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CHESS-RELATED METAPHORS - GENS UNA SUMUS

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Abstract. The paper examines chess-related metaphorical expressions in English and Serbian from the cognitive linguistic perspective. These linguistic expressions stem from conceptual mapping from the source domain (chess) to the target domain (life in general, or, more precisely, complex life situations). The paper tries to establish a topology of such mappings, based on the notions of event structure and inheritance hierarchies. From the contrastive point of view, the findings show a high correlation regarding this kind of metaphoric conceptualization between the two languages, which may suggest a considerable level of universality, at least in cultures familiar with the game of chess.

Key words: cognitive theory of metaphor, chess-related metaphors, English, Serbian

1. Introduction

The idea for this paper has been simmering for quite some time. One does not have to be a passionate chess player (or chess hater!) to notice chess words and expressions that appear in everyday language - in newspaper stories, TV reports, films, commercials, novels, conversation, etc., which have nothing to do with the game of chess. To start with, here are just a few examples in Serbian and English from various sources to illustrate this:

'Pregovori su došli u pat poziciju' ['negotiations got into the stalemate position'] -*Politika* daily newspaper

'This is a game of chess. We mustn't make a wrong move' - defence attorney Kitt Devereux (played by Melanie Griffith) talking to her investigator/friend about the case in the film Shadow of Doubt

'... her opening gambit to me was, 'Hi, I have ...'. (Mike Gayle: Turning Thirty)

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¹ I've been living with an international chess master, who is also a chess writer, for twenty years. A great majority of his friends are chess players, who hardly talk about anything but chess. I usually don't pay much attention to what they are talking about, nor do I read my husband's books or articles (although I proofread them!), but I do appreciate the intricacy of the game and understand the basic rules and basic terms.

Are these chess words and expressions only nice rhetorical ornaments, metaphors as 'figures of speech', and why chess, not football words, for instance? Searching for a linguistic explanation of this phenomenon, this paper examines chess-related metaphorical expressions in English and Serbian from the cognitive linguistics perspective. The first part briefly outlines the main tenets of the contemporary theory of metaphor as presented by Lakoff and Johnson 1980 and Lakoff 1993. The following sections try to establish a topology of conceptual mappings from the source domain (chess) to the target domain (life in general, or, more precisely, complex life situations) and to offer explanations as to what makes chess so special among other sports that it becomes such a prolific source domain for life. The paper also examines a contrastive perspective, which indicates that this kind of conceptualization can be wide-spread in different cultures.

2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

According to cognitive semantics, metaphors are not just a matter of language but of thought. Our conceptual system, in terms of which we both think and act, is fundamentally metaphorical in nature. Metaphor is understanding of one kind of thing, one conceptual domain (target) by means of another conceptual domain (source) (Lakoff and Johnson 1980:1-6, Lakoff 1993: 202-204). Thus, when I said at the beginning of this paper 'The idea has been simmering for a long time', I, actually, used a linguistic expression of the cognitive metaphor IDEAS ARE FOOD. This is one of the common ways of conceptualizing ideas - just think of English expressions 'a voracious reader', 'food for thought' or sentences like 'I just can't swallow that claim' or 'I can't digest these arguments'. Metaphor is therefore defined as mapping, (in the mathematical sense) from the source domain (food, in our previous example), to the target domain (ideas). These mappings are highly structured and there is a set of ontological correspondences between entities in a source domain and entities in a target domain, and activation of these correspondences leads to projection of source domain inference patterns to target domain inference patterns. (Lakoff 1993:245-6). Metaphorical understanding is particularly pervasive for abstract experience: 'as soon as one gets away from concrete physical experience and starts talking about abstractions or emotions, metaphorical understanding is the norm' (Lakoff 1993:205). A terminological point that should be particularly stressed is that in this theory the word *metaphor* means a cross-domain mapping in the conceptual system (IDEAS ARE FOOD, for instance, conventionally typed in small caps) whereas the term metaphorical expression refers to a linguistic expression ('the idea has been simmering') that is the surface realization of such a mapping. (Lakoff 1993)

3. CHESS-RELATED METAPHORIC EXPRESSIONS

In the light of Lakoff's theory it becomes clear that chess-related expressions in everyday use on non-chess topics are actually a metaphorical mapping, where chess is the source domain and life in general the target domain. The starting corpus of language data was the *Collins COBUILD English Guides to Metaphor* (Deignan 1997), which provides examples of metaphors stemming from various games and sports, including chess. For the purpose of this research we have also collected numerous English and Serbian examples from everyday spoken and written language (dictionaries, media, books, films, interviews, conversation...) and constructed ones that were tested with native speakers, both chess players and non-chess players.

Let us first take a look at the above examples of chess-related metaphorical expressions: Pregovori su došli u pat poziciju', 'We mustn't make a wrong move', 'I liked her opening gambit', 'He didn't want to spoil the endgame'. We could view these sentences as simply linguistic expressions of different metaphors (for instance, we mustn't make a wrong move means we mustn't make a wrong action; pat pozicija ['stalemate position] is the situation in which neither participant can make any further action, etc.). However, according to cognitive semantics theory, these sentences are viewed as a few of the many linguistic expressions which are the manifestations of the unified conceptual metaphor LIFE IS CHESS.

Our knowledge about chess is mapped onto knowledge about life. Such knowledge may vary from person to person, but the most general and common elements are: chess is an ancient, sophisticated, complex mental activity, manifested as a game of chess, played by two opponent players. The game models a battle between two kingdoms, represented by a set of black and white chess pieces on a chessboard. It is played according to fixed rules, but with almost infinite combinatorial options, whereby players alternatively make their moves, within a time-limit. Each player uses strategy and tactics to outplay the opponent, and win the game. The ontological correspondences that constitute the metaphor LIFE IS CHESS map the ontology of chess onto the ontology of life. Basically, the mapping goes as follows:

- life itself corresponds to chess,
- complex life situations in which we interact with other people trying to achieve our goals correspond to a game of chess,
- main participants in such complex life situations correspond to chess players,
- elements of a complex life situation correspond to the elements of a game of chess (participants, stages, actions, other participants),
- the goal to solve a complex life situation in one's favour corresponds to the goal of a chess player to win the game.

Let us now take a closer look and in Table 1 examine the elements of chess (the source domain) together with the elements of life (the target domain), focusing on vocabulary, with some illustrative examples from the corpus².

Table 1. Ontological correspondences of LIFE IS CHESS metaphor in English and Serbian

SOURCE	TARGET	SERBIAN
Chess	Life	šah
	'for life is a kind of chess, in	
	which we have often points to gain,	,
	and competitors or adversaries to	
	contend with, and in which there is	a
	vast variety of good and evil events	<i>y</i> ,
	that are, in some degree, the effect	
	of prudence, or the want of it',	
	Benjamin Franklin	

² Assuming that most of the readers do not have specific chess knowledge, I provide explanations for less familiar chess terms in the column Source.

Ortographical conventions:

bold = chess vocabulary items in English and Serbian that constitute elements of the source domain *italics* = examples from the corpus, illustrating source-to-target mappping Abbreviations in brackets refer to books from which examples were taken, where applicable.

A game of chess, a chess	A complex life situation that	Partija šaha,
game	involves interaction with other	šahovska partija
Same	people, in the attempt to achieve	sanovska partija
	one's goals, using a planned action.	
	'a situation in which people are	
	trying to gain advantages over each	
	other in a cunning way' (EGM)	
	This is a game of chess. We mustn't	
	make the wrong move. (film)	
	The application is very much part of	
	the long chess game which has been	
	going on between the two	
	communities since 1974. (EGM)	
	'Šahovska partija' - Politika	
	newspaper title about American	
	foreign politics	
Participants: players,	Opponents in a complex life	Igrač, majstor,
master, grandmaster	situation, skillful participants.	velemajstor
musici, gi unumusici	(He's) a grandmaster of litigation.	vereinajstor
	(Grisham novel)	
Stages in a chess game:	Beginning, middle and final stages	Otvaranje,
opening, middlegame,	in one's life or in a complex	središnica, završnica
endgame	situation	51 0 41511104, 24, 1511104
g	Defence Secretary in the 1960s and	
	memoir writer in the 1990sm	
	McNamara still gropes for the	
	elusive coherence that can offer a	
	graceful endgame for his life. (EGM)	
Move	(Planned) action, in reaction to or	Potez,
(usual collocations with the		Kolokacije: prvi,
adjectives: first, second,	opponent, aimed at achieving the	drugi, poslednji,
last, final, decisive, good,	goal.	odlučujući, dobar, loš,
bad, strong, dubious, risky,	That was a smart move!	pametan, sumnjiv,
strong, smart, obvious,		iznudjen, rizičan,
forced, the only),		očigledan, jedini,
- Black/White to move		- Crni/beli na potezu
Outcome/result of the	Outcome of the complex situation	Pobeda, poraz, remi,
chess game: win, loss,	(favourable from one's point of	prihvatiti remi,
draw	view, unfavourable, equal for both	remizirati, remi
Usual collocations and	participants/sides)	pozicija
expressions: to		
accept/offer/make a		
draw, drawish position		
(= neither of the sides can		
win, so they agree that		
they are equal and split		
the point)		

	T	!
Setting of the chess game:	Setting of the situation	
- (Chess)board	- place where the conflict takes place	- (šahovska) tabla,
- square	- a small element of the setting	- polje,
- Black, White	- Good and bad	- crni, beli
Elements of playing a	These words come from other	Napad, odbrana,
chess game		žrtvovanje, pretnja,
Battle-like words: attack,		(poziciona, prostorna,
defence, sacrifice,	SPORT IS WAR	materijalna,
threat, (positional,	Note: this part of the metaphor is	odlučujuća) prednost
spatial, material,	shared with other sports and	
decisive) advantage,	competitive activities	
Elements of playing	Specific actions aimed at achieving	
Specific chess words:	a goal	
- Move (see explanation		- Potez
above)		
- Check (= attack at the	- to put the opponent in such a	- Šah
opponent's king), also	situation that his/her vital areas are	
used as interjection	endangered	
- to give		
perpetual/double) check		
- Checkmate, to	- To place in an inextricable	- Mat, matirati
checkmate (= a move	situation, to defeat completely	
that places the king in a	An army of the British East India	
position from there is no	Company, still in charge of imperial	
escape, as every move	India, moved to Kabul in 1839 to	
results in defeat)	checkmate the Russian advances	
	in Central Asia. (WA)	
- Stalemate (= a situation		- Pat
in which one of the	a conflict can win or in which no	
players cannot make a	progress is possible.	
move that is permitted by	Pregovori su dospeli u pat poziciju.	
the rules, so the game	(from Politika newspaper)	
ends and no one wins)		
- Zugzwang ³ (= a	- a situation where one is forced to act	- Iznudica, cucvang
position where one is	in a way that is unfavourable for him	
forced to make an	Now the government finds itself in	
undesirable move)	zugzwang, where every move it	
	makes worsens its position against	
	an invisible opponent.(WA)	
- Gambit ⁴ (= an opening	- a manoeuvre used to secure	- Gambit
in which a minor piece is	advantage, a remark used to open or	

³ From German, *Zug* (move) and *Zwang* (compulsion, obligation). The translation of the English example into Serbian, with the translation equivalent *iznudica* was judged 'strange but generally understandable' by non-chess playing Serbian speakers, whereas the one with *cucvang* was judged incomprehensible. It should be also noted that Small Chess Dictionary (Averbach 1988) gives only the translation *iznudica*, but in conversation chess players use the adapted version of the German word, *cucvang*.

From Spanish *gambito*, Italian *gambetto* (the act of tripping someone), from *gamba*=leg.

sacrificed to obtain	redirect a conversation.	
strategic advantage)	Her opening gambit to me was: '	
_	Hi' (Gayle novel)	
- Castling ⁵ (= a complex	- a manoeuvre in which two	- Rokada
move that moves the rook	participants exchange places	
next to its king, and then	Novi director je odmah napravio	
they switch places)	rokadu i postavio Petrovića na	
	mesto zamenika, umesto Jovanovića,	
	koji je dobio resor zaštite životne	
	sredine.	
- Fianchetto (= one of	- a complex manoeuvre	- fianketo,
the opening move		fianketirani lovac
combinations that moves	and this smooth fianchetto	
a particular pawn and a	enabled him to gain more	
bishop in order to make	manoeuvring space to rearrange the	
space for bishop's further	company to meet the challenge.	
moves), fianchetted	(book on management)	
bishop		
- Mating-net ⁶ (= an	- a cunning calculated manoeuvre	- Matna mreža
exquisite combinatorial	which puts the opponent in the	
manoeuvre consisting of	situation where s/he loses, a trap	
several calculated moves	She doesn't notice there's a mating	
after which the	net around her. (film)	
opponent's king is		
inevitably checkmated)		
- Post mortem (= two	- analyze the situation after	- Analiza posle
players together analyze	everything is finished and nothing	partije
the game immediately	can be changed	
after it has finished)	Note: the expression initially comes	
	from forensic science	
- To seal the move / the	- make a commitment to do a certain	1 /
sealed move (= if a game	action later, with the aim to surprise	zapečaćen/kovertiran
doesn't finish after a	the opponent	potez
specified number of		
moves during specified		
time, there is another		
session. The player to		
move writes down his first		
move for that session and		
seals it in an envelope.)		

⁵ There was no example with *castling* in English. The translation of the Serbian example into English was

judged 'wrong word' by non-chess playing English speakers.

6 In the Serbian subtitle of the film the given example was translated as 'Nije primetila da je upala u mrežu za parenje' [sic!]. Our translation with *matna mreža* was judged 'strange, almost incomprehensibe' by non-chess playing Serbian speakers, and 'perfectly understandable' by Serbian chess players. Our translations with *zamka* and *paukova mreža* were judged by both categories of Serbian speakers as 'absolutely understandable', but they are not related to chess, though metaphoric too.

- scoresheet (= a special	- the written evidence of successive	- formular, potpisati
form into each player	activities	formular
takes down all his and		
opponent's move during		
the game)		
- to sign the scoresheet	- to confirm with the opponent that	
(= when the game is	the order of activities and the	
finished, both players	outcome of the situation was correct	
sign both scoresheets,	anything can happen until the	
confirming that the noted	scoresheet is signed. (book on	
moves are the ones	business negotiation)	
actually played in the		
game)		
Time-related aspects of	Time for the dealing with a complex	
the chess game, which is	situation is limited	
time-limited:		
- Flag (= a small red	The flag's about to fall! You must	- Zastavica
indicator on a chess clock		
signaling the time for a		
specified number of		
moves for each player)		
- Time-trouble, (= not	Not having enough time for a	- Cajtnot
having enough time to	particular activity, which usually	
play the specified number	involves deadlines	
of moves)	Upao sam u gadan cajtnot!	
- time control, (= the		- vremenska
referee controls whether a		kontrola
specified number of		
moves has been played		
during the specified time)		
- Adjourned game (= the	Next session of some activity	 Odložena partija
session of the game	The President can recruit some new	
played after the move has	arguments to use in the adjourned	
been sealed)	game with the Parliament.	
Chess pieces (king and	Various participants in a complex	- šahovske figure
pawn are the ones used	situation	
for metaphoric		
expressions; the other		
pieces include queen,		
bishop, knight and rook):		
- King (= the most	- someone who is an important, but	- Kralj
important piece, but with	vulnerable and not very active	
limited movements; the	participant	
aim of the game is to force		
the opponent's king in		
such a position where it		
can't avoid being captured)		

D (d 11)	1 1 1, , 1,1	D V 1 / • 7
- Pawn (= the smallest	- someone who doesn't control the	- Pešak/pion ⁷
	situation, who is not considered	
piece)	important and is likely to be used	
- Isolated pawn (a pawn	and manipulated	- izolovani pešak
that is not accompanied		
by or protected by other		
pawns/pieces,		
- Passed pawn (= a pawn		- slobodnjak,
meets no opponent's		slobodni pešak
pieces or threats on his		
move towards the other		
end of the board)		
- Pawn ending (the	- the final stage of the situation	- pešačka završnica
ending of the game where	where least significant participants	
pawns are still on board)	are left to take part and take care of	
- Pawn chain (= several	the situation	- pešački lanac
pawns advancing	- a situation where least significant	
together)	participants are put into action	
	together	
	I pešak postaje kraljica! (a	- promovisati
pawn (= to manage to	newspaper comment about an	pešaka/piona
move a pawn to the 8th	unknown and unimportant local	
rank of the board, which	politician who (unexpectedly) got to	
enables the player to use	an important place in the party	
it as the strongest piece,	hierarchy)	
the queen, or any other		
stronger piece except the		
king)		
- Queen (= the most		- dama, kraljica
powerful piece, with		
greatest moving options)		
- To develop the pieces	- to use other participants and	- razviti figure
(= to position pieces	elements in the situation skillfully	
	and manipulatively into one's favour	
position)		

Regarding the vocabulary from the table, it should be also mentioned that some nonchess playing native speakers were interviewed to check their intuitions about some less common and less known chess words used in non-chess contexts. While the expressions containing most of the general words (such as *chess game, draw, attack, move*), and even some more specific but familiar ones (such as, for instance, *endgame, checkmate, pawn*) were judged absolutely understandable, expressions containing less familiar chess words such as *gambit, zugzwang, mating net* could be grasped only from the context. Quite ex-

⁷ Averbach (1988) gives only the translation *pešak*, while Serbian chess players use both terms interchangeably, with a slight preference for *pešak* in written language. However, for metaphoric expressions, *pion* is highly preferred and *pešak* quite strange, sometimes unacceptable.

pectedly, the word *fianchetto* was a total mystery to all but chess players, who, strangely, did not see its metaphoric potential.

It should be noted that in the ontology outlined above we see the confirmation of the important notions and generalizations from Lakoff's theory. In particular, the metaphor A COMPLEX LIFE SITUATION IS A GAME OF CHESS can be seen as an instance of one of the basic general metaphors, EVENT STRUCTURE metaphor, in which various aspects of event structure, including notions like states, changes, processes, actions, causes, purposes and means are characterized cognitively via metaphor in terms of space, motion and force. For example, for LIFE IS CHESS metaphor particularly significant is the part ACTION IS MOTION, further specified as MANNER OF ACTION IS MANNER OF MOTION, FORCES AFFECTING ACTION ARE FORCES AFFECTING MOTION and INABILITY TO ACT IS INABILITY TO MOVE.

Event structure metaphor itself is one of the most general metaphors, very widely spread and standing almost on the top of the metaphorical system of English and other languages (Lakoff 1993) and such metaphors tend to be widely spread, almost universal. On the other hand, metaphors for life, love, careers, difficult situations are lower in the hierarchy, they inherit basic elements from higher metaphors (event structure), and are claimed to be much more restricted culturally. However, specific, lower-level metaphors exibit the same general structure as the higher-level metaphors, but they can include specific cultural content, thus causing cultural variation in metaphor. The idea of cultural variation in metaphor has recently gained more attention, especially in Kövecses 2006, chapter 10.

In this paper we try to see whether there are any cross-cultural differences in the conceptual metaphor LIFE IS CHESS. Our study was not strictly a contrastive, corpus-based study of translation equivalents, such as a detailed study of linguistic expressions and underlying metaphors (for possible contrastive options and classification models, see Deignan et al 1997, Hiraga 1991). What we did was note and collect, and sometimes even create, some chess-related expressions from English and Serbian, and analyze them in terms of Contemporary Theory of Metaphor. We checked most of the examples from each language with native speakers, both chess players and non-chess players, and translated them and checked translations with L2 native speakers. The findings confirm that the metaphor LIFE IS CHESS exists in both languages and is realized by the mutually translatable vocabulary items and metaphoric expressions. This leads to the conclusion that English and Serbian culture both have this kind of metaphoric conceptualization and metaphoric expressions. Although our study did not include other languages, it can be assumed that this observation could hold for all the cultures familiar with the game of chess. Particularly interesting would be to extend the study to Russian, Arabic, Chinese and Hindi, since these are languages from different families, belonging to different cultures, which, nonetheless, share the interest in and passion for chess. On the other hand, in languages and cultures not familiar with this game, we wouldn't expect to find chessrelated metaphoric expressions and complex life situations would be conceptualized and expressed in different terms.8

⁸ I am grateful to Junichi Toyota for his comments on this section of the paper, related to the Japanese language. Although there seem to be no chess-related metaphors, in Japanese there are quite a few metaphoric expressions stemming from the game of *shogi* (a strategic board game, which involves moving the pieces), which are mostly related to particular moves and their consequences. A further cross-linguistic and cross-cultural research could investigate if there is the more general metaphor LIFE IS A STRATEGIC BOARD GAME, highlighting particular decision-making processes in life.

Having explained the cognitive and linguistic mechanism responsible for chess-related expressions in everyday language, in the final section of the paper I will try to answer the question I announced at the beginning – what is it that makes chess, rather than some other sport, for instance, football, such a rich source domain for life. After all, aren't there many more people who play, watch and enjoy football? Moreover, if one of the chief points of conceptual mapping is to use some familiar, concrete source domain to conceptualize some less familiar, more abstract target domain, how come that we use chess as the source domain for life? Everybody lives and has a life, but certainly not everybody plays chess?

We should start from the main characteristics of chess. As mentioned above, chess is an ancient intellectual game originating from India, which models a battle between two kingdoms. It is rule-governed and organized, with the fixed starting position. To most, a large part of its allure and sophistication lies in the mind-boggling complexity and interdependence of the moves, as well as in the combinatorial options and extraordinary difficulty of employing deeper strategies and more accurate tactics in order to win. Pure luck and chance play almost no part in chess; quite the contrary, chess is the model of control over the contingent possibilities of cause and effect, each player seeking to manipulate the game towards the preferred sequence of moves, i.e. cause and effect, which will lead to his victory. It should be also mentioned that these characteristics of chess have been widely recognized and are often depicted in art (painting, literature, film), where chess is used as a symbol of a struggle of two, or of cold logic (for details, see Wikipedia, part chess and culture)⁹.

It is true that there are indeed not many expert chess players, but quite a few people passionately pursue it as a pastime, and most educated people are familiar with at least basics of the game. However, it is the characteristics of chess that make it different from other, less complex and controlled and more physical and hazardous games and sports, rendering it a suitable model, the source domain for life itself. We all live our lives, and directly or indirectly experience situations that involve interaction with other people who are perceived as rivals. Sometimes we try to comprehend and control life's mind-boggling complexity. However complex chess may be, it is nevertheless less so than life. Unlike the rules of chess, the rules of life are not fixed; unlike chess games, complex life situations don't always start from the same position, with a balanced starting situation. To quote the painter Samuel Bak, famous for his metaphoric chess paintings: '[in chess] if you employ logic, have a plan, guess the projects of your enemy, you have the choice and the control. If you make an error, you must accept the consequences. Everything is rational. How very different from real life...'.'.

Conceptualizing life in terms of chess, and using various chess-related metaphoric expressions to talk about certain aspects of complex life situations may be an attempt to conceptualize them in such terms as to make us seem more in control, more in charge of our actions, dependent on our own logic rather than on physical strength, mere luck or

⁹ Some food for thought and amusement: Why do you think there are chessboards in so many films, especially adorning premises of some tycoon? Why do Harry Potter and his friends or Captain Kirk from *Star Trek* play some special versions of chess?

¹⁰ It is interesting to mention the recent book co-authored by the former Chess World Champion Anatoly Karpov (Karpov and Phelizon 2006). Occasionally, he criticizes the prolific use of chess-related expressions in business, sports and political discourse, by people who, comparing it to war, fail to understand the essence of chess. Karpov, however, recognizes a lot of useful parallels, especially between business and chess.

just fate in our 'battles' with other people.¹¹ In our Western civilization, which places high values on the rational and the logical, this kind of conceptualizing life as chess could be thus explained.

4. CONCLUSION

Our study, which includes examples from English and Serbian, shows that the same metaphor and most of the metaphorical linguistic expressions exist in both languages. It may be assumed that further research that will include other languages and cultures familiar with the game of chess will confirm that there is a considerable level of universality of this metaphor, with possible variations in the linguistic expressions.

For the very end of the paper, I would like to add that the official motto of FIDE (World Chess Federation) and all the chess players of the world is *GENS UNA SUMUS*. Even if we are not all chess players, it seems that, in sharing the way we conceptualize life as chess and use metaphoric expression to talk about it, we could be one tribe indeed.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

EGM = Collings Couibild English Guides 7: Metaphor WA = word archive at http://wordsmith.org/awad/archieves/1001

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¹¹ To corroborate this, another quotation from Samuel Bak: "Life is an ongoing struggle between forces that seek power and domination. The real game of chess sets up rules that reward intelligence, rationality, planning, and patience. The human experience of subsisting in our present world, a world that continually breaks rules, cheats and manipulates -- knows no such luxury. The opponents of the real world fight battles that are cruel and irrational. My painted chess-games try to be metaphors of the human struggle for survival." http://www.chess-theory.com/encpbl005_chess_practice_blog.php

ŠAHOVSKE METAFORE - GENS UNA SUMUS Biljana Mišić Ilić

Rad se bavi metaforičnim izrazima vezanim za šah u engleskom i srpskom jeziku iz perspektive kognitivne lingvistike. Ovi metaforični iskazi potiču iz konceptualnog preslikavanja iz izvornog domena (šah) u ciljni domen (život, ili, preciznije, složene životne situacije). Rad pokušava da ustanovi topologiju ovakvih metaforičnih preslikavanja, zasnovanu na pojmovima strukture dogadjaja i hijerarhije pojmovnog nasleđivanja. Sa kontrastivne tačke gledišta, dobijeni rezultati ukazuju da postoji značajna korelacija u ovoj vrsti konceptualizacije između engleskog i srpskog, što može da ukaže na značajan stepen univerzalnosti, bar u kulturama koje su upoznate sa šahovskom igrom.

Ključne reči: kognitivna teorija metafore, šahovske metafore, engleski, srpski