features were observed in 122 (85,93%) instances. It was discovered that 33 examples belong to the contributions of the inquirers and 89 examples to the contributions of the people responding to the topic. The overall

number of 122 instances out of 142 instances representing the direct speech act shows that the usage of statement is dominant and the most frequent direct speech act in the corpus data. Statements in the contributions usually give background information in the initial posts and thus present the authors' situations. In the responding posts, statements often serve to give information about localities.

(1) *We will visit Banff NP and maybe some parks nearby in last week of September.*
(Appendix LP, 9/2)

(2) *It's only a short drive from Lake Louise and it's in BC.* (Appendix LP, 9.4./2)

The example number 1 is from the initial post. It gives some facts which should help the respondents to answer the question which follows this statement. Example number 2 shows two coordinated independent declarative clauses used in a responding post from the same conversation. This statement follows a piece of advice of the author and gives additional information about the place she recommends which supports the advice.

9.2.1.1 Statement – elliptic structure

During the analysis, it was discovered that some clauses expressed by a declarative structure have an omitted subject. Such clauses were still classified as direct speech act. As stated in Biber et al. (2007), utterances with ellipited subject, auxiliary or both are still considered as clausal units as the sentence elements can still be distinguished. This type of ellipses is called initial or situational ellipses (p. 1104). Although, according to Crystal (2003), this is the common feature of informal conversations (p. 218), the statements with the omitted subject were found only in 7 cases, 2 of which also lack an auxiliary verb.

Examples representing declarative structure with initial ellipsis:

(3) *agree with above post...* (Appendix TA, 3.2./5)

(4) *So far my internet search has been fruitless and have not received back any email responses.* (Appendix LP, 10/3)

(5) *Planning a road trip to yosemite/sequoia national park from Los Angeles, anyone else planning to hike out there !?* (Appendix LP, 11/1)

In the first example, the subject *I* is omitted but the meaning of the clause remains quite clear. However, the second sentence may be ambiguous as there is a different subject (*my internet research*) in the first clause and different subject (*I*) which is omitted in the second clause. The third sentence is an example of the declarative structure with omitted subject as well as auxiliary

verb in the first clause yet it is still evident that the author of the contribution is planning the road trip.

9.2.2 Questions

Direct speech act was also present in questions expressed by interrogative structures. The communication on travel forums is similar to conversation, as stated in chapter (9.3.). It is a fusion of speech and writing and thus the higher number of question was expected. However, the overall number of question representing direct speech act was only 18. Out of 11 conversations, only 6 initial posts included direct questions.

9.2.2.1 Yes/no Questions

The most frequent type of questions present in the travel forum contributions was a yes/no question. The yes/no question occurred in 10 instances.

(6) *Have you considered spending St. Patrick's Day somewhere else in Ireland?*

(Appendix LP, 8.2./1)

(7) *Can it be done in a day?* (Appendix TA, 1.2./2)

(8) *are you sure you are staying in a Hilton Hotel in South Yarra* (Appendix TA, 5.5./1)

Example number 6 has yes/no interrogative structure containing assertive form *somewhere* which makes the sentence positively biased and expects a positive answer. Although this question was not responded as well as some other questions –1.2./2, 2.2./1, 2.2./2., 5.5./1. and 7.1./6. The next example (7) is also yes/no question and this question was responded with *yes* and additional information giving details about length of the drive were added. The example number 8 does not use the punctuation in the form of a question mark indicating question however the interrogative structure clearly signals yes/no question. The responses to yes/no questions vary from *yes* answer, advice to suggestions and utterances like *Not really into hiking or seeing a live volcano*. (Appendix TA, 7.2./3) which is a response to 7.1./6 in the Appendix.

9.2.2.1.1 Yes/no Question – elliptic structure

It is possible that some yes/no questions have ellipted structures. In such cases the auxiliary verb is omitted. There is only one instance (instance 5/Appendix LP, 11/1, second clause) representing such phenomena.

9.2.2.2 Wh- questions

Wh- questions contain a wh- element as shown in chapter (6.1.) They are formed to obtain a specific answer, rather than just yes/no answer. The number of instances of wh-questions with interrogative structure is 7, out of which 4 is present in the initial posts. Only one wh-question (6/3) does not have an answer. Other wh- questions have responses in the form of statements, suggestions or other utterances, such as noun phrases.

(9) *Which club would you suggest ?* (Appendix TA, 6/3)

(10) *Of all the islands, what would be the best island to vacation and why?* (Appendix TA, 7/1)

Example 9 shows a wh-element which is part of noun phrase: *which club*. This noun phrase asks for an object. Example number 10 presents the question and at the end is also present another wh- element. As stated in the theoretical part, this is the coordination of wh- elements with different function (Huddleston & Pullum, 2002, p. 874). The first sentence in the responding contribution (TA, 7.1.) to the question is totally unrelated (TA, 7.1./1) and followed by a response (TA, 7.1./2) which also does not give the desired answer. Subsequently, additional questions are added by the author of 7.1. contribution as the topic is too broad.

9.2.2.3 Alternative Questions

In the corpus was only one alternative question analysed.

(11) *are you looking at short day hikes or multi-day back country hikes that require camping, etc.* (Appendix LP, 11.2./2)

The alternative question is also missing punctuation in the form of a question mark. Moreover, the first letter of the auxiliary verb is not capitalized. However, the sentence has a clear interrogative structure presenting two alternatives. This question is also not responded.

As can be seen, questions appeared not only in the initial contributions but also in the reactions to the posts. Although more questions were expected, so the conversation would be more interactive. However, the person sending the first post and starting the conversation on the particular topic usually does not always join the conversation later. This only happened in five cases.

9.2.3 Requests

There were only two directives with the illocutionary force of a request, representing the direct speech act: TA, 11/2 and the example below. It can be assumed that direct requests are not common on discussion forums owing to the politeness.

- (12) *And do suggest activities or places I can visit to feel the local like atmosphere during my Melbourne stay.* (Appendix TA, 6/4)

This is the example of imperative structure with emphatic *do* therefore the author wants to emphasise that she wants to know especially about places for locals.

9.2.4 Exclamations

In the corpus, no exclamative structures expressing exclamations were found. Therefore, it can be assumed that exclamative structures are not a common feature of travel forum contributions.

9.3 Indirect speech act

As presented in the theoretical part, an indirect speech act means when the form of the sentence does not match the prototypical function. There is an indirect relation between these two concepts. There were determined 98 instances representing indirect speech act. The indirect speech act clauses in the contributions have mainly the illocutionary force of advice, suggestions and requests in the form of imperative, declarative or interrogative structures. Other sentence functions in the travel forum contributions which were observed were wishes, exclamations, and one instance of plea.

9.3.1 Advice

In this chapter, instances of advice are discussed. A piece of advice offers an opinion what somebody else should or should not do. As mentioned in the theoretical part, advice as well as suggestions leave the decision on the hearer (Leech & Starvik, 1993, p. 148). The overall number of instances with the illocutionary force of advice was 40. Twenty-one were performed by using an imperative structure and 19 by using a declarative structure. As expected, all the instances functioning as advice were found in the responding contributions.

9.3.1.1 Advice – declarative structure

Out of 18 declarative structures expressing advice, there were 9 clauses with declarative structure recommending something particular. Moreover, such structures often contain expressions like *should, had better, If I were you...I would* (Leech & Starvik, 1993, p. 148). In the research, there were found five sentences containing *I would*, or the contracted form *I'd*. The instances concerning declarative structure include sentences providing a link to a website, particular name of a national park, lake, tourist attraction or company.

(13) *I'd go for the overnight tour as all of those places mentioned are worth visiting.*

(Appendix TA, 4.1./1)

(14) *i would not try to do both jasper and banff / lake louise in february.* (Appendix

TA, 3.2./1)

(15) *This tour isn't great IMHO <https://...dh06an>* (4.2./1)

The first two examples represent the structures *If I were you...I would* however, in both cases, as well as in other instances having this structure, the conditional clause was omitted. The sentence number 15 is an example of advice containing links to a website. The primary illocutionary force of advice overrides the secondary force of a statement. The author advises not to take the tour which is supported by the following statements.

As mentioned in the chapter (7.2.2.), according to Huddleston and Pullum (2002), if somebody gives an advice, it means he or she presents the best option, if compared to suggestions. Moreover, they are able to give reasons why the option is the best (p. 930). Such sentences were also observed, in particular 3 instances: 3.1./7, 11.2./2, 9.5./10. They usually contain expressions, such as *you have to, you will* and *you need to*.

(16) *Sometimes you have to book a few days early if you plan to sleep inside villages.*

(Appendix LP, 9.5./10)

This utterance could be interpreted by using a performative verb as *I advice you to book....* For this reason, it is included in this category.

9.3.1.2 Advice – imperative structure

The following part of this chapter is focused on the imperative structure with the illocutionary force of advice. All of the imperative structures in the corpus were in the basic imperative form which means the base form of the verb was used and no subject included. One of the reasons for classifying imperative structures as advice was that some of them also provided links, names

of parks, cities, etc. and thus they recommend something – 2.3./7, 3.1./6, 6.3./1, 10.2./2 and the examples below. Two clauses (8.4./4, 8.4./5) also contain the adverb *definitely* which implies that the author is sure that it is the best option.

(17) *Take a day trip to Yoho National Park!* (Appendix LP, 9.4./1)

(18) *Make sure to visit Takakkaw Falls and Emerald Lake.* (Appendix LP, 9.4./4)

Moreover, the piece of advice (19) is supported by a statement giving a clear argument why the addressee should do it.

(19) *Get help from a guide.* (Appendix LP, 9.3./1)

In addition, there were only two cases of the imperative structure in the negative form.

(20) *If you see a bear, don't walk up to it to take its picture.* (Appendix LP, 9.2./1)

(21) *Don't rent a car.* (Appendix TA, 5.1./1)

The authors advise what the other person should not do. The sentence 20 is reaction to clauses 9/3 and 9/4. The author advises the reader not to walk up to a bear in order not to be hurt. Example 21 is the answer to the yes/no question *Should I rent a car?* (TA 5/3).

9.3.2 Suggestions

Similarly to advice, suggestions are ideas which influence the hearer therefore they also occurred only in the responding contributions. There was high number of clauses (34) functioning as suggestions, which makes it very frequent feature of travel forum contributions. Fifteen of them were performed by using imperative structure, 18 suggestions were expressed by a declarative structure and 1 instance by an interrogative structure.

9.3.2.1 Suggestions – declarative structure

According to Leech and Starvik (1993), the declarative structures with the illocutionary force of suggestions often include expressions like *I suggest, You can, You could, You might* (p. 148). There are 10 cases out of 18 using such structures.

(22) *You could try couchsurfing but otherwise you're stuffed on that budget for Dublin on those dates.* (Appendix LP, 8.3./1)

(23) *You posted this on the "Island of Hawaii" forum instead of the state of Hawaii forum, you might want to post one level up to get a wider audience.* (Appendix TA, 7.1./1)

(24) *You could EASILY do all this on your own.* (Appendix TA, 4.2./3)

The example number 22 uses *could* which indicates tentativeness and says that the author is not so sure that it is the best option. Example number 23 suggests to post the contribution on a different community topic but the decision is up to the person. Example number 24 also contains *could*, which is why it was labelled as suggestion. Moreover, it uses a word in capitals, which is one of the feature of CMC and is considered as shouting (Crystal, 2004). However, in this case it seems to have a function of emphasising the fact that it really is possible to do that. Furthermore, other declarative structures functioning as suggestions contain words, such as *might, probably, also* and *for example*, which indicate that the author is not so sure or that it is one of the possible options.

(25) *Dublin is famous for being a disaster on St. Patrick's Day and Galway for a day would probably be a better option.* (Appendix LP, 8.2./2)

(26) *There are flights from Dublin to Cardiff, for example.* (Appendix TA, 2.4./5)

The compound sentence 25 is composed of a statement and a suggestion in the form of declarative structure containing the adverb *probably* and giving another option of spending a St. Patrick's Day somewhere else than Dublin. Sentence 26 contains *for examples* which indicates that there are other existing options.

9.3.2.2 Suggestions – interrogative structure

There was only one instance of suggestion expressed by an interrogative structure which was ellipted. This phenomenon is classified by Huddleston and Pullum (2002) as “bare infinitival construction” (p. 874).

(27) *Why not join couchsurfing.org and find a local who is prepared to show you around.* (Appendix TA, 6.1./1)

The instance has an omitted auxiliary and subject. On top of that, there is not a question mark at the end. Nevertheless, the sentence could be interpreted as *I suggest that you join couchsurfing.org....* The illocutionary force is not classified as wh- question because the author is not asking for any information but is giving the option of joining the couchsurfing website.

9.3.2.3 Suggestions – imperative structure

There were found 16 instances of suggestions expressed by an imperative structure. Similarly to advice, the imperative structures were in the base form.

(28) *Stay in North Wales and drive to Manchester and fly from Manchester to Newquay in Cornwall just over an hour* (Appendix TA, 2.3./3)

(29) *Or fly from Ireland to Manchester rent a car at the airport and drive to North Wales and return to Manchester* (Appendix TA, 2.3./5)

These two examples come from one contribution and there is the conjunction *or* which indicates there are possibilities to choose from. Therefore it is not labeled as advice which would unequivocally give answer but these are only offered options by the author.

Other imperative structures with the illocutionary force of suggestions contain words such as *alternatively* or they are preceded with a conditional clause.

(30) *If you' re not at either Auckland or Wellington, try the Salvation Army.*
(Appendix LP, 10.3./2)

(31) *Alternatively come to Holyhead, and see Snowdonia.* (Appendix TA, 2.1./1)

Example 30 is preceded by another contribution by the same author and the contribution 10.3. gives only additional information and another option. Instance 31 is a reaction to the contribution TA 2. and gives an alternative to the presented ideas.

9.3.3 Requests

A request is another sentence function present in travel forum contributions which represents the indirect speech act. Requests are considered to be more polite than commands if expressed by the markers of politeness, such as *please*, as noted in chapter 7.3. In the corpus, 10 requests occurred in total, 7 using the declarative structure and 3 using the interrogative structure.

9.3.3.1 Requests – declarative structure

As stated in chapter (7.2.1.), the declarative structure functioning as request often uses constructions such as *I wonder if, I would be grateful if*, etc. (Leech & Starvik, 1993, p. 147). Besides, five clauses were found in the initial contributions and two in the responding ones.

(32) *Maybe you have some suggestion where we can spent time outdoor, if safety is a priority?* (Appendix LP, 9/4)

(33) *I would appreciate any suggestions.* (Appendix TA, 2/8)

Instance 32 could be interpreted by the interrogative structure *could you give me some suggestions...* which clearly signals the polite request. Instance 33 uses one of the constructions

mentioned in the theoretical part. Other expressions that occurred in the contributions were *I am intrested in any suggestions..* (Appendix TA, 2/1), *I would love town suggestions...* (Appendix TA, 2/3).

9.3.3.2 Requests – interrogative structure

In the corpus, three requests were applied on yes/no interrogative structures but the expected response is not yes or no but requires the action of giving information.

(34) *Does anyone know of events/opportunities going on on the North Island between Auckland and Wellington (pref. Wellington) and if so can you please share?* (Appendix LP, 10/4)

(35) *Does anyone have comments or opinions about the overnight tour?* (Appendix TA, 4/3)

The instance number 34 consists of two clauses, both il as request. The first clause, similarly to the example 35, has yes/no interrogative structure but yes or no answer would not be satisfying and the author is actually asking for the information about events and overnight tour not whether somebody knows it or have comments. The second clause of instance 34 uses one of the verbs typical for polite requests: *can*; and it is accompanied by polite marker *please*. According to Leech and Starvik (1993), even more polite would be usage of *would* or *could* (p. 147). Again, there is not required yes or no answer but the author wants somebody to share the opportunities in New Zealand.

9.3.4 Declarative Questions

Another indirect speech act was created by a declarative structure which functioned as a question. This was not so common in the corpus because there were only 4 of such instances. Some of the sentences were followed by a question mark which is a clear signal indicating questions.

Examples:

(36) *I think you mean the Hilton South Wharf (not South Yarra)?* (Appendix TA, 5.1./6)

(37) *But then again, worried about tours if we did get to the areas if there were operating for Feb?* (Appendix TA, 3/6)

Both examples show that the authors are not sure and ask for confirmation. The example 36 could be completed by a question tag – *is that right?* or *don't you?*. Furthermore, the example number 37 has an ellipted structure and the subject is omitted.

9.3.5 Wishes

With regard to wishes, they also occurred in the corpus and were expressed by a declarative or imperative structure. In the corpus, 6 clauses were present. Four of them were expressed by a declarative structure. In addition, two sentences had ellipted structure where the subject was omitted. Such structures contain expressions *I would like* or *I would love*. Therefore, they express what the author of the sentence wishes.

(38) *I would like to visit a club in Melbourne where I can meet the locals.* (Appendix TA, 6/2)

(39) *Would love to see whales if possible.* (Appendix TA, 7.2./4)

Two clauses functioning as wishes were expressed by the imperative structure. They are used to wish something to somebody. In these cases, they wish a good holiday and to enjoy the trip.

(40) *Meanwhile, have a Merry Xmas wherever and whatever you end up doing.*
(Appendix LP, 10.1./4)

(41) *Good luck and enjoy your trip.* (Appendix LP, 11.2./6)

Furthermore, the example 41 shows so called polite speech act formulae (Biber et al., 2007, p. 1093) *Good luck* which is followed by the imperative structure.

9.3.6 Exclamations

There were found five instances representing exclamation –7.6./3, 8/3, 10.1./1 and the two below. All of them were expressed by declarative structures. Moreover, three of them were followed by exclamation mark.

(42) *Can't wait to go back to Hawaii!! :)* (Appendix TA, 7.4./4)

(43) *never knew such things existed.* (Appendix TA, 6.3./2)

Example 42 is a declarative structure with omitted subject *I* and shows the excitement of the author which is supported by the usage of emoticon expressing happiness at the end. Emoticons are also one of the features of CMC, as stated in the chapter 9.3. Example 43 has also ellipted

structure and was assigned to the category of exclamations because the author seems to be surprised by the responses to her contribution.

9.3.7 Plea

There was only one example sentence functioning as plea which was expressed by the imperative structure.

(44) *Help!* (Appendix TA, 3/7)

This utterance was probably used to draw the attention and show the urgency of the contribution.

As can be seen, there are various sentence functions representing indirect speech act present in the travel forum contributions. Most of them were expressed by declarative structures, in particular 55 clauses. Then, thirty-nine were expressed by imperative structures and 4 by interrogative ones.

9.4 Incomplete Structures

One of the feature of CMC is a usage of loose sentence structures. In the travel contributions were also found 18 cases of utterances conveying information but they did not fulfil requirements of the declarative, imperative, interrogative or exclamative structure. To put it differently, they did not have a subject and a main verb. However, the function of the utterances may be analysed. Utterances with the illocutionary force of statements served to give a quick response to a question and when describing places: 1.1./1, 2.3./7, 2.4./4, 7.2./2, 7.2./3, 9.4./3, 9.5./8, 10.2./3. Utterances functioning as questions contained only nouns followed by the question mark: 7.1./7, 7.1./8, 7.1./9 and 1/1 which lacks a verb and subject. Those instances were preceded by fully constructed sentences so it might be assumed that the author did not want to write full interrogative structure anymore and everyone could understand. Requests also occurred among the non-clausal utterances. They usually asked for suggestions but the auxiliary, subject and verb were omitted: 1/6, 3/4, and 4/4. Furthermore, one example of exclamation was present in the corpus: 7.4./1. Finally, two utterances concern function of advice. They provide specific links but the structure does not have a verb and subject: 5.1./4, 5.1./5.

9.5 Polite Speech-act Formulae and Greetings

Polite formulas expressing thanking, apologizing, congratulating, etc. occur regularly in conversations thus they are also present in the travel forum contributions. There were found altogether 15 examples of thanking in various forms, for instance – *Thanks, Cheers, Thank you so much, etc.* These polite speech-act formulae were mostly found in the initial contributions. Only 1 out of 11 did not contain any thanking expression. Besides, one example of apology formula was found – *my apology*, in TA 5.5./2.

Forms of greeting are another phenomenon present in the contributions, however, not so common as one might expect. According to Biber et al. (2007), “greetings are typically reciprocated in a symmetrical exchange” (p. 1085). Although the exchange is not typical for discussion forums. In the corpus, out of 54 contributions, only 8 contain a greeting expression, such as *Hi, Hi guys, Hello, etc.* So only 3,78 % posts were proceeded by a salutation.

9.6 Summary of the Analytical Part

In this chapter, the summary of the analysis is presented and the results are depicted in graphs. Firstly, the distributions of various functions representing direct and indirect speech acts are compared. Then, clause structures are observed and, subsequently, the ellipted structures are further examined. Finally, the types of functions in initial and responding contributions are contrasted.

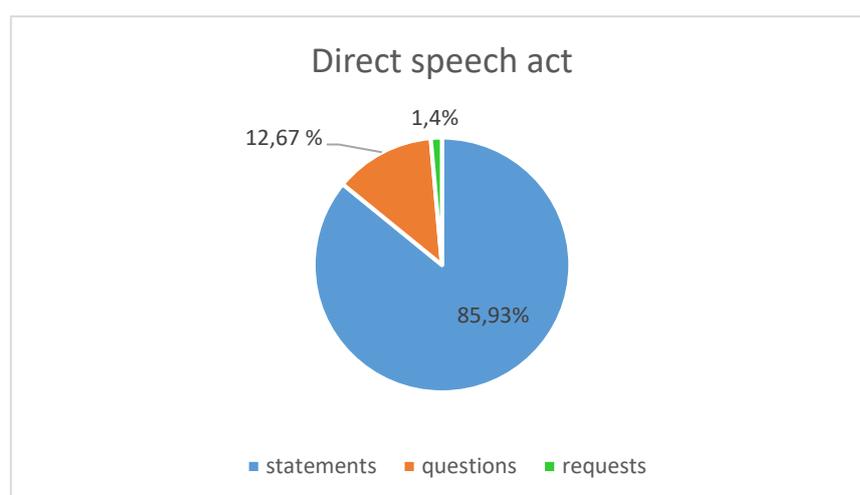


Chart 1: distribution of the functions representing direct speech act expressed in percentage

As mentioned above, 186 sentences creating 240 clause structures were assembled from the travel forums. Out of the 240 clauses, 142 represent the direct speech act and thus direct speech act is slightly more used than the indirect one with 98 representatives. Chart 1 shows that the majority of direct speech act clauses function as statements. In detail, there were 122 statements expressed by the declarative structure. The second most frequent direct function represents questions. There were found 18 questions expressed by the interrogative structure, out of which 7 represent the wh- question, 10 yes/no question and 1 occurrence of alternative question. No representatives of direct exclamations were found.

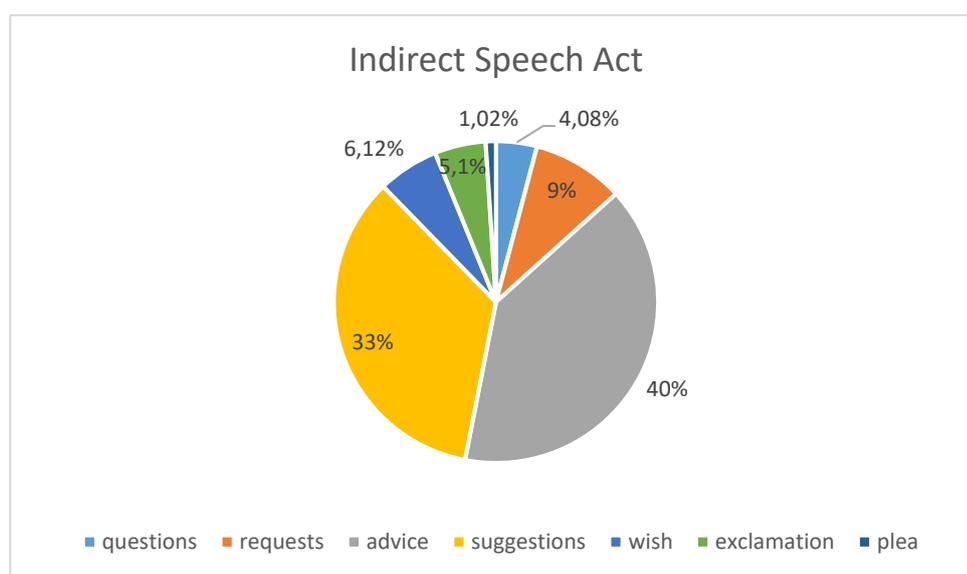


Chart 2: the function distribution of indirect speech act expressed in percentage

As the chart 2 shows, the travel forum contributions contain various indirect speech act functions. The indirect speech acts were expressed by declarative, interrogative and imperative structures. Based on the research, it can be assumed that the most frequent functions are pieces of advice – 39 instances, out of which 21 expressed by imperative structure and 18 by declarative structure, and suggestions – 34 instances, out of which 18 were expressed by declarative structure, 15 by imperative structure and 1 by interrogative structure. The third most frequent function was request with 9 findings present in the corpus. Indirect requests were expressed by declarative structure – 6 and interrogative structure – 3 instances. The less frequent indirect functions were exclamations (5 occurrences) expressed by declarative structure, wishes (4 expressed by declarative and 2 by imperative structure), and questions (4 instances expressed by declarative structure). Relatively rare phenomena are the clauses as plea (1 instance expressed by imperative structure).

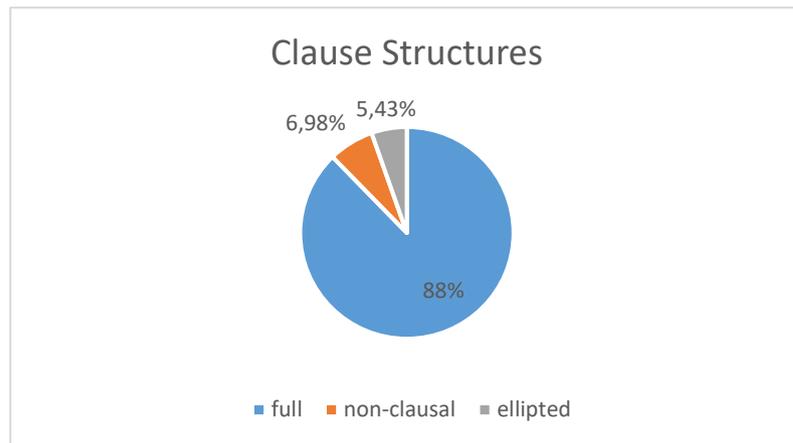


Chart 3: Clause structures distribution expressed in percentage

Considering the clause structures, in the corpus were found some ellipited or even non-clausal utterances. To produce the chart 3, 18 non-clausal utterances were added to the overall number of 240 clauses. Nevertheless, the graph shows that the full clause structures in the contributions prevail immensely over the ellipited (14 cases) or non-clausal ones. Moreover, the types of ellipited structures were examined (see chapter 4).

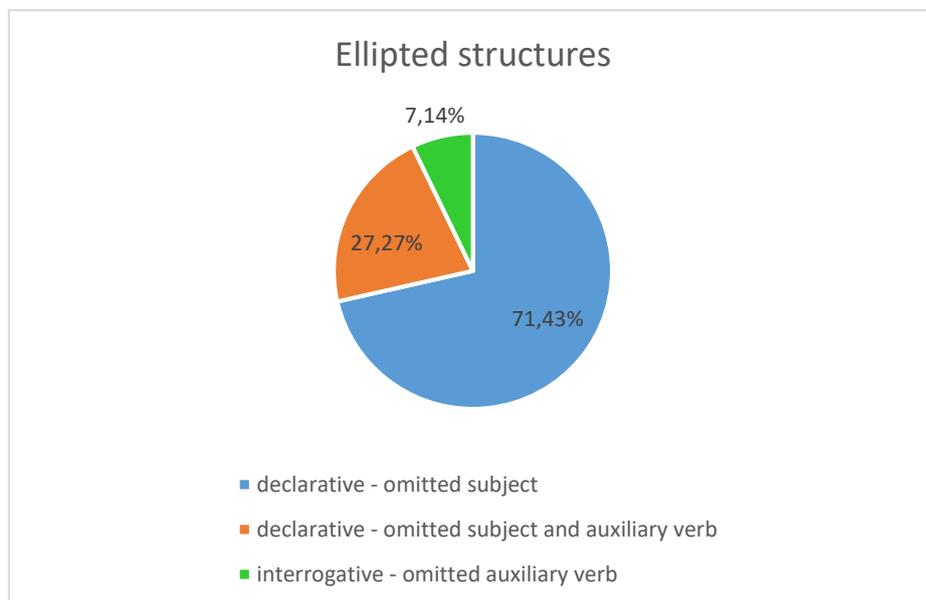


Chart 4: ellipited structures expressed in percentage

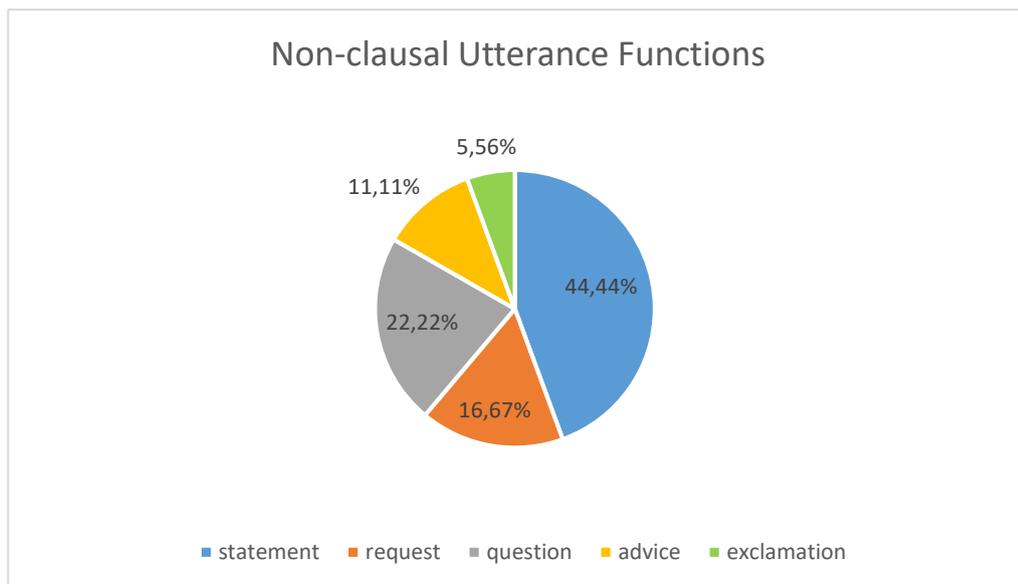
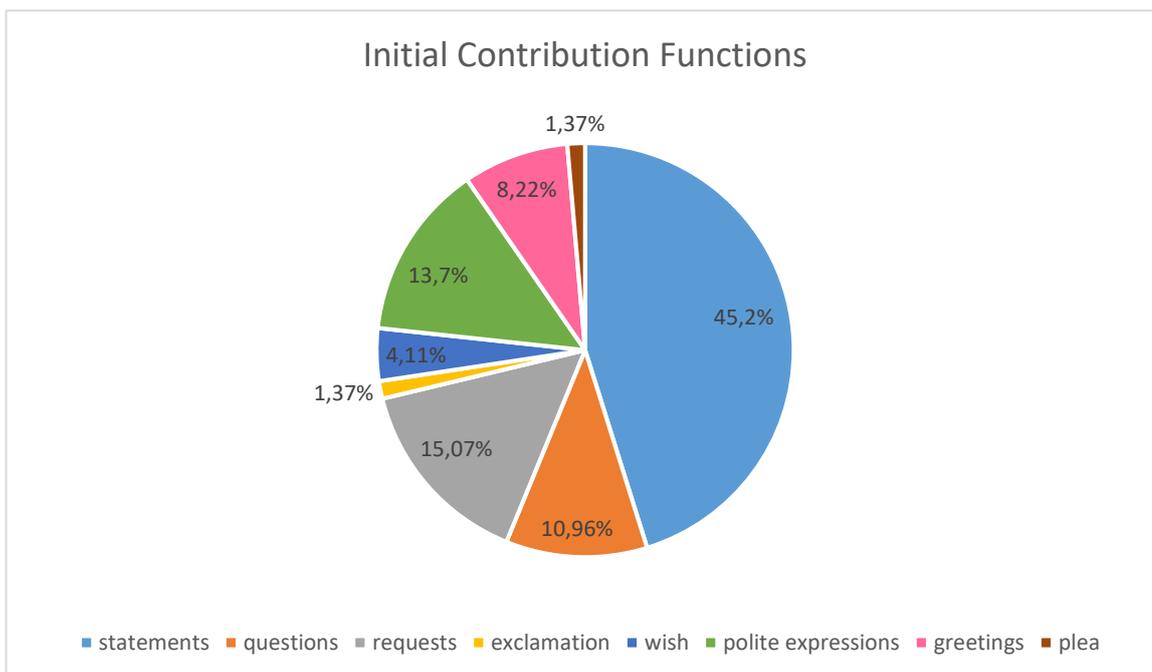


Chart 5: functions of non-clausal utterances expressed in percentage

With regard to non-clausal utterances, the chart 5 shows their various functions. As mentioned above, in the travel forum contributions were found 18 non-clausal utterances in total. Most of the incomplete structures functioned as statements, then questions and requests. There was only 1 instance of exclamation and 2 instances of advice. All in all, not so many non-clausal utterances were identified. One of the reasons might be that the contributors want other people to clearly understand the utterance and thus they prefer to use full alternatively ellipted sentences. However, they often save time by omitting punctuation or capital letters.

In the final part of the analysis summary, the distribution of all speech acts functions in the initial and responding contributions are compared. To conclude the comparison, all clauses, non-clausal utterances, thanking expressions and greetings were included. For this reason, the total number of speech acts is 281, out of which 73 is present in 11 initial contributions and 208 speech acts is in the responding contributions.



Chapter 6: distribution of functions in the initial forum contributions expressed in percentage

As apparent from the above chart, the most instances in the initial contributions represent statements, specifically 33. Then, the contributors used requests, in detail 11 including 3 non-clausal ones. As it was expected, a request or a question was found (or both were present) in each initial contribution. So it makes it quite a frequent phenomenon. There were observed 10 thanking expressions which means that almost all of the contributions contain such an expression. Similarly, greeting expressions occurred in 6 cases. The functions of plea, wish and exclamations were quite rare. There was found only 1 wish and the only plea in whole corpus appeared also just in the initial contribution.

Concerning speech acts, 41 (75,93%) clauses represent direct speech act and 13 (24,07%) clauses indirect speech act.

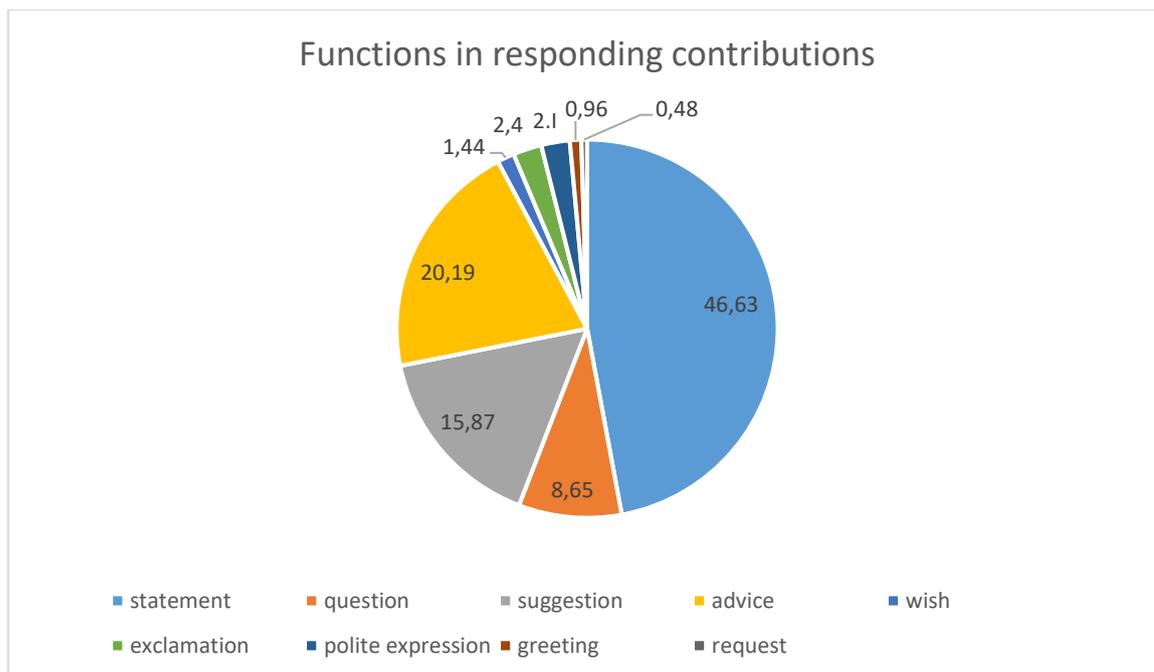


Chart 7: distribution of speech act functions in responding contributions expressed in percentage

Chapter 7 shows the distribution of speech act functions in responding contributions. Similarly to the initial contributions, the most frequently, clauses function as statements. The main difference is the occurrence of sentence functions of advice and suggestion which cannot be found in the initial contributions. They create second and third most frequent speech act functions. Interestingly, the responding contributions contain 18 questions which is more than in the initial contributions. The reasons might be that the authors need more information to answer the requirements and, also, 5 contributors posting the initial contribution returned to the conversation and asked more questions. In the responding posts, only 2 out of 48 contain greeting expressions. So the people who respond on the travel forum do not bother to exchange the greetings. Otherwise, with regards to the functions of wish, request and exclamation, the occurrence is rather rare.

With regards to speech acts, 101 (54,3%) clauses represent the direct speech act and 85 (45,7%) represent the indirect speech act.

As shown above, the initial contributions contain significantly more clauses representing direct illocution than those representing the indirect one. The reason is that the contributors use statements to introduce the purpose of conversation and to give some information about the planned trip, situation, etc. Moreover, they tend to write direct questions. The indirect speech

act clauses mostly function as requests. On the other hand, the difference between direct and indirect illocution in responding contributions is less evident. This illustrates the fact that the contributors generate many utterances functioning as advice and suggestions. The statements mostly are used to add a supportive fact which follows advice or additional information to describe a place. The contributors also place questions, however, not all the questions are responded.

10 Conclusion

The aim of this thesis is to study the use of sentence forms and functions in travel forum contributions. In addition, the direct and indirect speech acts are examined as well as the frequency of individual sentence structures and functions.

The theoretical part focuses on the description of individual sentence constructions and functions. Then, the principles of speech acts are introduced concentrating on the perspective of direct and indirect speech act. The subsequent chapter determines the function of a statement, question, directive and exclamation and additional functions. In the subchapters, the related structures, namely declarative, interrogative, imperative and exclamative are defined. Finally, the genre of computer-mediated communication with respect to travel forums, together with its typical characteristics is presented.

The analytical part applies the theoretical principles when identifying the clauses in contributions of Trip Advisor and Lonely Planet Thorn Tree travel forums. The corpus comprises of 11 conversations where, in total, 240 clauses were found. All instances were classified in terms of form, function and speech act directness.

The analysis is divided into three main parts: direct speech act functions, indirect speech act functions and summary supported by graphs. With regard to direct speech acts, there were present 142 occurrences. In the whole corpus, the most clauses carried out the illocutionary force of statements - 122 instances. This function occurred in both types of contributions, initial and responding, and usually gives background information about intended journey or information about particular place. Other clauses representing direct speech act carried function of a question (18 instances) and request (2 instances). Concerning questions, there were identified representatives of yes/no questions, wh-questions and alternative question. Moreover, there were found some cases of ellipted declarative and interrogative structure.

The section of indirect speech acts consists of 98 clauses. The most frequent indirect functions were advice which was present in 39 clauses and suggestion which occurred in 34 cases. Both functions were found only in the responding contributions. Another function which was often identified was indirect request (9 cases) which was expressed by a declarative or interrogative structure. Regarding other indirect functions, the occurrence of indirect questions, wishes, exclamations, and pleas was occasional in the chosen conversations.

Moreover, the non-clausal utterances were examined. There were found 18 cases of this phenomenon. Non-clausal utterances had the illocutionary force of a statement, question, request, advice or exclamation.

The final summary also shows the difference of the distribution of individual functions between initial and responding contributions. In both prevail statements, however, in the initial contributions the second most frequent functions are questions and requests but in responding posts advice and suggestions.

All in all, it is important to mention that the travel forums are used by many people with their own style of writing and this research was carried out of particular contributions. For that reason, the conclusions on typical sentence functions and structures are mere suggestions. The subject matter of discussion forums still has potential for further investigation.

11 Resumé

Tato bakalářská práce se zabývá pozorováním větných funkcí, struktur a následnému určení přímého a nepřímého mluvního aktu v příspěvcích diskuzních cestovatelských fór. Cílem práce je tedy analyzovat použití zkoumaných jazykových vyjádření z pragmatického a stylistického hlediska v příspěvcích na Trip Advisor a Lonely Planet Thorn Tree. Práce je rozdělena do dvou hlavních částí, a to na teoretickou a analytickou. Teoretická část, která je zpracována na základě odborných lingvistických publikací, nejprve definuje potřebnou terminologii k pozdější analýze.

Po úvodní kapitole představující téma této práce následuje kapitola, která vymezuje teoretické definice větná funkce a větná struktura. Další kapitola prezentuje klasifikaci řečových aktů. Je zde vysvětlen základní pojem, tedy řečový akt, který se skládá ze tří složek – lokuce, ilokuce, s níž souvisí ilokuční síla, a třetí složkou je perlokuce. V této kapitole jsou zmíněny různé modely klasifikace mluvních aktů. Avšak v této práci je použit model nabízející určení přímého a nepřímého aktu, který je popsán více podrobně. Pokud má větná struktura odpovídající komunikativní funkci, pak je mluvní akt označen jako přímý. To znamená, že indikativní věta má jako přímou funkci oznámení, interogativní struktura se spojuje s otázkou, imperativní s rozkazem či žádostí a zvolací se zvoláním. Komunikativní funkce vět a formální vyjádření se však dají vzájemně kombinovat a pokud mluvčí použil jistou formu, ale záměrem je jiná funkce, mluvní akt je nepřímý.

Následně jednotlivé kapitoly pojednávají o větných funkcích a strukturách zvlášť. Slovosled je v anglickém jazyce jasně stanovený, a proto jsou větné struktury blíže definovány. Nejdříve je tedy popsána věta indikativní, která slouží především k prohlášení nebo vyjádření názoru. Dále je definováno formální vyjádření, které je spjaté s již zmíněnou funkcí. Deklarativní struktura v anglickém jazyce má vždy na prvním místě podmět, který však může být ve formě jmenné skupiny, zájmena, za ním je řazen přísudek. Tento větný formát se může změnit v případě větné inverze, kdy je umístěno jako první adverbium následované přísudkem a až posléze je umístěn podmět. Dále je sem zařazena řečnická otázka, která je sice využívá interogativní větnou strukturu, nicméně svou ilokuční silou představuje oznámení, tím pádem také nevyžaduje odpověď.

Další kapitola se týká otázek. Vzhledem k tomu, že existuje několik druhů otázek, tato sekce je rozdělena na několik podkapitol. Nejprve je vymezen hlavní záměr této funkce, čímž je získání informace. Dále je nutné přijít na to, jaký druh informace tazatel hodlá zjistit. V jednotlivých kapitolách jsou tedy nastíněny hlavní rysy a charakteristiky zmíněné větné funkce. Prvním

druhem otázky je zjišťovací, která vyžaduje pouze odpověď ano nebo ne. Stejně tak je tomu přizpůsobeno její formální vyjádření. Tato otázka se utvoří použitím pomocného slovesa, které je následováno podmětem a významovým slovesem s možností přidání dalších větných členů. Otázka, která vyžaduje více detailnější odpověď se nazývá doplňovací. U tohoto typu otázky je důležitý element ve formě tázacího zájmena, tedy kde, kdy jak, proč, kdo, co, kolik apod., který je na začátku věty. Třetím typem je otázka vylučovací. Tato otázka dává dotazovanému na výběr mezi alternativami, ve formálním vyjádření se tedy objeví spojka *nebo*, jinak je struktura věty stejná jako u prvního typu. Rozdílem je, že si dotazovaný vybere odpověď z uvedených variant. Do kategorie otázka jsou také zařazeny větné dovětky, které se připojují za větu vyjadřující oznámení. Tázací dovětky slouží k tomu, aby se mluvčí ujistil, zda to, co říká je pravda. Posledním typem v kategorii otázka je otázka s deklarativní větnou strukturou, která také může sloužit k ujištění správnosti, ale i pokud je mluvčí překvapen nebo nemůže něčemu uvěřit.

Následující kapitola se věnuje větě rozkazovací. Hlavní funkcí této věty je rozkaz nebo žádost, ale má i několik vedlejších funkcí mezi něž patří například rada, návrh, varování, podávání instrukcí, pozvání atd. Nejprve byly charakterizovány typy imperativních větných struktur. V základním typu je nevyjádřený podmět a věta se tvoří pomocí holého infinitivu, tedy bez *to*, který nepřebírá žádné flektivní koncovky. Pokud je potřeba vytvořit záporný rozkaz, před holý infinitiv se přidá sloveso *do* a negativní částice *not*. Dále jsou zde zmíněny imperativní věty s vyjádřeným podmětem určené třetí osobě čísla jednotného nebo větné struktury s částicí *let*. Tento tvar se pojí s akuzativní formou zájmena *my* nebo *já*. V této kapitole se následně zkoumají nepřímé funkce rozkazu.

Čtvrtá kapitola je zaměřena na větu zvolací. Záměrem zvolání je vyjádření určitých emocí mluvčího. Opět je nejdříve vysvětleno, jak se taková věta tvoří, tedy za pomoci adverbíí *what* a *how*, které následuje adjektivum či substantivum. Zařazena je do této kapitoly i zvolací otázka, která má funkci zvolací, ale využívá interogativní větnou strukturu. Většinou se objevuje v záporu, ale komunikativní záměr je pozitivní.

Poslední kapitola teoretické části představuje žánr počítačová komunikace. Nejprve je stručně nastíněn vývoj a způsoby této komunikace a poté charakteristika stylu zaměřená na cestovní fóra. V neposlední řadě jsou zde popsány hlavní znaky týkající se počítačové komunikace, která spojuje mluvený a písemný projev.

V praktické části práce je nejprve vymezen cíl kvantitativní analýzy a zdroje dat. Korpusová studie byla vytvořena shromážděním celkem 54 příspěvků na cestovních fórech Trip Advisor a Lonely Planet Thorn Tree. Tyto příspěvky jsou obsaženy v 11 konverzacích na různá témata

spojená s cestováním v anglicky mluvících zemích, konkrétně Velké Británii, Kanadě, Irsku, Austrálii a USA. Jazykový materiál obsahuje celkem 240 vět, z nichž jsou některé součástí souvětí. Daná zdrojová data se skládají z neformálního jazyka a věty nebyly nijak upravovány. Korpus ve formě konverzací společně se zdroji je k dispozici v příloze. Dále následuje analýza vět. Každá věta je klasifikována z hlediska formálního vyjádření, komunikativní funkce a mluvního aktu. Analytická část se skládá ze tří hlavních částí, a to přímé mluvní akty, nepřímé mluvní akty, kde jsou příspěvky blíže komentovány a třetí částí je shrnutí analýzy a zobrazení v podobě grafů.

V první části, tedy přímé mluvní akty, jsou podkapitoly oznámení, otázka, žádost a zvolání. Nejčastějším typem komunikativní funkce bylo oznámení. V celém korpusu bylo identifikováno 122 příkladů, což je 85,93% vět reprezentujících přímý mluvní akt. Dále bylo zjištěno, že 33 vět patří do příspěvků tazatelů a 89 do příspěvků lidí, kteří odpovídají. Z hlediska formálního vyjádření, se přišlo na to, že pouze 7 větných struktur bylo jednočlenných, přičemž 4 z nich postrádaly podmět a další 2 podmět a pomocné sloveso. Oznámení sloužilo k podání potřebných informací v úvodním příspěvku či jako doplňující fakta o různých místech v odpovědích.

Co se týče otázek, v korpusu bylo nalezeno 18 případů, kdy se forma shodovala s funkcí. Převážnou část tvoří otázka zjišťovací (11 příkladů), která se také v jednom případě objevuje s neúplnou větnou strukturou. Doplňovacích otázek bylo klasifikováno 7. Vylučovací otázka byla pouze jedna. Otázky byly přítomny nejen v úvodních příspěvcích, ale i v odpovědích, kde se lidé ptali na bližší informace k danému tématu, aby mohli lépe poradit.

V případě žádostí, reprezentující přímý mluvní akt, byl výskyt spíše vzácný. Objevily se pouze 2 takovéto příklady. Rozkazovací věta se v příspěvcích neobjevuje nejspíše kvůli zdvořilosti. Zvolání, kterému se věnuje další podkapitola, nebylo přítomno v žádném zdroji. Z tohoto důvodu se může usoudit, že tato větná struktura se v diskuzích na cestovních fórech nepoužívá nebo jen velmi zřídka.

Druhou hlavní sekci v analytické části je nepřímý mluvní akt. Nejčastějším zástupcem nepřímého mluvního aktu bylo poskytnutí rady. Tato funkce se objevila ve 39 příkladech, což tvoří 39,79 % nepřímých mluvních aktů. Všechny věty vyjadřující radu byly, jak lze předpokládat, v příspěvcích, které reagovaly na úvodní příspěvek. Formální vyjádření rady se vyskytovalo pomocí deklarativní (18 příkladů) nebo imperativní větné struktury (21 příkladů). V obou formách věty často obsahovaly webové odkazy, tipy na národní parky, turistické atrakce, dopravní společnosti atd.

Dalším častým komunikativním vyjádřením byl návrh. Tyto věty se od komunikativní funkce poskytování rad odlišují určitými větnými tvary. Stejně tak, pokud někdo poskytuje radu, předkládá tu nejlepší možnost, kterou si je naprosto jistý. V celém korpusu se nachází 34 vět vyjadřující návrh. Tato funkce byla vyjádřena pomocí deklarativní (18 příkladů), imperativní (15 příkladů) a interogativní struktury (1 příklad).

Následující podkapitola se věnuje nepřímé žádosti. Tyto žádosti jsou více zdvořilejší než žádosti přímé a v příspěvcích se jich objevilo 10. Některé navíc obsahovaly zdvořilostní výraz *please*. Z hlediska formy, nepřímé žádosti byly vyjádřeny deklarativní (7 příkladů) nebo interogativní formou (3 příklady).

V menší míře se vyskytla nepřímá otázka, která byla vyjádřena pomocí deklarativní struktury. Tento typ otázky byl použit především k potvrzení skutečnosti a v příspěvcích se objevily 4 takovéto příklady. Další komunikativní funkcí, která byla identifikována, je přání. Těchto vět se vyskytlo celkem 6 a to formou deklarativní nebo imperativní. Méně častými funkcemi byly také prosba, a zvolání vyjádřeno deklarativní strukturou, které se objevilo 5krát.

Další část se stručně zabývá neúplnými větami, které i tak plní určitou funkci, konkrétně oznámení, otázky, rady, návrhu, zvolání a žádosti. Následně jsou analyzovány projevy poděkování a pozdravů.

Ve finální části analýzy je porovnáno rozložení funkcí přímých a nepřímých mluvních aktů pomocí grafů. V neposlední řadě je zde zobrazen poměr použití dvojčlenných, jednočlenných vět a neúplných větných projevů. Jednočlenné věty jsou ještě dále rozděleny podle typu a neúplné věty podle funkce, kterou plní. Nakonec jsou porovnány komunikativní vyjádření v úvodních příspěvcích a reagujících příspěvcích, kde jsou zahrnuty i projevy poděkování a pozdravů. V obou typech se objevoval jak přímý, tak nepřímý mluvní akt. Nicméně v úvodních příspěvcích značně převažoval přímý mluvní akt, což může být ovlivněno tím, že přispěvatelé často potřebují vysvětlit okolnosti pomocí oznámení, dále používají přímé otázky. Naopak v reagujících příspěvcích je rozložení vět vyjadřující přímý a nepřímý mluvní akt téměř stejný. Odpovědi přispěvatelů totiž z velké části signalizují návrh nebo radu.

Závěrem lze říci, že v příspěvcích se objevují různé komunikativní funkce i formální vyjádření. Nicméně výsledky analýzy se týkají pouze vybraných příspěvků a vzhledem k tomu, že je několik tisíc členů cestovních fór, kteří navíc pocházejí z různých zemí, je potřeba více prozkoumat tento druh počítačové komunikace, aby bylo možné stanovit její typické rysy.

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13 Appendix 1

TRIP ADVISOR (TA)

UNITED KINGDOM

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1. scienceteach 28: **How long of a drive...**
03 December 2016, 20:54

from Ullapool to Portree in early July? (1/1) [wh-question, incomplete interrogative structure – no verb, subject] **We drive slowly, make stops etc.** (1/2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **We've allowed one full day.** (1/3) [statement, declarative, DSA]

The other option is to travel from Inverness to Poolewe instead of Inverness to Ullapool, then head to Skye. (1/4) [statement, declarative, DSA] **We will be driving via Applecross.** (1/5) [statement, declarative, DSA]

Suggestions for views, lunch spots, castles, gardens? (1/6) [request, incomplete interrogative structure] **My travel companion, my mom, has limited walking capabilities but she doesn't mind waiting so I can do do a short hike.** (1/7) [statement, declarative structure, DSA; statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Thanks. (1/8) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

1.1. Keitht: **Re: How long of a drive...**

03 December 2016, 21:46

120 to 160 miles depending on which route you take. (1.1./1) [statement - response to (1/1), incomplete structure – no verb, subject]

1.2. scienceteach 28: **Re: How long of a drive...**

03 December 2016, 23:43

Thank you for your post. (1.2./1) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

Can it be done in a day? (1.2./2) [yes/no question, interrogative structure, DSA]

1.3. PMQuestions: **Re: How long of a drive...**

04 December 2016, 06:22

Yes indeed, it's about 3-4 hours very steady driving which leaves plenty of time for stopping and looking. (1.3./1) [statement -response to (1.2./2), declarative structure, DSA]
And in July it hardly gets dark so you have 14+ hours per day if you want to use them. (1.3./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA; statement, declarative, DSA]

/4 contributions, 3 contributors/

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2. Groves06: 3 - 4 nights in Wales itinerary suggestions

02 December 2016, 01:28

We are looking to travel through Wales from Ireland in mid may next year and I am interested in any suggestions to a short travel itinerary that will give me the Wales experience albeit brief. (2/1) [statement, declarative structure, DSA *and* request, declarative structure, ISA] **Travelling with relatives who are healthy but in 70's so not expecting much hiking.** (2/2) [statement, declarative structure – omitted subject and auxiliary, DSA] **We really love small towns rather than large and would love town suggestions the would encompass both costal and inland villages.** (2/3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA *and* request, declarative structure – omitted subject, ISA] **I am happy to base in one town and day trip.** (2/4) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

We are travelling by car and will head off to Cornwall after. (2/5) [statements, declarative structure, DSA] **I am looking at travelling from Ireland by Ferry but have not yet booked as it will be dependant on if we are to visit north or more south of wales.** (2/6) [statement, declarative structure, DSA *but* statement, declarative structure – omitted subject, DSA] **I am not sure which end is best.** (2/7) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

I would appreciate any suggestions. (2/8) [request, declarative structure, ISA]

Cheers (2/9) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

2.1. HeatSeekerWrexham_UK: Re: 3 - 4 nights in Wales itinerary suggestions

02 December 2016, 21:47

Alternatively come to Holyhead, and see Snowdonia. (2.1./1) [suggestion, imperative structure, ISA]

We have the narrow gauge railways here, which might be ideal for your relatives. (2.1./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Llandudno also has various easy attractions for older people. (2.1./3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Drawback will be the longer journey when you head for Cornwall, but it depends on how it affects your journey in Ireland. (2.1./4) [statement, declarative structure, DSA; question, declarative structure, ISA]

2.2. C0rnc0b: Re: 3 - 4 nights in Wales itinerary suggestions

03 December 2016, 08:29

Are you looking to hire a car in Ireland and then bring it over on the ferry? (2.2./1) [yes/no question, interrogative structure, DSA]

If so, have you checked that you can actually do this and are you aware of the expense of doing so? (2.2./2) [yes/no question, interrogative structure, DSA and yes/no question, interrogative structure, DSA]

2.3. leuca: Re: 3 - 4 nights in Wales itinerary suggestions

03 December 2016, 09:23

You could consider this option (2.3./1) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA]

I agree , leave the car in Ireland , take ferry as foot passengers to Holyhead , rent a car (2.3./2) [statement– reaction to 2.2., declarative structure, DSA; advice, imperative structure, ISA; advice, imperative structure, ISA; advice, imperative structure, ISA]

Stay in North Wales and drive to Manchester and fly from Manchester to Newquay in Cornwall just over an hour (2.3./3) [suggestion, imperative structure, ISA *and* suggestion, imperative structure, ISA]

Flights next May are available at around £50 per person with Flybe (2.3./4) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Or fly from Ireland to Manchester rent a car at the airport and drive to North Wales and return to Manchester (2.3./5) [suggestion, imperative structure, ISA; suggestion, imperative structure, ISA *and* suggestion, imperative structure, ISA *and* suggestion, imperative structure, ISA]

From Manchester Airport you are straight onto the M56 and you could expect a straightforward drive of about 2 hrs into North Wales (2.3./6) [statement, declarative structure, DSA *and* statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Check out Llandudno, a level promenade, nice pier , typical seaside resort, plenty of accomodation and restaurants tea rooms and so easy to take day trips from there to Betws-y-Coed, Conwy, Snowdonia, Anglesey, Beaumaris, Caernarfon , Rhos on Sea and many more (2.3./7) [advice, imperative structure, ISA *and so* statement, incomplete structure – no subject and verb]

2.4. RojBlake: Re: 3 - 4 nights in Wales itinerary suggestions

06 December 2016, 14:27

My guess is that even if you can find a company that will allow you take their vehicle on a ferry, it will be expensive and you'll have to pay the ferry fares on top. (2.4./1) [statement, declarative structure, DSA and statement, declarative structure, DSA] **I'd be surprised if it were possible to do a one way rental between two countries without a huge drop off fee as well.** (2.4./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

It makes much more sense to take the ferry as foot passengers, and have separate vehicle rentals in Ireland and Great Britain. (2.4./3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **Or to just fly somewhere as leuca suggested.** (2.4./4) [statement, imcomplete structure] **There are flights from Dublin to Cardiff, for example.** (2.4./5) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA]

/5 contributions, 5 contributors/

CANADA

Trip Advisor. (2016, December). *Trips out from Edmonton to Rockies in February*. Retrived from https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/ShowTopic-g659487-i11598-k10041937-Trips_out_from_Edmonton_to_Rockies_in_February-Canadian_Rockies_Alberta.html

3. HanniD: Trips out from Edmonton to Rockies in February

04 December 2016, 20:56

Hello, [greeting]

Im arriving at Edmonton airport on the 1st of Feb. (3/1) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **I have flight booked for the 6th to go to Vancouver, but can be adjusted or cancelled if need be.** (3/2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA *but* statement, declarative structure – omitted subject, DSA]

They say its terrible time to visit because of Winter and Im really struggling to find tours but would like to see the Rockies if able. (3/3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA *and* request, declarative structure, ISA *but* wish, declarative structure – omitted subject, ISA]

Any suggestions on how best to do this at this time of the year? (3/4) [request, incomplete structure – no subject, verb, auxiliary]

Theres a shuttle from Edmonton mall to Lake Louise, banff, Jasper. (3/5) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **But then again, worried about tours if we did get to the areas if there were operating for Feb?** (3/6) [yes/no question, declarative structure – omitted subject and auxiliary, ISA]

Help! (3/7) [plea, imperative structure, ISA] **Many thanks.** (3/8) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

3.1. krp329: Re: Trips out from Edmonton to Rockies in February

04 December 2016, 22:31

You generally won't find any multi-day coach tours running during winter. (3.1./2) [statement – response to 3/3, declarative structure, DSA]

If you are arriving at YEG before 3 pm (ish), there is the daily Sundog Tours shuttle that can take you to Jasper, arriving about 8 pm. (3.1./2) [suggestion – response to 3/6, declarative structure, ISA] **There is also a daily Sundog shuttle from Jasper to Lake Louise and Banff.** (3.1./3) [suggestion - response to 3/3, declarative structure, ISA] **Once here in Jasper (or Banff), there are various local companies that offer day tours (Sundog, Jasper Tour Company, Jasper Adventure Centre etc.) although it may be a struggle to get minimum numbers each day.** (3.1./4) [advice, declarative structure, ISA] **There are wildlife tours, "ice walk" tours (in Maligne Canyon or Johnston Canyon), snowshoe tours etc.** (3.1./5) [advice, declarative structure, ISA] **Check under "activities" at www.jasper.travel and www.banfflakelouise.com (the official tourism sites for both areas).** (3.1./6) [advice, imperative structure, ISA]

It might be easier to book your onward flight to Vancouver from Calgary - shuttles from Banff to YYC are easy but if you are flying out of Edmonton, you need to backtrack and take the Sundog (X 2) shuttles again, which is time-consuming. (3.1./7) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA; statement, declarative structure, DSA; advice, declarative structure, ISA] **The one leaving Jasper to YEG leaves early in the morning, about 7 am.** (3.1./8) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

3.2. bellize777: Re: Trips out from Edmonton to Rockies in February

05 December 2016, 22:18

i would not try to do both jasper and banff / lake louise in february. (3.2./1) [advice – response to 3/4, declarative structure, ISA] **the highway between the two can be closed in bad weather.** (3.2./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **i would just go to banff.** (3.2./3) [advice, declarative structure, ISA] **there is some public transportation in town, free shuttle to lake louise ski hill or sunshine ski hill if you want to try skiing for a day.** (3.2./4) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA] **agree with above post...** (3.2./5) [statement, declarative structure – omitted subject, DSA] **if you can, switch your flight from edmonton / vancouver to calgary / vancouver.** (3.2./6) [suggestion, imperative structure, ISA]

/3 contributions, 3 contributors/

IRELAND

Trip Advisor. (2016, December). *Rail trips to Moher*. Retrived from https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/ShowTopic-g186605-i90-k10038839-Rail_trips_to_Moher-Dublin_County_Dublin.html

4. Stephanie B: Rail trips to Moher

03 December 2016, 02:26

I will be visiting Ireland around new year. (4/1) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **I am considering the day long Railtours Ireland trip "Cliffs of Moher, Bunratty Castle, Burren & Galway Bay" or the "Day Tour Plus - Limerick City & the Cliffs of Moher".**

(4/2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **Does anyone have comments or opinions about the overnight tour?** (4/3) [request, yes/no interrogative structure, ISA] **And thoughts about one being better than the other?** (4/4) [request, incomplete interrogative structure – omitted auxiliary, subject, verb] Thanks! (4/5) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

4.1. Bryno: Re: Rail trips to Moher

03 December 2016, 07:32

I'd go for the overnight tour as all of those places mentioned are worth visiting. (4.1./1) [advice- response to 4/3, declarative structure, ISA]

By the way with Railtours, it depends a lot on the guide you get. (4.1./2) [statement – response to 4/4, declarative structure, DSA] **Unfortunately last year on a day tour with tthem, the guide was in the wrong job and made our day trip to Blarney castle, uncomfortable, to say the least.** (4.1./3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **They seem to be under a lot of stress from the company with which they can't cope.** (4.1./4) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

4.2. Bean_Limerick: Re: Rail trips to Moher

03 December 2016, 10:56

This tour isn't great IMHO <https://...dh06an> (4.2./1) [advice, declarative structure, ISA]

All its doing is leaving you in Limerick to your own devices then taking you to Bunratty. (4.2./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **You could EASILY do all this on your own.** (4.2./3) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA] **And if you were planning it yourself you'd do more.** (4.2./4) [advice, declarative structure, ISA] **King John's Castle isn't included in the Limerick leg and it really should be.** (4.2./5) [advice, declarative structure, ISA]

This day tour actually looks better!! <https://...dh06> (4.2./6) [advice, declarative structure, ISA] **Although I've seen them just drive by the attractions in the bus and say "This is the Treaty Stone, etc.** (4.2./7) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

4.3. tony2phones: Re: Rail trips to Moher

03 December 2016, 12:19

Personally, The Cliffs should be done from Galway, Limerick or Ennis rather than Dublin.. (4.3./1) [statement – response to 4/3, declarative structure, DSA] **If you want to see the sights of the west, cut a couple of nights from Dublin and spend them in the west.** (4.3./2) [advice, imperative structure, ISA *and* advice, imperative structure, ISA]

Rail Tours provide the train to get you onto one of the tours that run from the above locations. (4.3./3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **They can save you a few € if you get one of the special offers they throw in now and then but my best advice is my first paragraph.** (4.3./4) [statement, declarative structure, DSA *but* statement, declarative structure, DSA]

/4 contributions, 4 contributors/

AUSTRALIA

Trip Advisor. (2016, December). *Need Advice – 4 days in Melbourne*. Retrieved from https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/ShowTopic-g255100-i278-k10040856-Need_Advice_4_days_in_Melbourne-Melbourne_Victoria.html

5. Erika K: Need Advice - 4 days in Melbourne

04 December 2016, 10:05

Hi guys, [greeting]

I will be in Melbourne for 4 days staying at Hilton South Yarra for 2 nights and maybe another hotel for the other 2. (5/1) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Here is my itinerary so far: (5/2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

1 - Penguin Tour

2 - Open - explore Melbourne

3 - Open - explore Melbourne

4 - GOR Tour

My question is if I want to explore different areas, cafes, etc like Lane Ways, St Kilda, markets, etc should I rent a car? (5/3) [yes/no question, yes/no interrogative structure, DSA] **Or what is the best way to get around?** (5/4) [wh-question, interrogative structure, DSA]

Thank you! (5/5) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

5.1. stormcloud_13: Re: Need Advice - 4 days in Melbourne

04 December 2016, 10:21

Don't rent a car. (5.1./1) [advice – answer to 5/3, imperative structure, ISA] **The centre of Melbourne is easy to travel on public transport.** (5.1./2) [statement – response to 5/4, declarative structure, DSA] **The tram is fun and is even free in the city centre.** (5.1./3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

The website that helps you plan public transport trips:

<https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/journey> (5.1./4) [recommendation]

Details of the free tram area: https://...PTV_FreeTramZone_Map.pdf (5.1./5) [recommendation,]

I think you mean the Hilton South Wharf (not South Yarra)? (5.1./6) [yes/no question, declarative structure, ISA] **Good hotel, convenient, nice rooms...in a part of the city that feels a bit like a convention centre, but just a quick walk over the river and you'll be in**

the middle of everything. (5.1./7) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **If you want to change locations and are looking for a different "feel", post again and let us know what you are after,** (5.1./8) [suggestion, imperative structure, ISA *and* suggestion, imperative structure, ISA] **I know you will get some good advice.** (5.1./9) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

PS I assume you will be on a tour bus for the Penguin Tour and GOR Tour. (5.1./10) [statement– reaction to 5/4, declarative structure, DSA] **If not, let us know, because otherwise you will need a car for those bits.** (5.1./11) [suggestion, imperative structure, ISA; statement, declarative structure, DSA]

5.2. Erika K: Re: Need Advice - 4 days in Melbourne

04 December 2016, 20:53

Great - yes, I wanted to go get a feel of the area (South Yarra) and see if I wanted to change locations after. (5.2./1) [statement – reaction to 5.1./8, declarative structure, DSA]

yes, I'll be on tour busses for those trips. (5.2./2) [statement – reaction to 5.1./10, declarative structure, DSA]

Thank you so much for your advice! (5.2./3) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

5.3. Nurioopta: Re: Need Advice - 4 days in Melbourne

05 December 2016, 05:10

Bus tours from Melbourne www.atwad.com.au have good comments on TA (5.3./1) [advice – response to 5/4, declarative structure, ISA]

5.4. Famrick: Re: Need Advice - 4 days in Melbourne

05 December 2016, 06:07

Just be aware that the full day tours of the GOR are long days as they will take around 13 - 14 hours but you will get to see the highlights and depending on the company a meal and a snack is included. (5.4./1) [advice, imperative structure, ISA; statement, declarative structure, DSA; statement, declarative structure, DSA; statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Other companies worth looking at are Go West and Bunyip tours www.gowest.com.au and www.bunypitours.com.au (5.4./2) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA]

5.5. MarleneRay: Re: Need Advice - 4 days in Melbourne

05 December 2016, 06:26

are you sure you are staying in a Hilton Hotel in South Yarra (5.5./1) [yes/no question, yes/no interrogative structure, DSA] **I didn't think there was one there, my apologies if I am mistaken** (5.5./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

/6 contributions, 5 contributors/

Trip Advisor. (2016, December). *Friendly club in Melbourne*. Retrived from https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/ShowTopic-g255055-i120-k10042379-Friendly_club_in_Melbourne-Australia.html

6. Dmini M: **Friendly club in Melbourne**

05 December 2016, 01:58

Hi all. (6/1) [greeting, phrase] **I would like to visit a club in Melbourne where I can meet the locals.** (6/2) [wish, declarative structure, ISA] **Which club would you suggest ?** (6/3) [wh-question, wh interrogative structure, DSA] **And do suggest activities or places I can visit to feel the local like atmosphere during my Melbourne stay.** (6/4) [request, imperative structure – emphatic, DSA] **I will be visit in June** (6/7) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Thank you :) (6/8) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

6.1. dancewithroseoz: **Re: Friendly club in Melbourne**

05 December 2016, 06:09

Why not join couchsurfing.org and find a local who is prepared to show you around. (6.1./1) [suggestion – response to 6/4, bare infinitival construction, ISA] **You don't necessarily have to stay with them.** (6.1./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

6.2. dytokyo: **Re: Friendly club in Melbourne**

05 December 2016, 06:19

start here

<https://www.timeout.com/melbourne> (6.3./1) [advice, imperative structure, ISA]

6.3. Dmini M: **Re: Friendly club in Melbourne**

05 December 2016, 07:30

Thank you... (6.3./1) [showing gratitude – reaction to 6.1 and 6.2, polite speech act formulae] **never knew such things existed.** (6.3./2) [exclamation, declarative structure – omitted subject, ISA]

/4 contributions, 3 contributors/

USA

Trip Advisor. (2016, November). *Islands of Hawaii*. Retrived from https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/ShowTopic-g29217-i268-k10021824-Islands_of_Hawaii-Island_of_Hawaii_Hawaii.html

7. ChiTownGirl312: **Islands of Hawaii**

24 November 2016, 04:31

Of all the islands, what would be the best island to vacation and why? (7/1) [wh-question, interrogative structure, DSA]

Thank you in advance (7/2) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

7.1. Analyse83: Re: Islands of Hawaii

24 November 2016, 05:08

You posted this on the "Island of Hawaii" forum instead of the state of Hawaii forum, you might want to post one level up to get a wider audience. (7.1./1) [statement, declarative structure, DSA; suggestion, declarative structure, ISA]

That said, the answer to your question is: "it depends". (7.1./2) [statement-response to 7/1, declarative structure, DSA] **When are you thinking of going?** (7.1./3) [wh-question, interrogative structure, DSA] **What are you interested in doing?** (7.1./4) [wh-question, interrogative structure, DSA] **Do you want to see a live volcano?** (7.1./5) [yes/no question, interrogative structure, DSA] **Do you want to see Hawaiian history?** (7.1./6) [yes/no question, interrogative structure, DSA] **Snorkeling?** (7.1./7) [yes/no question, incomplete structure] **Dramatic scenery?** (7.1./8) [yes/no question, incomplete structure] **Hiking?** (7.1./9) [yes/no question, incomplete structure]

You get the idea. (7.1./10) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Because basically: all of the islands are great in their own ways. (7.1./11) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

7.2. ChiTownGirl312: Re: Islands of Hawaii

25 November 2016, 03:09

Yes. (7.2./1) [response to 7.1/10] **Just the most beautiful island for relaxing, swimming, nice oceanfront restaurants, maybe some snorkeling too.** (7.2./2) [statement - response to 7.1./4, incomplete structure] **Not really into hiking or seeing a live volcano.** (7.2./3) [statement – response to 7.1./9 and 7.1./4, incomplete structure] **Would love to see whales if possible.** (7.2./4) [wish – response to 7.1./4, declarative structure – omitted subject, ISA]

I'll try to see if I can find the state of Hawaii forum and transfer my question, but in the meantime, if you have a suggestion for me based on what I'm looking to do, that would be great. (7.2./5) [statement, declarative structure, DSA; request, declarative structure, ISA]

Thanks! (7.2./7) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

7.3. SheaG: Re: Islands of Hawaii

25 November 2016, 19:59

I would go with Maui, especially if, as it sounds like, you're coming during whale season. (7.3./1) [advice – response to 7/1, declarative structure, ISA]

7.4. placebets: **Re: Islands of Hawaii**

25 November 2016, 22:52

I don't think you can answer this question until you look at the different things on each island, make a list of the things you want to do, and then set priorities for those items. (7.4./1) [statement – response to 7/1, declarative structure, DSA; advice, imperative structure, ISA *and* advice, imperative structure, ISA]

Maui is fine, if you have no desire to see an active volcano or flowing lava. (7.4./2) [statement – response to 7/1, declarative structure, DSA] **Hawaii is fine if you have no desire to see Pearl Harbor, the USS Arizona Memorial, the USS Bowfin sub, the USS Missouri battleship, the only royal palace anywhere in the USA, Oahu is good if you have no desire to the grand canyon of the Pacific and the cliffs, Kauai is good if** (7.4./5) /1, [statement – response to 7/1, declarative structure, DSA; statement – response to 7/1, declarative structure, DSA; statement, declarative structure, DSA]

So you see, no one can answer that question for you until you decide what is on your "to-do" list. (7.4./6) [phrase; statement, declarative structure, DSA]

7.5. irloyal: **Re: Islands of Hawaii**

02 December 2016, 14:16

Kauai is probably the best "Chill" choice. (7.5./1) [statement – response to 7/1, declarative structure, DSA] **It is quiet and the activity starts and end early.** (7.5./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Waikiki is definitely the "PARTY! WOO HOO" choice. (7.5./3) [statement – response to 7/1, declarative structure, DSA]

Maui is the "Tween" choice. (7.5./4) [statement – response to 7/1, declarative structure, DSA]

7.6. fishdiva: **Re: Islands of Hawaii**

02 December 2016, 15:10

Waikiki isn't an island. (7.6./1) [statement – reaction to 7.5./3, declarative structure, DSA] **It's a district within the city of Honolulu on the island of Oahu.** (7.6./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **There are plenty of rural areas on Oahu also!!** (7.6./3) [exclamation, declarative structure, ISA]

7.7. ChiTownGirl312: **Re: Islands of Hawaii**

04 December 2016, 19:30

Great! (7.4./1) [exclamation, incomplete structure – no subject, verb] **Thank you all so much for all of your feedback!** (7.4./2) [showing gratitude] **It helped me out a lot.** (7.4./3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **Can't wait to go back to Hawaii!! :)** (7.4./4) [exclamation, declarative structure – omitted subject, ISA]

/8 contributions, 6 contributors/

14 Appendix 2

LONELY PLANET – Thorn Tree forum

IRELAND

Lonely Planet. (2016, December). *St Patrick's Day accommodation*. Retrived from <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/thorntree/forums/europe-uk-ireland/ireland/st-patrick-s-day-accommodation>

8. Janis_k0625: **St Patrick's Day accommodation**

Hi all, (8/1) [greeting]

I'm travelling to Dublin 16th to 20th March for St Patrick's Day with a friend. (8/2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **However, most accommodation is booked out and even airbnbs!** (8/3) [exclamation, declarative structure, ISA] **What other options are available, please?** (8/4) [wh-question, wh- interrogative structure, DSA] **I don't want to splash out heaps on accommodation, budget set at max 65 pounds per night per person.** (8/5) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **Thank you heaps!** (8/6) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

Janis

8.1. wasleys: **Re: St Patrick's Day accommodation**

You may need to try and find a place outside Dublin and travel in. (8.1./1) [suggestion – response to 8/4, declarative structure, ISA]

8.2. grahamphelan: **Re: St Patrick's Day accommodation**

Have you considered spending St. Patrick's Day somewhere else in Ireland? (8.2./1) [yes/no question, yes/no interrogative structure, DSA] **Dublin is famous for being a disaster on St. Patrick's Day and Galway for a day would probably be a better option.** (8.2./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA and suggestion, declarative structure, ISA]

8.3. Markfawkner: **Re: St Patrick's Day accommodation**

You could try couchsurfing but otherwise you're stuffed on that budget for Dublin on those dates. (8.3./1) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA; statement, declarative structure, DSA]

8.4. Teemak87: **Re: St Patrick's Day accommodation**

Hi (8.4./1) [greeting]

I would say renting just outside Dublin could be the best option if Dublin is completely full at that time of the year. (8.4./2) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA]

Look for locations that are maybe 45 minutes to 1-hour drive. (8.4./3) [advice, imperative structure, ISA] **Check out Kildare, Meath, Louth these will definitely be your best options for Dublin.**(8.4./4) [advice, imperative structure, ISA; statement, declarative structure, DSA]

If you are looking for a different town completely try Cork City, you will definitely enjoy yourself there as well and there are so much to see just like Dublin. (8.4./5) [advice, imperative structure, ISA; statement, declarative structure, DSA; statement, declarative structure, DSA] **Though Cork also is generally booked out as well so just check it out to see what will happen.** (8.4./6) [statement, declarative structure, DSA so suggestion, imperative structure, ISA]

However, if you have already booked your Dublin flight you could try travel to Cork for the fun of it everything will be one big adventure in the end. (8.4./7) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA; statement, declarative structure, DSA]

I hope this helps. (8.4./8) [statement, declarative structure, ISA]

Edited by teemak87

/5 contributions/5 contributors/

CANADA

Lonely Planet. (2016, October). *Banff NP*. Retrived from

<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/thorntree/forums/americas-canada/canada/banff-np>

9. rut2: **Banff NP**

Hi. (9/1) [greeting]

We will visit Banff NP and maybe some parks nearby in last week of September. (9/2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **We travel with small children, so I would like to avoid any too close meeting with wildlife.** (9/3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA; wish, declarative structure, ISA] **Maybe you have some suggestion where we can spent time outdoor, if safety is a priority?** (9/4) [request, declarative structure, ISA]

Thanks (9/5) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

9.1. carracar: **Re: Banff NP**

Stay in the car ! (9.1./1) [advice, imperative structure, ISA] And on the trail ... happy trails ...
carracar

9.2. ref_traveller: **Re: Banff NP**

If you see a bear, don't walk up to it to take its picture. (9.2./1) [advice, imperative structure, ISA]

9.3. Blake211: **Re Banff NP.**

Get help from a guide. (9.3./1) [advice – response to 9/4, imperative structure, ISA] **They will help you to choose paths avoiding dangerous animals** (9.3./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

9.4. Brittanymaria237: Re: Banff NP

Take a day trip to Yoho National Park! (9.4./1) [advice – response to 2/4, imperative structure, ISA] **It's only a short drive from Lake Louise and it's in BC.** (9.4./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA *and* statement, declarative structure, DSA] **Beautiful park with gorgeous scenery and mountains right along the highway.** (9.4./3) [statement, incomplete structure – no subject and verb,] **Make sure to visit Takakkaw Falls and Emerald Lake.** (9.4./4) [advice, imperative structure, ISA]

9.5. TonyJoe: Re: Banff NP

I was in Jasper NP and Banff NP a few days ago. (9.5./1) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

If you couple plan to travel by car, then you probably won't see any dangerous animal at all. (9.5./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

There are plenty of view points near the road. (9.5./3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **You can just stop and enjoy.** (9.5./4) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA]

Lake Louis, Lake Moraine, you can drive there directly. (9.5./5) [advice – response to 9/4, declarative structure, ISA]

As long as you don't hike deep inside woods and mountains, you won't see any dangerous wildlives. (9.5./6) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

There are too many cars and tourists which scare away animals. (9.5./7) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **Too many cars.** (9.5./8) [statement, incomplete structure – no subject and verb]

It's even hard to find a hotel to sleep inside Banff or Jasper. (9.5./9) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **Sometimes you have to book a few days early if you plan to sleep inside villages.** (9.5./10) [advice, declarative structure, ISA]

Edited by TonyJoe

9.6. mclarjh: Re: Banff NP

If you closely supervise your children, no matter what you do, they won't face any more hazards than you will. (9.6./1) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

The other day in a park I watched a young couple snap at their child, "Don't touch that stone," "Don't touch that flower," and so on, all the while smoking cigarettes non stop (9.6./2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

/7 contributions/ 7 contributors/

NEW ZEALAND

Lonely Planet. (2016, December). *Christmas Day Volunteering*. Retrived from <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/thorntree/forums/australasia-pacific-australia-new-zealand-antarctica/new-zealand/christmas-day-volunteering>

10. mc8024: **Christmas Day Volunteering**

Hi All, (10/1) [greeting, phrase]

I've decided that I want to volunteer my time on Christmas day during my solo travel in New Zealand. (10/2) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **So far my internet search has been fruitless and have not received back any email responses.** (10/3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA *and* statement, declarative structure – omitted subject, DSA]

Does anyone know of events/opportunities going on on the North Island between Auckland and Wellington (pref. Wellington) and if so can you please share? (10/4) [request, yes/no interrogative structure, ISA; request, yes/no interrogative structure, ISA] **I know this is a little late in the game.** (10/5) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

Thanks! (10/6) [showing gratitude, polite speech act formulae]

10.1. travoyageur: **Re: Christmas Day Volunteering**

That's great of you mc to want to help out others at Xmas and there are a couple of groups that might be able to give some direction if not doing anything themselves: The Wellington Soup Kitchen - <http://www.soupkitchen.org.nz/get-involved/workplace-giving/workplace-volunteering/> and then also <http://www.charity-charities.org/NewZealand-charities/Wellington-1664480.html> give a mention re the Lions Club but maybe that one is history though they could be worth contacting. (10.1./1) [exclamation, declarative structure, ISA; advice – response to 10/4, declarative structure, ISA; suggestion, imperative structure, ISA]
<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/feedtheneedlunchpetone> might be worth contacting too. (10.1./2) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA]

Hope you can find something and if not getting responses to emails, see if you can find a phone number to talk to a person. (10.1./3) [statement, declarative structure – omitted subject, ISA; suggestion, imperative structure, ISA]

Meanwhile, have a Merry Xmas wherever and whatever you end up doing. (10.1./4) [wish, imperative structure, ISA]

10.2. westwood: **Re: Christmas Day Volunteering**

City Mission in Auckland has a huge task for Xmas lunch. (10.2./1) [advice – response to 10/4, declarative structure, ISA] **Try the one in Wellington.** (10.2./2) [advice, imperative structure, ISA] **Your best choices for volunteering.** (10.2./3) [statement, incomplete structure]

10.3. westwood: **Re: Christmas Day Volunteering**

In Auckland, the City Mission is on Queen Street and the lunch in the past has been opposite at the Town Hall. (10.3./1) [statement – response to 10/4, declarative structure, DSA *and* statement, declarative structure, DSA]

If you' re not at either Auckland or Wellington, try the Salvation Army. (10.3./2)

[suggestion, imperative, ISA] **They're usually the ones who care for the unfortunates.**

(10.3./3) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **And this year the numbers are bound to**

be bigger than last year. (10.3./4) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

10.4. stevemedz: **Re: Christmas Day Volunteering**

In wellington the Aro valley Community Centre also does a big Xmas lunch. (10.4./1)

[advice response to 10/4, declarative structure, ISA] **They need volunteers for several days**

beforehand, wrapping Christmas gifts & decorations the hall. (10.4./2) [statement,

declarative structure, DSA] **Generally volunteers on the day need to have some experience**

as it is a very professionally run organisation. (10.4./3) [statement, declarative structure,

DSA] **I have tried several times but been turned down.** (10.4./4) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

/5 contributions/ 4 contributors/

USA

Lonely Planet. (2016, November). *Yosemite from Los Angeles/hiking*. Retrived from <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/thorntree/forums/americas-united-states-of-america/united-states/yosemite-from-los-angeles-hiking>

11. Melena: **Yosemite from Los Angeles/hiking**

Planning a road trip to yosemite/sequoia national park from Los Angeles, anyone else planning to hike out there !? (11/1) [statement, declarative structure – omitted subject and auxiliary, DSA; yes/no question, interrogative structure – omitted auxiliary, DSA]

Let me know! (11/2) [request, imperative structure, DSA]

11.1. ianw6705: **Re: Yosemite from Los Angeles/hiking**

Some dates might be useful. (11.1./1) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA]

11.2. JohnPaulson: **Re: Yosemite from Los Angeles/hiking**

Hi Meleena, I was going to tell you that you might have better luck finding a hiking partner by posting in the Thorn Tree Travel Companions section, but I see you have already posted there. (11.2./1) [suggestion, declarative structure, ISA *but* statement, declarative structure, DSA]

As #1 comment above suggests, you will have better luck by providing additional information, such as the time of year that you plan to visit, how long you plan to spend there, your mode of transportation (do you drive? (11.2./2) [advice, declarative structure, ISA; wh- question, declarative structure, ISA, yes/no question, interrogative structure, DSA]

are you looking at short day hikes or multi-day back country hikes that require camping, etc. (11.2./3) [alternative question, interrogative structure, DSA] **(Although both Yosemite and Sequoia are great places to hike in the spring, summer and fall, winter hiking or camping is best reserved for those hardy souls with the proper cold weather gear.** (11.2./4) [statement, declarative structure, DSA]

I personally find late spring the best time for Yosemite when the waterfalls are at their best. (11.2./5) [statement, declarative structure, DSA] **Good luck and enjoy your trip.** (11.2./6) [wish, imperative structure, ISA]

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