

## Σεμινάρ 2007

### **The present perfect and the present perfect continuous**

By Kevin, Hong, MA (Lancaster University)

The focus of the seminar is the use of English present perfect and the present perfect continuous. This has been considered to be one of the most difficult problems for German learners. There are many possible causes for these problems. One of the causes is so called "negative transfer", which is based on the structural difference between L1 (German) and L2 (English). In other words, German learners may have difficulties using the present perfect and the present perfect continuous because there are no such grammatical devices in the German language system. However, negative transfer does not seem enough to explain their difficulties, since learning a language is one of the most complicated human mental activities. Therefore, this seminar will focus on learning and teaching methodology, which has been regarded as another important influence in this regard. The methodology will be based on the two types of exercises: (1) a traditional type of paper-based exercise and (2) a new type of computer-based exercise. Both the types of exercises are designed using naturally occurring corpus data which can provide various patterns of native speakers' language use. Particularly, a web-based program, the Chemnitz Internet Grammar (CING), will be used in the new type of exercise. The rationale behind the seminar is to raise German learners' awareness through the two types of exercise to overcome German learners' particular difficulties and achieve a more advanced level of English. The seminar opens to all students who are interested in the above topic. Don't hesitate to join.

Date: 10 April (Tuesday)

Time: 13:45-15:15

Place: 2/N 101 (just for 10 April)