Cynthia M. Vakareliyska. *Lithuanian Root List*. Bloomington, Indiana: Slavica Publishers, 2015. 90 pp.
ISBN 9780893574475

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The book, modelled on Charles Gribble's *Russian Root List* (1981), is intended for both linguists and students of Lithuanian and addresses problems encountered by non-native speakers when attempting to determine the structure of a longer Lithuanian word and identify the morphemes it consists of. Vakareliyska suggests a solution in the form of a list of the most common modern Lithuanian roots and affixes together with variants and a list of rules responsible for the most regular variants.

The main part of the book is the root list itself. It is preceded by an introduction explaining the purpose of the book and also comprising a rather short section on relevant phonological and morphophonemic rules and a longer section, called "Methodology", on the principles that underlie the presentation of roots in the list. The root list is followed by two other lists consisting of common derivational suffixes and prefixes respectively. (The suffix list also contains interfixes.) The last two parts are an appendix giving linguistics terms and their definitions, and references.

As mentioned by the author, the list of roots is derived from Rimkutė *et al.* (2011), Centre of Computational Linguistics (2013), and Karosienė (2004), whereas the information about affixes is extracted from Ambrazas (1997a, 1997b) and Mathiassen (1996), as well as Paulauskienė (1994) and Ulvydas *et al.* (1965). The root list does not include later borrowings, which is justified by the fact that such roots, shared by many European languages, are easily identifiable and therefore do not present a problem for a student. It must be noted, however, that at least one relatively recently borrowed morpheme found its way into the list of suffixes: 'diminutive, used primarily with loanwords' *-et-ė* as in *vagonètė* 'little car' (train).

The book has a clear synchronic emphasis. The author writes on p. 3–4 that " <...> root forms are not necessarily the etymological roots, which can be reconstructed by stripping away historical rules, but the basic forms of the roots as they appear in the modern language". "For example, the etymological combinations *bai-l-*, *bai-m-*, *bai-s-* 'fear', which consist of the historical root *bai-* followed by one of various old unproductive suf-

fixes whose meaning are now lost, are all treated here as synchronic roots *baim-*, *bail-*, *bais-*." The variants of the same root are either given in the same entry in alphabetical order, e. g., *telp-*, *tilp-* 'fit in, find room' plus an additional entry for *tilp-* with a reference to *telp-*, or in separate entries with cross-references, e. g. *pil-*, *pyl-* 'pour, fill; castle; see also *piln-*'.

Since the root list does not include full words, it offers a clearer perspective on homonymous roots, not obscured by typical nominal and verbal affixes: cf. *bad*-1 'hunger, starve', as in *badas*, and *bad*-2 'butt, gore, poke, prod', as in *badyti*. Suffixes, on the contrary, are given together with their respective endings, differentiating between *-aĩn-ė* 'place devoted to a kind of item' in *cukraĩnė* 'confectionary shop' and *-aĩn-is* 'main ingredient from which the food or other object denoted by the noun is made' in *saldaĩnis* 'candy', to give just one example. Moreover, both suffixes and prefixes are listed in sections according to their parts of speech: thus the two homonymous *-aĩn-* above, associated with nouns, are given in a separate list from *-aĩn-is*, *-ė* 'relational adj. derived from a concrete noun' as in *ketvirtaĩnis* 'quadrangular'. Another manifestation of the different approach to roots and affixes is that only affixes are marked for stress. This helps to distinguish such cases as *-ẽ-lis* 'diminutive' in *raudon-ẽ-lis* 'oregano' and *-ėl-is* 'personal noun derived from a prefixed verb' in *atsiskýrėlis* 'hermit'. (On the other hand, it creates an impression that affixes in Lithuanian are always either stressed or unstressed, which is not quite true, even if it reflects a certain tendency.)

Although it is beyond doubt that Vakareliyska's book can be of great help to beginner students of Lithuanian, I am less sure about its usefulness for professional linguists. It is striking and disappointing that the book devoted to morpheme variation pays little attention to the mechanisms behind it. Part 2 of the Introduction, entitled "Relevant Phonological and Morphophonemic Rules", fills less than two pages on which the author describes the opposition between short and long vowels and introduces some instances of ablaut; further, she briefly deals with palatalization, touches on the alternation between *t, d* and *č, dž* as well as the change of *t, d* into *s*, points out the peculiarities in the declension of such nouns as *akmuo* 'stone' and *duktė* 'daughter', explains the alternation between the second component of diphthongs and the consonant *v*, as in *auti* (INF) vs. *avė* (PST3) 'put on (footwear)' while also mentioning the nasal infix, discusses the metathesis involving the consonant clusters *sk, šk, zg, žg,* and, finally, gives an outline of the Lithuanian accentual and tonal system

(p. 2–3). Under the title "Methodology", part 3 also provides some additional information on nasal infixes, the present formant *-st* and ablaut (p. 3–6).

This highly eclectic and sketchy text (by the way, forming a stark contrast to a couple of detailed footnotes commenting on some of the above-mentioned issues) cannot really serve as an adequate representation of Lithuanian morphophonology. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that the References only contain general sources on the morphology of Lithuanian (in English as well as in Lithuanian and Polish) and lack studies with a special emphasis on phonological and morphophonological rules and alternations, such as Kenstowicz (1972), Girdenis (2003, 2014) and the literature listed in Arkadiev & Itkin (2014).

The root list itself is also not entirely consistent. Many roots either lack regular variants found in other entries or are given a different representation in identical cases. I will name just a few examples. There is no *kerp-* for *kirp-* 'cut' (but there is a reference to *karp-*) and no *velk-* for *vilk-*2 'pull; drag (on), dress; delay, drag on; procrastinate', while *kirt-* 'cut, chop; strike; fell' is given a reference to a separate entry on *kert-* (and *kirv-*). At the same time *perk-*, *pirk-* 'buy' and *renk-*, *rink-*1 'gather; choose, elect' are introduced in the same entries. (There seems to be a confusion between roots meaning 'sick, ill' and 'guard, watch', as *sirg-* is only present in the same entry with *sarg-*, *serg-*1 'guard, watch'.) Similarly, there is no *sėm-* in the entry for *sem-* 'scoop, ladle; draw, derive' and no *lėm-* for *lem-* 'decide, determine, fate' (but there is a reference to *laim-* 'happy; fortune; win'), even though *rėm-* is rightly placed beside *rem-* 'frame; support'. The book has a separate entry for *kaun-* 'fight, battle' but makes no mention of *kau-* while *kov-* 'struggle, fight, battle' is presented as a separate entry. One would expect that *kau-*, *kov-* must form an entry like those for *rau-*, *rov-* 'pull up', *krau-*, *krov-*1 'pile, stack; accumulate; build (nest)', *plau-*, *plov-* 'wash' etc. Although the author cross-references the entries for *mezg-*, *megz-* 'knot, knit' and *mazg-* 'knot; junction' and lists *kait-*, *keit-*, *kint-* 'change; inflection' (without mentioning *kit-*), she shows no connection between *garb-*2 'honor, worship; glory, fame' and *gerb-* 'respect, honor, worship', *laip-* 'climb, board; stairs; step, degree' and *lip-*1 'climb, ascend' and many other cognate roots that are clearly perceived as such in the modern language.

Some passages in the book do not seem very helpful for a beginner student. Although it is true that the verbs *rašyti* 'write' and *žinoti* 'know'

belong to the same conjugation type in the present tense, their infinitive forms alone are not enough to clarify the notion of conjugation, as on p. 88. The mentioning of the fifth noun declension on p. 2 ignores that the Lithuanian declension patterns can be classified in more than one way. The book also contains incorrect statements. Contrary to what Vakareliyska writes on p. 4, *č* in *ginčas* 'argue, quarrel, dispute' does not originate from **tj* (cf. p. 66). The author probably does not know that the Lithuanian *ie* and *uo*, not only listed among diphthongs on p. 2, but also given as examples of diphthongs on p. 88, are not viewed as diphthongs by Lithuanian phonologists. Also, I am not sure that the pronunciation of the Lithuanian long *o* is adequately rendered by the symbol [ɔ] on p. 2. There are misprints in Lithuanian roots including *bręž-* 'draw, sketch, plot' instead of *brėž-*, *būrb-* 'bubble' and *dūmbl-* 'silt, sludge' instead of *burb-*, *dumbl-*, and *skus-* 'complain' beside *skund-* instead of *skųs-*.

In sum, Vakareliyska's book may be of assistance to those struggling through the beginner's level of Lithuanian, although it must be used with caution. Let us hope that its inconsistencies will inspire students to look for answers in more specialized works, including ones in Lithuanian, rather than abandon their pursuit of the language.

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