

The Use of Subjunctive Mood in Present-Day English

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ABSTRAKT

Bakalářská práce popisuje použití konjunktivu v současném anglickém jazyce. Teoretická část práce je zaměřena zejména na slovesné kategorie osoby, čísla, času, slovesného vidu, slovesného rodu a způsobu. Práce se dále zabývá analýzou užívání konjunktivu v korpusech BNC, COCA a COHA, a tím také poukazuje na rozdíly v britském a americkém jazyce. Cílem práce je zjistit, jak a jestli, je konjunktiv v anglickém jazyce používán.

Klíčová slova: sloveso, konjunktiv, mandativní konjunktiv, minulý konjunktiv, britský jazyk, americký jazyk, BNC, COCA, COHA.

ABSTRACT

The bachelor thesis describes the usage of subjunctive in present-day English. The theoretical part focuses mainly on the verbal categories of person, number, tense, aspect, voice and mood. Furthermore, the bachelor thesis focuses on the analysis of usage of subjunctive in BNC, COCA and COHA corpuses, thus refers to the differences between British and American English. The main aim of the thesis is to find out whether and how is the subjunctive mood used in English.

Keywords: verb, subjunctive mood, mandative subjunctive, past subjunctive, British English, American English, BNC, COCA, COHA.

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INTRODUCTION

Subjunctive mood is the extraordinary and important part of English. It describes hypothetical meaning, wishes, contradictions with reality, commands, etc. However, subjunctive is believed to be something old-fashioned and disappearing by many linguists. For example by Quirk et al. (1985, 155) who said, “The subjunctive in modern English is generally an optional and stylistically somewhat marked variant of other constructions, but it is not unimportant as is sometimes suggested.”

This thesis is divided into two parts: the theoretical part and the analysis. At the start, the first chapter of the theoretical part describes the verbal categories of person, number, tense, aspect, voice and mood, each in detail. It is so because of the fact that subjunctive is interconnected with all of them since it is the mood. Afterwards, in the second chapter, this thesis focuses on the subjunctive mood as a whole; it describes various types of subjunctive and their different usage in English. This chapter also shows the analyses and researches of linguists who explored American and British English using various corpuses and databases (Brown, Frown, F-LOB, etc.). Every chapter is supplemented by various examples, tables and figures. The aim of the theoretical part is to provide as much information as necessary to understand the matter of subjunctive.

The analysis part is divided into two parts: the first chapter examines mandative subjunctive research and the second chapter deals with past subjunctive research. Mandative subjunctive research focuses mainly on the usage of *that*-clauses because of the fact that these clauses are interrelated with this type of subjunctive. The explored cases are clauses which are introduced by the expressions *demanded that*, *appropriate that* and *desirable that*. Past subjunctive research explores clauses which are introduced by *as if*, *as though* and *wish*-clauses. In the analysis part, the British National Corpus is used for research of the British English, the Corpus of Contemporary American English is explored for the research of the American English and finally the Corpus of Historical American English is studied from the point of view of history of the language. Results from BNC are compared with the results from COCA and COHA each time. The outcomes which are found are also compared with the researches of the linguists and authors who were cited in the theoretical part. The analysis is also supplemented by various examples, tables and figures which are part of every research. The aim of the analysis part is to find out whether subjunctive is used in present-day English and if is, in which cases, if not, by which phenomenon is subjunctive substituted.

I. THEORY

1 VERB CATEGORIES

Morphology specifies the verb categories since the grammatical morphology of verbs focuses on morphemes. These morphemes are usually stated by endings and indicate general properties of the participants in the case that is distinguished by the verb. The verb categories have the function of the location and contextualization in its usage. Thanks to these categories, verbs can be easily recognized and speaker is given instructions how to use verbs in complex clause structures and sentences. The morphological categories of the English verbs include person, number, tense, aspect, voice and mood.

1.1 Person and Number

According to Dušková (2003, 214), verb categories of person and number are linked together, they are expressed by the suffixes of the verbs and also by the singular and plural forms. All of the forms in present simple tense have are suffix less except the third person singular (1) which has the specific form with the *-(e)s* suffix. The only verb which distinguishes singular from plural is the verb *be* which is shown in the following table 1.

(1) *I like, you like, she/he/it likes, we like, you like, they like*

Table 1 The paradigms of the verb *be*

PERSON	SINGULAR NUMBER	PLURAL NUMBER
1 st	<i>I <u>am</u> (was)</i>	<i>We <u>are</u> (were)</i>
2 nd	<i>You <u>are</u> (were)</i>	<i>You <u>are</u> (were)</i>
3 rd	<i>He/She/It <u>is</u> (was)</i>	<i>They <u>are</u> (were)</i>

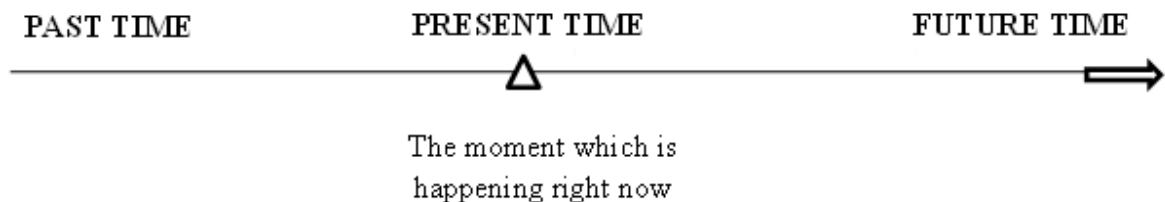
1.2 Tense

Tense can be described as a grammatical category which is a simplified version of time and is closely related to the moment of speech. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 69) Generally, the time relates to past, present and future, however tense is the application of the time into a grammar. (Comrie 1985, 2)

Quirk et al. (1985, 175) describe the time as one line with the present moment in the middle. Anything which is prior to the present moment is the past; anything which is

following the present moment is the future. This fact is illustrated by the following Figure 1.

Figure 1 The Line of Time



According to Comrie (1976, 2), there are three tenses in English: past, present and future tense. A situation described before the speech act and located previous to the moment of speaking is the past tense (2). Anything which is parallel to the moment of the speech act and includes “now” is the present tense (3). A situation which is subsequent to the moment of speaking and is not yet realized is called the future tense (4).

- (2) *Elizabeth worked as a CEO.*
- (3) *Elizabeth works as a CEO (now).*
- (4) *Elizabeth will work as a CEO.*

Tense vs Time

As it was said before, tense is a simplified version of time which means that time can be used in agreement with the tense (5). Nonetheless, English can use different tenses for different times as it is shown in the following example (6).

- (5) *Yesterday, I saw Jim in the park.*
 (The past tense is used when talking about the past time here.)
- (6) *The train leaves at 5 o'clock.*
 (The past tense is used when talking about the future time here – mismatch of tense and time.)

1.2.1 Present tense – state, habitual, instantaneous

With regard to Dušková (2003, 217), present tense occurs in the moment of the speech (*now, at this moment*) or in the longer period of time (*today, these days, at present, etc.*).

Quirk et al. (1985, 179-180) divide the present tense into three groups: state, habitual and instantaneous present tense.

State present tense is used in reference to a certain time and includes general unending utterances which are called "the eternal truths" (7). Habitual present tense is usually used when the verb is related to a whole series of events (8). Instantaneous present tense is described as appearing where the verb is related to one single act begun and finished circa at the moment of speaking - for example commentaries (9).

(7) *Prague is the capital of the Czech Republic.*

(8) *We visit our grandmother every Sunday.*

(9) *Jagr passes the puck to Cervenka, Cervenka is close to the cage...*

1.2.2 Past tense

The past tense or the preterite as it is called in Dušková (2003, 222), is connected with temporal expressions, for instance *then, yesterday, last week, the other day, afterwards, ten minutes ago, at five o'clock, at that time, in 2012*, etc. (10). The past tense is usually used in the narration because it can clearly show the sequence of all past times (11). The past tense is formed by the adding of suffix *-ed* but there are also irregular verbs in English which are formed by their own rules (12).

(10) *I saw the best movie ever last week and afterwards I was watching it again.*

(11) *Once upon a time there was one prince who loved one princess. Once it happened that princess was looking for her kitten and she got lost.*

(12) *put – put, sleep – slept, run – ran, write – wrote, etc.*

1.2.3 Future tense

Future tense can be defined as the action which is subsequent to the present moment and as it was shown in the Figure 1, it is placed on the right. Therefore, it can be said that the future tense is the act which occurs after the speech. Comrie (1985, 43) claims that in comparison with the past tense which describes what actually happened, the future tense is more speculative. It is because of the fact that people's predictions or planned actions can be changed by some interventions or any other action.

According to Dušková (2003, 228), the future tense usually includes actions which are possible (13), desired, promised, intended, and necessary. It refers to definite future (14) as well as to indefinite future (15).

The future tense is formed by verbs *shall/will* + the bare infinitive. The form containing *will* is used in immediate decisions, promises, and predictions as well as to express the uncertain future. The form containing *shall* is used only in the first person singular in English and occurs mainly in the British English. It also expresses the offers or promises.

(13) *She will get married and will have a baby.*

(14) *We shall wait for them.*

(15) *We shall only perform a pre-testing.*

1.3 Aspect

As it was mentioned before, tense is the correspondence between the verb form and the interpretation of time. Nevertheless, aspect is verbal feature of manner in which a verbal action is conceptualized or regarded. (Leech and Svartvik 2002, 285) According to Huddleston and Pullum (2002, 117), the main difference between tense and aspect is in fact of how the speaker considers the circumstances. English distinguishes progressive from the perfective aspect.

1.3.1 Progressive aspect

Progressive aspect gives the speaker an inner view on the situation and refers to the activity which is in progress. According to Leech and Svartvik (2002, 52), the progressive does not refer only to activity which is in duration but also to the action which has to be completed (17). Progressive is formed by using the auxiliary *be* and the main verb with the suffix *-ing* (16). (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 69)

Leech and Svartvik (2002, 52) claim that in English, there are verbs which most usually take the progressive aspect. These are mainly verbs which indicate activities (for example *walk, run, read, cook*, etc.) and verbs that are in processes (for instance *jump, kick, knock*, etc.).

However, there are also verbs which cannot be used with the progressive aspect in English and these are state verbs. The concept “progress” just cannot be applied on them (18). These verbs include for example verbs of perceiving (*smell, taste*), or verbs referring to

relation (*belong to, contain, depend or remain*) or verbs referring to feeling (*imagine, dislike, like, want, wish, etc.*).

(16) *The whole family is playing the piano.*

(17) *Couple years ago, he was writing the poems.*

(It is sure that writer was writing the novel but it is not clear whether he finished it.)

(18) *This ring belongs to me. *This ring is belonging to me.*

(Even this refers to a temporary status, such as all the exceptions, the progressive aspect cannot be used here.)

1.3.2 Perfective aspect

By contrast, perfective aspect takes an outer view; there is no explicit reference to any feature of time flow or to an internal period. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 117) With regard to Comrie (1976, 16-21), it means that perfective aspect is viewed as a completed action. Perfective aspect is formed by using the auxiliary *have* and the main verb with the suffix *-en* (19), the irregular verbs may have different suffixes and forms as it can be seen in the following example (20). (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 69)

(19) *Mary has been to the USA twice.*

(the perfective here is formed by using the auxiliary *have* (in the third person singular using *has*) and the main verb with the suffix *-en*.)

(20) *I have lost my keys.*

(the perfective here is formed by using the auxiliary *have* and the main verb with the irregular suffix.)

1.3.3 Tense vs. Aspect

According to Veselovská and Emonds (2011, 70), there are twelve grammatical temporal terms in English which are expressed by the combination of three possible tenses and two possible aspects. The following Table 1 shows the possibilities of tense and aspect combinations. (Quirk 1985, 189)

The morphological change in these examples is clearly visible. When consider the difference between tenses, Table 2 shows that in present tense, the suffix *-s* form is used for the verbs, and, in the third person singular, the inflectional suffix *-s* is added. The past tense includes the inflectional suffix *-ed* which is added but only in the case of regular

verbs, the irregular verbs have their own fixed suffixes. The future tense is composed of modal verb *will* which is followed by a bare infinitive.

The progressive aspect is formed by the verb *be* + verb with the *-ing* form. The verb *be* must be used in the correct form in agreement with the tense, person and number. The perfective aspect consists of the verb *have* + past participle (*-ed*). In the same way as the verb *be* in the progressive, the verb *have* in perfective also has to be used in the correct form, according to tense, person and number.

Table 2 Tense and Aspect Combinations

	PRESENT TENSE	PAST TENSE	FUTURE TENSE
Progressive aspect	<i>They are cooking the dinner.</i>	<i>They were cooking the dinner.</i>	<i>They will be cooking the dinner.</i>
Perfective aspect	<i>They have cooked the dinner.</i>	<i>They had cooked the dinner.</i>	<i>They will have cooked the dinner.</i>
Progressive + Perfective aspect	<i>They have been cooking the dinner.</i>	<i>They had been cooking the dinner.</i>	<i>They will have been cooking the dinner.</i>
Zero aspect	<i>He cooks to dinner.</i>	<i>He cooked the dinner.</i>	<i>He will cook the dinner.</i>

1.4 Voice

Huddleston and Pullum (2005, 240) claim that the term voice is based mainly on the semantic role of the subject in clauses which express the action. When the clause describes some intentional action which is connected with the active subject (Agent), it signifies the active voice (21). However, when the action is connected with the passive subject (for example Patient), it indicates the passive voice. According to Dušková (2003, 249), the passive sentence is formed by the verb *be* and the past participle of the lexical verb (22).

(21) *Dad saw Elizabeth in the shop.*

- Agent: the noun *Dad*, he is an active subject and the verb is connected to this noun.

(22) *Elizabeth was seen by dad in the shop.*

- Patient: the noun *Elizabeth*, she is passive subject because she “does not perform any activity”.

Function of Passivization

English morphology uses passive voice mainly to delete the Agent from the sentence (23), or to emphasize the Agent by putting it into the position at the end of the sentence (24). To passivize the sentence, English uses two verbs: the auxiliary *be* and also the auxiliary *get* which usually used to emphasize the result of some previous action (25).

(23) *The criminal was arrested immediately after the attack. (Active voice: Police arrested the criminal immediately after the attack.)*

- The Agent: *Police*, it is omitted.

(24) *The performance was attended by Queen Elizabeth II. (Active voice: Queen Elizabeth II. attended the performance.)*

- The Agent: *Queen Elizabeth II.*, it is used at the end of the sentence in the emphasized position (at the end of the sentence).

(25) *The man got shot.*

- The Agent: *The man*, *get* is used here because it emphasizes the result of previous action (for example the terrorist attack).

1.5 Mood

Huddleston and Pullum (2005, 172) claim that mood is a verbal category which is extensively connected with modality. Mood is grammatical category, whereas modality is semantic category. Therefore, it can be said that mood can be described as grammaticalization of modality within the scope of verbal system.

Quirk et al. (1985, 149) claim that English verb phrases distinguish three types of mood which indicate the real, unreal and counterfactual state of predication: indicative, imperative and subjunctive moods.

1.5.1 Indicative Mood

According to Dušková (2003, 244), the indicative mood is the only mood in English which can be combined with various types of tenses. Quirk et al. (1985, 149) claim that the indicative mood is used mainly for finite verb phrases and in independent clauses. Indicative also distinguishes the differences between present (26) and past tense where there is only one form for all of the persons and both of the numbers (27). There is also

person and number agreement between subject of a clause and the verb phrase in the indicative mood which is best viewed with the present tense of the verb *be* (28).

According to Dušková (2003, 244), the action which is expressed by the indicative mood is considered to be a fact. Thanks to that it can be said that indicative mood is also used to determine the content as factual or certain (29). Nevertheless, the content of the message does not have to be only claimed (positive sentence), it can be also denied - negative sentence (30).

(26) *She is a teacher now.*

(27) *I/You/She/He/It/We/You/They worked as a real estate last year.*

(28) *I am, she/he/it is (singular number), you/we/they are (plural number)*

(29) *Diana, Princes of Wales, was born on 1 July 1961 in Sandrigham.*

(30) *I will not laugh, you are not funny.*

1.5.2 Imperative Mood

Dušková (2003, 244-246) asserts that the imperative mood is used in imperative sentences – in issuing a command - positive sentences (31) or prohibition (32) - negative sentences (negative imperative is formed by adding dummy *do*). With regard to Huddleston and Pullum (2005, 8), it can be also said that the imperative includes also offers, requests, invitations (33), instructions (34), etc.

(31) *Go to bed!*

(32) *Don't be so stubborn!*

(33) *Come to my house!*

(34) *Turn left.*

Imperative vs Indicative

In comparison with indicative mood, the imperative mood is used in the second person only. It is also the only mood in English where there is not expressed subject, therefore, it can be said that there is an implied subject *you* which can be clearly visible when reflexive pronouns are used (35).

In comparison with the indicative, imperative refers only to the present time or the future time (36). It is so because of the fact that the command action should have been realized yet, therefore, it cannot refer to the past time.

In addition, the morphological difference between imperative and indicative mood is seen also when using the indefinite pronouns (*everybody, everyone, nobody, no one, somebody, etc.*). In this case, there is no agreement in the third person singular in imperative mood (37-38).

(35) *Behave yourself!*

(36) *Look at this picture.*

(Look at the picture for example now, tomorrow or sometimes in the future, not yesterday or in the past)

(37) *Everybody sit down!*

(38) *Somebody call a police!*

2 SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD

Although, the subjunctive mood is disappearing from English nowadays, it is the marked variant of the other moods and also not less important, as it is sometimes declared. (Quirk et al. 1985, 155)

There are two forms of the subjunctive which are rather linked to mood than to tense: present and past. It is mainly because of absolutely different meaning and usage of these two. Whereas present subjunctive is used for instance in demands, the past subjunctive is used in “*wish*” and “*if*” clauses. (Dušková 2003, 248)

2.1 Present Subjunctive

According to Quirk et al. (1985, 155), the present subjunctive is formed by the verbal base forms. Speaking about lexical verbs in connection with present subjunctive in a clause with the subject in plural number, there is no difference between the indicative and subjunctive mood (39). Whereas present subjunctive uses the same forms as for the all persons (*consider*), present indicative uses agreement in the third person singular (*considers*). This is the only difference between indicative and present subjunctive as it is also shown in the following Table 3.

Table 3 The differences between indicative and present subjunctive – the lexical verb *consider*

PERSON	NUMBER	PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE	PRESENT INDICATIVE
1 st	singular	<i>I <u>consider</u></i>	<i>I <u>consider</u></i>
2 nd	singular	<i>You <u>consider</u></i>	<i>You <u>consider</u></i>
3 rd	singular	<i>He/She/It <u>consider</u></i>	<i>He/She/It <u>considers</u></i>
1 st	plural	<i>We <u>consider</u></i>	<i>We <u>consider</u></i>
2 nd	plural	<i>You <u>consider</u></i>	<i>You <u>consider</u></i>
3 rd	plural	<i>They <u>consider</u></i>	<i>They <u>consider</u></i>

(39) *I insist that we consider your situation.*

(can be both indicative and subjunctive – there is no clear evidence)

When it comes to the verb *be* in present subjunctive, it is the only verb which is different in all of the persons from the indicative. While indicative forms depend on the persons and numbers (*am, is are*), the present subjunctive works with the only form of the verb *be* which also shows the following Table 4.

Table 4 The differences between indicative and present subjunctive– the verb *be*

PERSON	NUMBER	PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE	PRESENT INDICATIVE
1 st	singular	<i>I <u>be</u></i>	<i>I <u>am</u></i>
2 nd	singular	<i>You <u>be</u></i>	<i>You <u>are</u></i>
3 rd	singular	<i>He/She/It <u>be</u></i>	<i>He/She/It <u>is</u></i>
1 st	plural	<i>We <u>be</u></i>	<i>We <u>are</u></i>
2 nd	plural	<i>You <u>be</u></i>	<i>You <u>are</u></i>
3 rd	plural	<i>They <u>be</u></i>	<i>They <u>are</u></i>

As it was said before, the absence of dummy *do* (41) as well as the absence of the third person singular suffix *-s* (40), are a criteria which distinctively differentiate the present subjunctive from the present indicative. The other exception is the verb *be* (42-43). As it can be seen in the following examples (44-45), negation of the verb *be* in present subjunctive can be created by two ways: putting *not* before or after the verb.

(40) *I insist that judge consider your situation.*

(subjunctive – third person singular without *-s* agreement)

(41) *I suggest that you not take the job without regard to salary.*

(negation is created with the absence of dummy *do*)

(42) *I insist that your situation be considered.*

(subjunctive – the verb *be* is in the third person singular and *-s* agreement is missing)

(43) *Is it important that we be there?*

(44) *The judge insisted that the defendant be not allowed to see his family.*

(45) *The judge insisted that the defendant not be allowed to see his family.*

According to Dušková (2003, 248-249), subjunctive mood signifies that unlike the indicative which content is considered to be a fact, the present subjunctive considers the

expressed content to be uncertain, but feasible. Quirk et al. (1985, 155) claim that there are two types of the present subjunctive: mandative and formulaic.

2.1.1 Mandative Subjunctive

Quirk et al. (1985, 156) claim that mandative subjunctive is the most regular use of the subjunctive. It is composed only of the base form of the verb and there is no distinction between present and past tenses (46-47).

(46) *My only demand is/was that the system work.*

(47) *I demand(ed) that the committee consider my situation.*

The mandative subjunctive is the most productive primarily because it mainly occurs in subordinate *that*-clauses with any kind of verbs. These *that*-clauses should comply the circumstances that the superordinate clause complies with demanded semantic conditions, so, that the *that*-clause is introduced by a formulation of demand, advice or recommendation (48), suggestion, resolution, intention, etc. These expressions get the form of an adjective, noun or a verb.

The most common verbs used in mandative subjunctive are for example *decide, insist* (49), *move, prefer, request*, etc. The most usual adjectives used in connection with mandative subjunctive are for instance *advisable, desirable* (50), *imperative, mandative* and *fitting*. Finally, the most common nouns used with mandative subjunctive are *decision* (51), *requirement, resolution, demand, decree* or *order*.

(48) *They recommend that this law be abolished.*

(49) *I insisted that he tell me his top secret plan.*

(50) *It can be desirable that you not sign the contract.*

(51) *It is her decision that she not attend the seminar.*

Quirk et al. (1985, 156-157) point out that the mandative subjunctive as a whole is used mainly in American English. In British English it is considered to be used rather in formal and phrasal language style. However, there are suggestions that thanks to the influence of American English, mandative subjunctive is re-establishing in British English. In addition, British English have predisposition to use mandative subjunctive especially in the cases when the finite verb is the verb *be* (52) – for instance in cases which are in passive voice (53).

(52) *It is essential to life that the field research not failed.*

(53) *We demand that the agent be kept in secret.*

Mandative *should*

According to Quirk et al. (1985, 1014), the mandative or putative *should* is used mainly in *that*-clauses for the purpose to express some alleged situation. This situation is often recognized by the potential being, it is not obvious (54).

(54) *It is strange that he should be in love. vs He is in love.*

(It means that this *should* questions him to be in love. However, the second sentence expresses certainty and truthfulness.)

The usage of *should* in mandative subjunctive occurs also in *that*-clauses which evoke the convincing meaning of the verbs *suggest* and *insist* (55-56). It is applied also in some idioms of questions or exclamations (57).

(55) *I insisted that he should change his colour of hair.*

(It means that she required changing his colour of hair, it is unambiguously the case with convincing meaning.)

(56) *They suggested thatyou should be responsible for the birthday party.*

(It means that they recommended him to being responsible for the birthday party, it is also the case with convincing meaning.)

(57) *How should I know?*

(It means that how she/he is not anticipated to know that, she/he does not know that.)

In American English, the mandative *should* is oftentimes substituted by the present subjunctive (58-59), however, British English occasionally substitutes it by indicative (60-61). Generally, the mandative *should* is used rather in British English than in American English.

(58) *I prefer that she cook.*

(The original sentence would be: *I prefer that she should cook.*)

(59) *It was obvious that you be the next chairman.*

(The original sentence would be: *It was obvious that you should be the next chairman.*)

(60) *I prefer that she will cook.*

(61) *We demand that the conference will be postponed.*

2.1.2 Formulaic Subjunctive

According to Quirk et al. (1985, 157-158), the formulaic subjunctive is formed in the same way as mandative subjunctive. It is used in some set of expressions, mostly in independent clauses (62-66). The component which the subjunctive expresses here, that of a formulation of *will*, can be also expressed by *let* or *may*. Nowadays, the formulaic subjunctive has a tendency to be rather formal and outdated in style.

(62) *Come what may, we will continue with our plans.*

(It means that whatever happens, they will continue with their plans.)

(63) *God save the Queen! = May God save the Queen.*

(It means that speaker prays for the Queen, begs God to save the Queen.)

(64) *Suffice it to say that we lost.*

(It means that it will be enough to say that we lost.)

(65) *Heaven forbid.*

(It means that speaker prays, begs God or moans to not let anything bad happen to him/her.)

(66) *Long live the King! = May King live long.*

(It means that the speaker wishes the long live to the King, also can be pray to God.)

2.2 Past Subjunctive

The past subjunctive survives as a recognizable form only in the past tense of the verb *be*. While the indicative mood denotes a contrast between *were* and *was*, the subjunctive permanently uses only *were*. With regard to this fact, the past subjunctive is distinct from the indicative mood only in the first person and third person singular (67). (Quirk et al. 1985, 157-158)

The differences between past subjunctive and past indicative mood are clearly shown in the following Table 5. According to it, past subjunctive uses only *were* for all of the persons and numbers (68). Nonetheless, past indicative depends on person and number, and distinguishes two types of the verb *be*.

Table 5 The differences between past subjunctive and past indicative – the verb *be*

PERSON	NUMBER	PAST SUBJUNCTIVE	PAST INDICATIVE
--------	--------	------------------	-----------------

1 st	singular	<i>I <u>were</u></i>	<i>I <u>was</u></i>
2 nd	singular	<i>You <u>were</u></i>	<i>You <u>were</u></i>
3 rd	singular	<i>He/She/It <u>were</u></i>	<i>He/She/It <u>was</u></i>
1 st	plural	<i>We <u>were</u></i>	<i>We <u>were</u></i>
2 nd	plural	<i>You <u>were</u></i>	<i>You <u>were</u></i>
3 rd	plural	<i>They <u>were</u></i>	<i>They <u>were</u></i>

(67) *If she were crying, you would have known about it.*

(68) *I were, you were, she/he/it were, we were, you were, they were*

The past subjunctive expresses hypothetic or unreal meaning which is in contradiction with the reality and is used chiefly in adverbial clauses which are presented by such conjunctions as for example *if*, *as if*, *though*, *as though* and in nominal clauses after such verbs as *wish* or *suppose* (69). (Quirk et al. 1985, 158) According to Dušková (2003, 248-249), the usage of the past subjunctive is also in conditional clauses (70).

(69) *I wish I were you.*

(70) *If the post were not paid so well, nobody would do it.*

The past subjunctive may be believed as something old-fashioned. However, it is still in regular use. Quirk et al. (1985, 1013) summarize that in fixed phrases (71), formal style of hypothetic conditional clauses and other meanings which are hypothetic (72-73), English prefer rather using of *were*. However, in informal styles or hypothetical past (74), with clauses which are introduced by *as if* (75) and *as though* (76), indicative *was* replaces the subjunctive mood.

(71) *If I were a boy, I think I could understand.*

(72) *I wish he were not married.*

(73) *Suppose she were lost.*

(74) *Suppose she was lost, what would you do?*

(75) *The stuffed bear growled as if it was a real one.*

(76) *The stuffed dog barked as though was a real one.*

2.3 Changes of Subjunctive in Contemporary English

According to Leech et al. (2009, 51), decline of the subjunctive mood in English is from the points of view of long-term development and continuing changes in present-day English one of the repeated alleged changes in English as a whole. Many linguists join their opinion, for example Foster (1968, 220) who claims that subjunctive is really weak and limited phenomenon of English. However, Leech et al. (2009, 51) state that it survives in some kept contexts, for example in expressions such as *if need be*, *need be that* (77-78), *God save the Queen*, etc.

(77) *She said she could find it if need be.*

(It means that if necessary, she would be able to find it.)

(78) *Be it that John ask me, I shall answer him.*

(It means that if John asks me, I will answer him.)

2.3.1 Development of Mandative Subjunctive

Leech et al. (2009, 54-56) focused firstly on the research of mandative *should* using corpuses Brown (The Brown University Standard Corpus of Present-Day American English), Frown (The Freiburg-Brown Corpus of American English) and F-LOB (part of the Brown corpus). They found that the spread of the subjunctive in American English increased in the mid-twentieth century, however afterwards, it has been slowing down. When it comes to using mandative subjunctive in British English, research proved that subjunctive is increasing; however the frequency is not as high as the usage of *should* in connection with mandative subjunctive. Therefore, it can be said that American English is in the leadership before the British English.

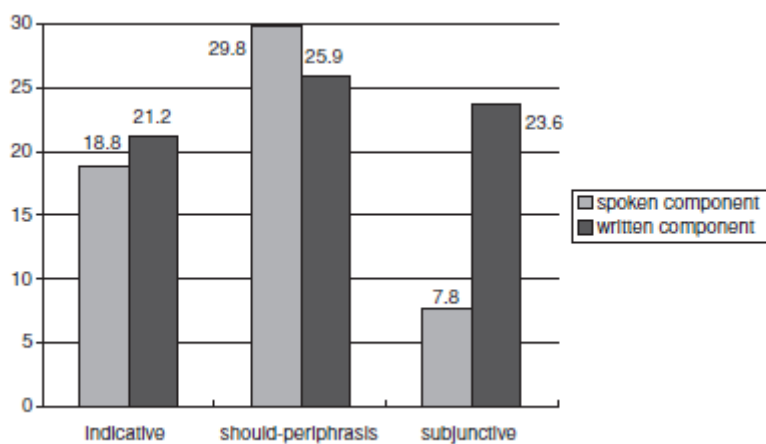
According to Greenbaum and Whitcut (1988, 684) who used British National Corpus for their research, in British English, *should* in formal writing is used more frequently than the indicative mood in this type of writing, since the indicative is preferred more in informal speaking than in writing. Two following examples are cases of typical British conversation without subjunctive (79-80).

(79) “*it is very important that nobody takes anything off the shelf automatically ...“
[BNC, KD8 7846]*

(80) “*I suggested that Jack goes in” [BNC, KB8 9699]*

Leech et al. (2009, 56) do more detailed research on the usage of indicative and subjunctive in both written and spoken English by using ICE-GB corpus (International Corpus of English). The following Figure 2 shows that in British English, the indicative mood is more applicable in both written and spoken language; however in speaking, the indicative is used much more than the subjunctive. Although, when it comes to writing, the indicative is the least frequent option.

Figure 2 Indicative mood, *should* and subjunctive after mandative expressions in ICE-GB (per million words) (Leech et al. 2009, 57)



In addition, Leech et al. (2009, 58) were studying the distribution of mandative subjunctive from the point of view of textual categories. The following Figure 3 proves that administrative texts (H) most likely use mandative subjunctive in both American and British English. British English even caught up the American one in the academic prose (J). This fact was not expected by the authors mainly because of the fact that this genre is defying the innovations. Subjunctive was proved to be more frequently used in all of the texts of British English. However, American English is not the same case, mandative subjunctive is less used in press and general prose, however, it slightly increased in administrative writing and academic prose.

Figure 3 Division of mandative subjunctive through textual categories (per million words) (Leech et al. 2009, 58)

Subcorpora	Brown	Frown	LOB	F-LOB
Press	27 (151)	19 (107)	3 (17)	5 (28)
Gen. Prose (D–G)	50 (140)	29 (82)	5 (14)	15 (43)
Miscellaneous (H)	13 (208)	14 (232)	2 (33)	7 (117)
Learned (J)	14 (86)	15 (94)	3 (19)	14 (87)
Fiction (K–R)	13 (51)	28 (111)	1 (4)	8 (31)
TOTAL	117 (115)[§]	105 (104)	14 (14)	49 (49)

Leech et al. (2009, 60) assert that when it comes to comparison between mandative subjunctive and *should* in written and spoken English, the result is notably similar. In British English, the ratio of subjunctive is higher than the ratio of *should* in writing than in speaking. However, in American English, the ratio is higher in speaking than in writing. The following example is the typical usage of subjunctive in spoken language (81). This example was counted as a subjunctive because of the fact that it is used in the past tense. In the opposite case (present tense with the personal pronoun *we* followed by verb), it would not be obvious whether it is the indicative mood or subjunctive.

(81) “*Gilbert insisted that we provide coffee for all the people*” [BNC, KBW 14225]

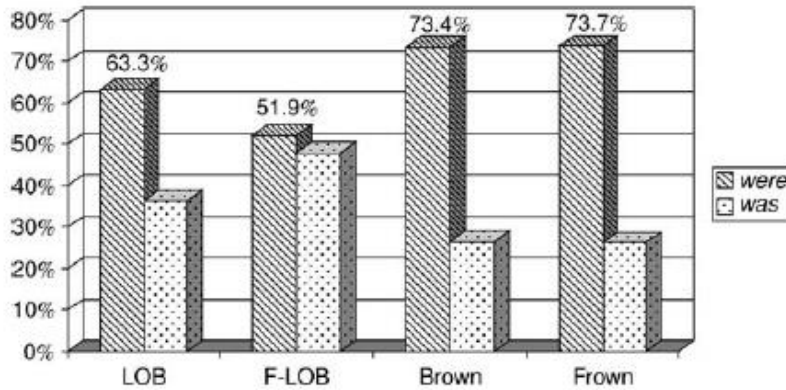
After all, it can be said that mandative subjunctive is in the phase of replacing *should* more in American English than in British one. Generally, mandative subjunctive is more frequent in written than in spoken language. However, indicative is not frequently used in written English as a whole. Although, the research proved that it is really usable option for the subjunctive in both written and spoken British English. (Leech et al. 2009, 67)

2.3.2 Development of Past Subjunctive

Leech et al.’s research (2009, 63) proved that in twentieth century, past subjunctive was decreasing. It means that there is no possibility of return of the past subjunctive (as it was proved in previous chapter on mandative subjunctive). Their next research of WordSmith is shown by the following Figure 4. Research was based on the comparison between subjunctive and indicative usage in hypothetical situations over the thirty years (1960s–1990s). Therefore, according to Leech et al.’s research of F-LOB and LOB (2009, 64), it was proved that the usage of the past subjunctive *were* has decreased over thirty years and

indicative is now used with the same frequency as the subjunctive. American English (Brown, Frown) is, however, behind this development.

Figure 4 Differences between subjunctive *were* and indicative *was* in unreal conditional constructions (Leech et al. 2009, 64)



Leech et al. (2009, 65) state that the frequency of the past subjunctive in *if*-clauses (*if, as if, as though, even if*) is now higher in American English. The following Figure 5 indicates that despite the fact that indicative seems to be substituting the past subjunctive *were*, it is not the true at all, fixed phrases of the past subjunctive are still in use.

Figure 5 The comparison between subjunctive *were* and indicative *was* in unreal situations (Leech et al. 2009, 65)

	LOB <i>were : was</i>	F-LOB <i>were : was</i>	Brown <i>were : was</i>	Frown <i>were : was</i>
<i>as if</i>	33 : 15	19 : 19	35 : 8	32 : 8
<i>as though</i>	22 : 9	13 : 9	19 : 1	9 : 3
<i>even if</i>	7 : 10	2 : 6	3 : 4	4 : 4
<i>if</i>	64 : 38	46 : 40	56 : 28	53 : 20
TOTAL	126 : 72	80 : 74	113 : 41	98 : 35

Leech et al. (2009, 66) claim that according to past subjunctive’s withdrawing, it should be expected that it will be in connection with passive voice as the mandative subjunctive, however, it is not true. However, past subjunctive is still frequent in the Fiction sub corpus of Frown and F-LOB, therefore, it can be said that past subjunctive is the formal possibility of present-day English.

To conclude, according to Leech et al. (2009, 70), the past subjunctive in *if*-clauses is disappearing from the written English nowadays. It has been replaced by the indicative *was*. However, past subjunctive substituted by indicative is more usable option than the indicative after mandative subjunctive. Since, the indicative *was* still helps to express the unreality of the situation. In addition, as it was said before, when it comes to set phrases or clauses, past subjunctive *were* is still in use.

II. ANALYSIS

3 SUBJUNCTIVE AND ITS USE IN PRESENT-DAY ENGLISH

In the analysis part, the focus was mainly on the usage of subjunctive mood in present-day English. British National Corpus (BNC) was used for researching the usage of subjunctive in British English. Then, the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) was explored for the results of use of subjunctive in American English. Finally, the Corpus of Historical American English (COHA) was used to compare the results with the history of American English. For my research, I chose the most used expressions connected with the mandative and past subjunctives.

The research is really different from Leech et al.'s (2009, 51-65), mainly in the usage of corpuses. Whereas Leech et al. used Frown, Brown, LOB and F-LOB corpuses; this research is based on exploring BNC, COCA and COHA corpuses, as was said before. However, Leech et al. explored also the ICE-GB corpus to compare the usage of indicative and subjunctive mood in spoken and written English. My research is based on the usage of subjunctive as a whole.

3.1 Mandative Subjunctive Research

The research was focused on the usage of mandative subjunctive in present-day English. The analyzed cases were combinations of mandative subjunctive with *that*-clauses, namely *demanded that*, *appropriate that* and *desirable that* since these expressions were claimed by many linguists, for example by Quirk et al. (1985, 156), to be frequently used just with the mandative subjunctive. These expressions were firstly input into the corpuses and then every sentence from the corpuses was analyzed one by one.

3.1.1 *That*-clauses

Demanded that – BNC research

Table 6 BNC research on the usage of *demanded that*

Phenomenon which follows expression <i>demanded that</i>	Frequency
Subjunctive	169
Indicative	66
<i>Should</i> -clauses	80
<i>Shall</i> -clause	1
<i>Must</i> -clauses	6

IN TOTAL	322
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According to research of the BNC, it can be clearly seen from the previous Table 6 that British English uses mostly subjunctive after the expression *demanded that*. Subjunctive here was represented mainly by clauses with verb *be* (1), however, clauses with lexical verbs were also really frequent (2). However, there is still high frequency of indicative mood (3) and also *should*-clauses (4) after this expression. Interestingly, there were six cases with *must*-clauses (5) and even one case of *shall*-clause (6) after this expression. Some of found results are shown in the following examples. Generally, it can be said that mandative subjunctive following the expression *demanded that* is really highly frequent phenomenon in British English.

- (1) *The Americans had demanded that the Iraqi army be withdrawn from the area.* [BNC:1985-1994:W_pop_lore]
- (2) *There, as they looked out over the River Thames, he ordered a meal and demanded that she tell him her life story.* [BNC:1992:W_fict_prose]
- (3) *In recent years the American public has demanded that a president is fit and healthy.* [BNC:1991:W_pop_lore]
- (4) *The realisation made her hesitate when indignation demanded that she should move away.* [BNC:1992:W_fict_prose]
- (5) *The faction led by the former party secretary-general, Shintaro Abe, had demanded that Mr Nakayama (one of the faction's own men) must stand down to give another of the group some cabinet experience.* [BNC:1991:W_pop_lore]
- (6) *It is interesting to note that Asheim's exhortation to judge the book as a whole in book selection pre-dates the text of the Obscene Publications Act 1959 which demanded that:... an article shall be deemed to be obscene if its effect... [BNC:1990:W_non_ac_soc_science]*

***Demanded that* – COCA research**

Table 7 COCA research on the usage of *demanded that*

Phenomenon which follows expression <i>demanded that</i>	Frequency
Subjunctive	941
Indicative	430

<i>Should</i> -clauses	18
<i>Must</i> -clauses	4
The last element of the sentence	2
IN TOTAL	1 395

According to research of the COCA which is shown in previous Table 7, generally, it can be said that American English just as the British one uses mostly present subjunctive after the expression *demanded that*. However, the frequency is almost five times higher than in British English. It is also evident that American English still frequently uses the indicative mood after *demanded that*. Although, when it comes to the usage of *should*-clause after this expression, it is obvious that American English does not use it as often as British English. Only eighteen cases with *should*-clauses after this expression were found. It is quite low frequency in comparison with British English where six cases were found, however, per three hundred twenty two cases in total. *Must*-clauses after *demanded that* were found in only four cases. Following examples show some of found results of subjunctive with the verb *be* (7), subjunctive with lexical verb (8), usage of indicative mood (9), *should*-clauses (10), *must*-clauses after the expression *demanded that* (11) and even two cases where is *demanded that* the last element of the sentence (12). Generally, it can be said that mandative subjunctive following the expression *demanded that* is mostly frequent in American English.

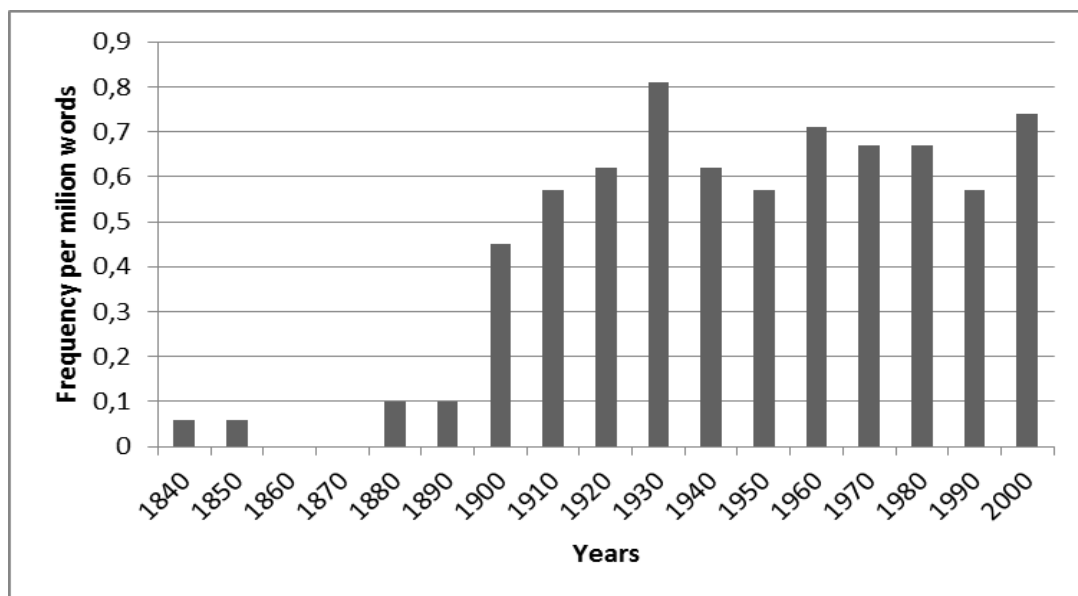
- (7) *Chapter 24 During a duel, protocol demanded that everything else be put aside until the duel was over...* [COCA:2003:FIC:Analog]
- (8) *Today, I first entreated, and then, in the throes of my duty to provide for my children, demanded that he force the Captain to give us better quarters.* [COCA:2003:FIC:Bk:LegendsII]
- (9) *After she came home-about the fifth day, I think -- I demanded that they return her to the hospital.* [COCA:2003:FIC:Read]
- (10) *Mazowiecki promptly demanded that Poland should have a say in any discussions about Germany's future.* [COCA:1990:SPOK:PBS_Newshour]
- (11) *Instead of simply providing recipients with money, the law demanded that those receiving aid must in return prepare themselves for a job through training courses, enrolling in college, or the like.* [COCA:1994:MAG:WashMonth]
- (12) *The city's honor and credit demanded that.* [COCA:2001:FIC:Analog]

Demanded that – COHA research

Firstly, all personal pronouns (*I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, you, they, them*) together with verb bases of lexical verbs only, which is the typical feature of mandative subjunctive, were input into the COHA's search engine following the expression *demanded that*. Then, the final result, which was the frequency per million words in relation to analyzed years, was shown in the bar chart. This bar chart was afterwards reworked to the thesis. This methodology was shown because it simply meets the requirements of subjunctive (for example *demanded that she sleep*).

The following Figure 6 shows the result which was found. As it is clearly seen, the usage of mandative subjunctive with lexical verbs after *demanded that* was really low in the 1840s and 1850s, it even disappeared between the years 1860 and 1870. However, since 1900 it has been increasing and in 1930, the highest point of the usage was achieved. Then it started to fluctuate, however, in 2000, really high frequency was measured, so it can be said that the usage of mandative subjunctive after *demanded that* nowadays fluctuates, however, it is still highly used.

Figure 6 Development of usage of mandative subjunctive after the expression *demanded that* (lexical verbs)

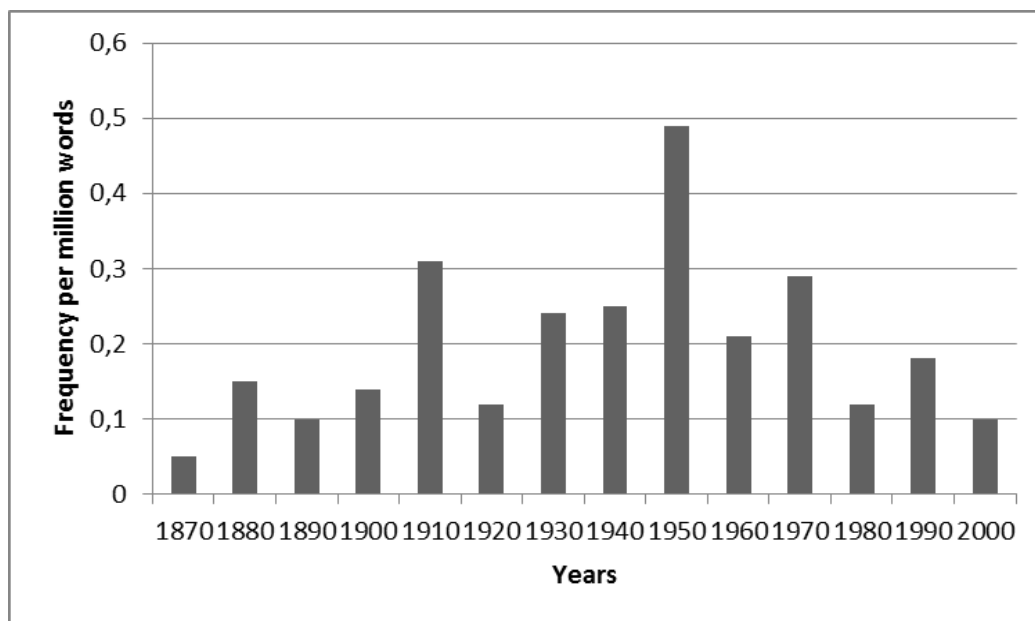


When it comes to the usage of the verb *be* in mandative form after the expression *demanded that*, this time, all personal pronouns (*I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, you, they, them*) were input into the COHA's search engine together with mandative subjunctive of the verb *be* (*be*) only and these were input after the expression *demanded*

that. Then, the final result, which was the frequency per million words in relation to analyzed years, was shown in the bar chart. This bar chart was afterwards reworked to the thesis. This methodology was shown because it simply meets the requirements of subjunctive (for example *demanded that she be*).

The following Figure 7 shows that since 1840, there was no usage of mandative *be* after this expression. However, since 1870, the usage of mandative *be* after the expression *demanded that* has been fluctuating. The highest point was measured in 1950, nevertheless, Figure 7 also shows that in 2000, the usage was really low, measured frequency was only 0,10 per million words.

Figure 7 Development of usage of mandative subjunctive after the expression *demanded that* (verb *be*)



Appropriate that – BNC research

Table 8 BNC research on the usage of *appropriate that*

Phenomenon which follows expression <i>appropriate that</i>	Frequency
Subjunctive	4
Indicative	56
<i>Should</i> -clauses	81
Infinitive	1

IN TOTAL	142
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According to research of the BNC which is shown in the previous Table 8, it is proved that the usage of mandative subjunctive after the expression *appropriate that* is really low in British English. Only four cases were found in BNC (13 – doubled *be* in this case is accounted for the fact that the text is from spoken language where words are repeating thanks to the stream of consciousness). However, the usage of *should*-clauses was the highest; eighty-one cases were found (14). The frequency of indicative clauses after this expression was also really high (15), even one case with the infinitive was found (16). Generally, it can be said that mandative subjunctive after the expression *appropriate that* is not used nowadays, however, when is, then really rarely. The following examples show some of found results.

(13) *And at at at this point in time we do not t-- think it's appropriate that be be added in this amendment to the structure plan Mr chairman.* [BNC:1993:S_pub_debate]

(14) *Erm whether And the District Council as you say clearly clearly considered it appropriate that it should not expand any further at that time.* [BNC:1993:S_pub_debate]

(15) *He said he would support such a committee but did not feel it was appropriate that the department was represented on it.* [BNC:1985-1994:W_newsp_other_commerce]

(16) *It was wholly appropriate that to reach this landmark the jockey would have to produce one of his greatest efforts.* [BNC:1990:W_misc]

***Appropriate that* – COCA research**

Table 9 COCA research on the usage of *appropriate that*

Phenomenon which follows expression <i>appropriate that</i>	Frequency
Subjunctive	51
Indicative	172
<i>Should</i> -clauses	44
Infinitive	4
IN TOTAL	271

According to the research of the COCA and previous Table 9, it can be said that the frequency of usage of mandative subjunctive after the expression *appropriate that* is not really high, only fifty two cases were found (17). Even *should*-clauses are not as common as in British English (18). However, indicative mood (19) was the most frequently used phenomenon after the expression *appropriate that*, even four cases of infinitive (20) were found. Following examples show some of found results of COCA. Generally, it can be said that mandative subjunctive after the expression *appropriate that* is not really frequent in English as a whole, however, it is more frequent in American English than in British English.

- (17) *While the president's overseas, I think it's appropriate that -- that people not be critical of him or of our country,' he said. [COCA:2012:NEWS:NYTimes]*
- (18) *We did not feel it appropriate that such sensitive documents should travel by diplomatic pouch, so we contacted the United Nations, " a Dutch official said. [COCA:1995:NEWS:NYTimes]*
- (19) *I think it's appropriate that we have female legislators here today, because we just learned this morning that the agent who swept in and cleaned this all up, female agent Paula Reid, head of the service detail down in Latin America, and she seemed to get to the bottom of this quickly. [COCA:2012:SPOK:ABC_ThisWeek]*
- (20) *It's - it's entirely appropriate that the district attorney to be looking into this and to have called a grand jury to find out what the facts are. [COCA:2012:SPOK:ABC_ThisWeek]*

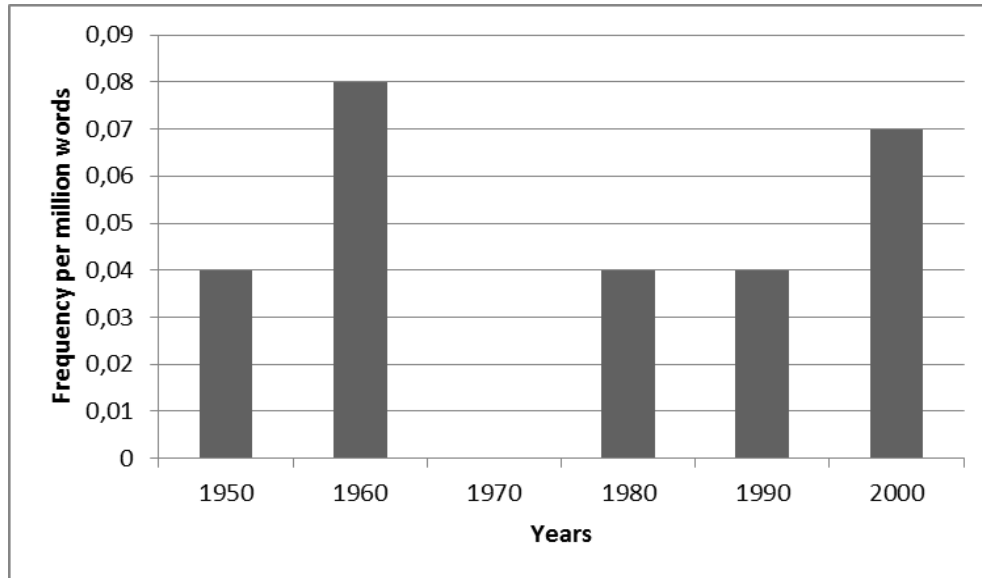
***Appropriate that* – COHA research**

The expression *appropriate that* were input into the COHA's search engine together with the all of the personal pronouns (*I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, you, they, them*) and verb bases. Verb bases were chosen according to the fact that these forms are also mandative forms of verbs. Then, the final result, which was the frequency per million words in relation to analyzed years, was shown in the bar chart. This bar chart was afterwards reworked to the thesis. The methodology meets the conditions of mandative subjunctive in clauses introduced by *appropriate that* (*appropriate that he go*).

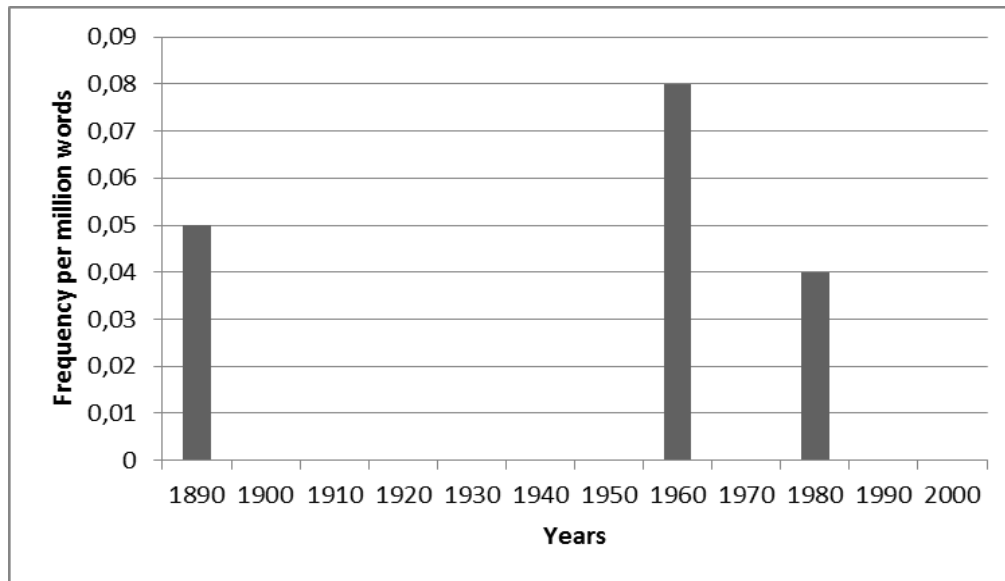
The following Figure 8 demonstrates the fact that the usage of mandative subjunctive after the expression *appropriate that* with lexical verbs was measured up since 1950, then it was

increasing and the frequency of usage achieved the highest point. However, in 1970, the usage totally disappeared and emerged again in 1980.

Figure 8 Development of the usage of mandative lexical verbs after the expression *appropriate that*



When it comes to the usage of mandative *be* after *appropriate that*, the methodology was the same. The expression *appropriate that* were input into the COHA's search engine together with the all of the personal pronouns (*I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, you, they, them*) and verb *be* in mandative subjunctive form (*be*). Then, the final result, which was the frequency per million words in relation to analyzed years, was shown in the bar chart. This bar chart was afterwards reworked to the thesis. The methodology meets the conditions of mandative subjunctive in clauses introduced by *appropriate that* (*appropriate that it be*). As it can be seen from the following Figure 9, the frequency of the usage is really low. Even the measured years were only years 1890, 1960 and 1980. It can be also said that the expression *appropriate that* is rarely connected with the mandative *be*, despite the fact that in 1960s, it was measured really high frequency.

Figure 9 Development of usage of mandative *be* after the expression *appropriate that****Desirable that* – BNC research**Table 10 BNC research on the usage of *desirable that*

Phenomenon which follows expression <i>desirable that</i>	Frequency
Subjunctive	16
Indicative	26
<i>Should</i> -clauses	61
<i>Shall</i> -clause	1
<i>Might</i> -clause	1
IN TOTAL	106

Desirable that is according to previous Table 10 and according to research of the BNC most frequently followed by *should*-clauses (21). However, the indicative (22) clauses are also commonly used after this expression but subjunctive is not as often phenomenon as it could be expected (23). One example of *shall*-clause was found (24) and one occurrence of *might*-clause (25). Generally, it can be said that the usage of subjunctive after this expression in British English is really low; only sixteen cases were found in BNC.

- (21) *For this reason it is desirable that there should be a continuing programme of tests of the stability of all products in regular production.*
[BNC:1992:W_ac_nat_science]

- (22) *On the other hand, it is desirable that you express solidarity, give way to other speakers and tolerate long silences if they occur.* [BNC:1992:W_ac_soc_science]
- (23) *The policy basis for this solution is that it is desirable that some points of law of general public importance be finally resolved by the House of Lords.* [BNC:1985-1994:W_ac_polit_law_edu]
- (24) *It is plainly in the interests of the more efficient administration of justice that there should be split trials in appropriate cases, as even where the decision on the first part of a split trial is such that there will have to be a second part, it may be desirable that the decision shall be appealed before incurring the possibly unnecessary expense of the second part.* [BNC:1992:W_ac_polit_law_edu]
- (25) *Does he agree that it is desirable that today's events in Maastricht might lead to future improved co-operation on such matters by the European Community which may, in the end, lead to a reduction in the genocide in that country?* [BNC:1992:W_hansard]

***Desirable that* – COCA research**

Table 11 COCA research on the usage of *desirable that*

Phenomenon which follows expression <i>desirable that</i>	Frequency
Subjunctive	19
Indicative	25
<i>Should</i> -clauses	11
IN TOTAL	55

According to research of the COCA and the previous Table 11, it can be said that in American English, the most used phenomenon which occurs after *desirable that* is indicative clause (26). *Should*-clauses were found in eleven cases (27). Mandative subjunctive (28) occurs only in nineteen cases, however, when it comes to the comparison with the BNC research of this expression, it can be said that the frequency is quite high in proportion to the total frequency. Generally, it can be said that American English uses mandative subjunctive after *desirable that* more frequently than British English, however, English as a whole uses this connection really rarely.

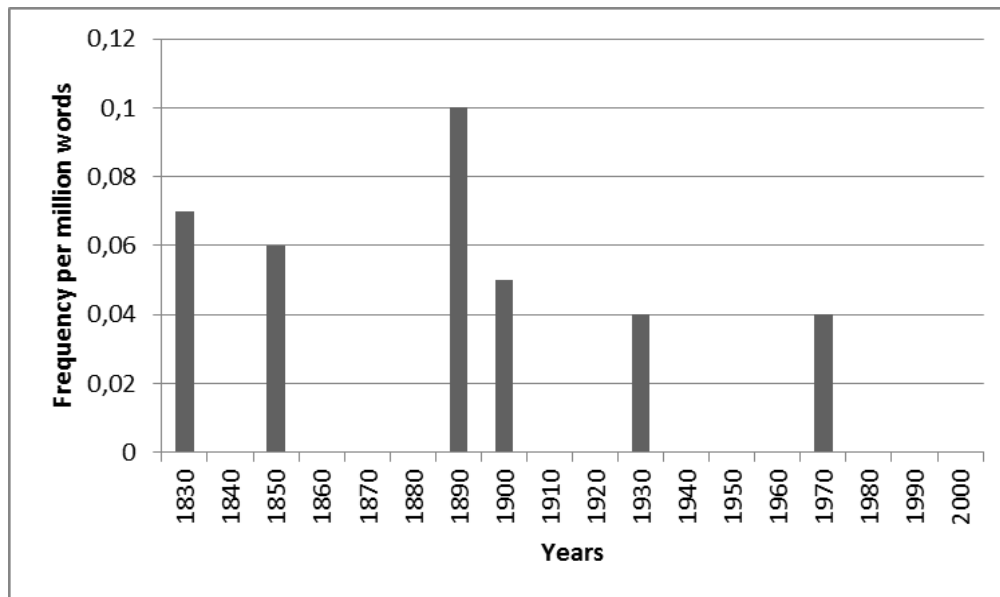
- (26) *That's a level so desirable that the river from the dam downward is considered close to perfect. [COCA:1993:NEWS:WashPost]*
- (27) *Large sums of money were available from these endowments, and in the inter-war period, it was considered more than desirable that privately amassed fortunes should be used for purposes of encouraging and facilitating international educational exchange. [COCA:1992:ACAD:AmerStudies]*
- (28) *It is desirable that the case be decided. [COCA:2012:SPOK:NBC_Dateline]*

***Desirable that* – COHA research**

The expression *demand that* was input into the COHA's search engine collectively with all of the personal pronouns (*I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, you, they, them*) and bases of lexical verbs since this methodology meets the conditions of mandative subjunctive (*desirable that he walk*). Then, the result of frequency per million words in proportion to analyzed years was put into the chart.

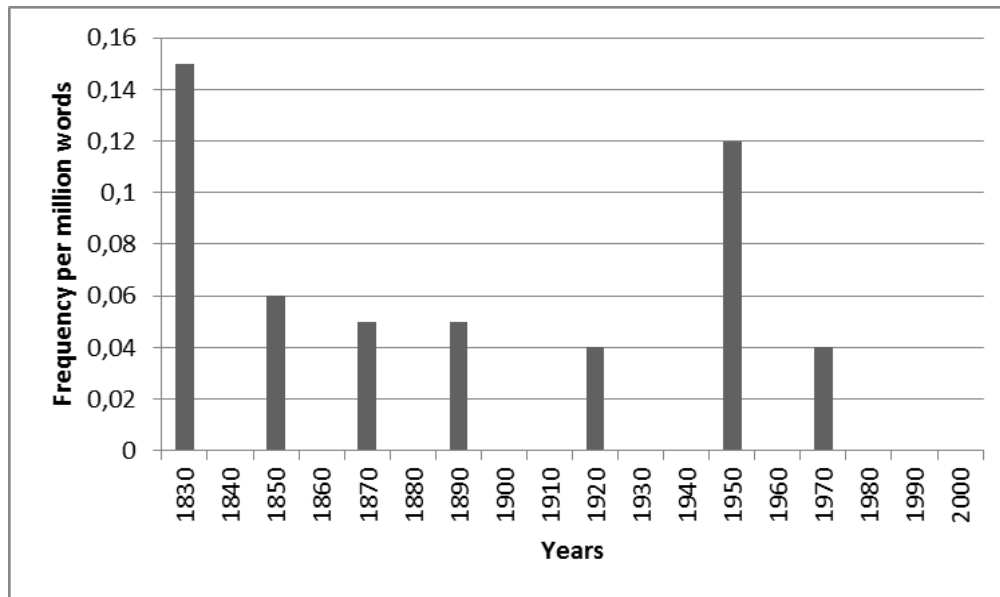
According to research and following Figure 10, it can be clearly seen that the frequency of the usage of mandative subjunctive after this expression was measured by turns. It means that the usage was not measured all years but since 1830, then since 1850, then since 1890, etc. It indicates that this connection was not used really often and not all the time. However, it can be said that the highest frequency of the usage was achieved in 1890s. It is also obvious that in 2000 there was found no result about any frequency of this usage. Therefore, American English has not been using this connection so often.

Figure 10 Development of usage of mandative lexical verbs after the expression *desirable that*



The same methodology was used for research of *desirable that* followed by *be*. The expression *desirable that* was again input into the COHA's search engine, in this instance together with all of the personal pronouns (*I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we, us, you, they, them*) and verb *be* which is mandative form of this verb. Methodology was chosen simply because it fulfils the requirements of mandative subjunctive after this expression (*desirable that he be*).

According to the following Figure 11, it can be said that the highest frequency was achieved in 1830, however, it was not high at all, the measured frequency was only 0,15 per million words. Generally, it can be said that the occurrence of the mandative *be* after *desirable that* disappeared in 1980s.

Figure 11 Development of usage of mandative verb *be* after the expression *desirable that*

Finally, it can be said that *that*-clauses with expressions *demand* (*that*), *appropriate* (*that*) and *desirable* (*that*) are used really individually when it comes to the connection with mandative subjunctive.

Demand *that* is used mainly with mandative subjunctive and the usage is really frequent in both British and American English. However, in British English, *should*-clauses are also highly used with this expression, and, in American English, indicative is frequently used with this expression. After all, it can be said that mandative subjunctive is significant in British and American English when it comes to the usage after the expression *demand* *that*.

The expression *appropriate that* in British English is not so frequently used with mandative subjunctive, however, the highest frequency was achieved by *should*-clauses. Just as in British English, in American English, subjunctive does not dominate after this expression, however, the indicative does. Therefore, it can be said that the usage of mandative subjunctive after *appropriate that* is really rare, other moods or clauses caught up with this phenomenon.

Finally, in both British and American English, the expression *desirable that* either does not appear mostly with subjunctive. However, when it comes to British English it can be said that *should*-clauses were the most dominant after this expression, and, when it comes to American English, the indicative was the most frequent one.

After all, it can be said that the research agrees with Quirk et al.'s assertion (1985, 156-157) that mandative is used mainly in American English. Results which were found were all the time in higher proportion than these from British English. However, when it comes to Quirk et al.'s statement (1985, 156-157) that mandative subjunctive is re-establishing in British English, according to the research, it can be said that it is true, however, this assertion is truthful only for mandative *should*-clauses which were dominant in all of the three researched expressions in BNC – *demanded that*, *appropriate that* and *desirable that*.

3.2 Past Subjunctive Research

The research was focused on the usage of past subjunctive in present-day English. Since Quirk et al.'s assertion (1985, 1013) that past subjunctive with clauses introduced by *as if* and *as though* is used rather with indicative *was*, the first researched were these cases. Then, the research focused on *wish*-clauses followed by past subjunctive *were*.

3.2.1 Clauses Introduced by *as if* and *as though*

BNC research on clauses introduced by *as if* + past subjunctive

Table 12 BNC research on past subjunctive used by clauses introduced by *as if*

Clause introduced by <i>as if</i> + verb <i>be</i>	Frequency
Indicative <i>was</i>	1 364
Past subjunctive <i>were</i>	1 304
IN TOTAL	2 668

Firstly, *as if* was input into the BNC's search engine together with personal pronouns (*I*, *me*, *he*, *him*, *she*, *her*, *it*) and verb *be* (in all of its forms). However, the cases with personal pronouns in singular number except the personal pronoun *you* were only counted (cases with plural number are not distinguishable from the indicative mood just as the verb *be* with personal pronoun *you*). This methodology was chosen because it complies the requirements of past subjunctive in clauses introduced by *as if* (*as if it were*).

According to BNC and previous Table 12, it can be said that most of the cases which were found are in indicative mood (29). However, the difference between the frequency of indicative and past subjunctive (30) is inconsiderable. Therefore, it can be said that British English uses both indicative and past subjunctive moods after clauses introduced by *as if*.

(29) "*as if he was your alter ego?*" [BNC:1991:W_fict_prose]

(30) *He behaved as if I were invisible as he did so.* [BNC:1986:W_fict_prose]

COCA research on clauses introduced by *as if* + past subjunctive

Table 13 COCA research on past subjunctive used by clauses introduced by *as if*

Clause introduced by <i>as if</i> + verb <i>be</i>	Frequency
Indicative <i>was</i>	5 320
Past subjunctive <i>were</i>	10 034
IN TOTAL	15 354

The procedure of researching COCA was the same as researching BNC. Firstly, *as if* was input into the BNC's search engine together with personal pronouns (*I, me, he, him, she, her, it*) and verb *be* (in all of its forms). However, the cases with personal pronouns in singular number except the personal pronoun *you* were only counted (cases with plural number are not distinguishable from the indicative mood just as the verb *be* with personal pronoun *you*). This methodology was chosen because of the fact that it meets the requirements of past subjunctive in clauses introduced by *as if* (*as if she were*).

According to COCA and previous Table 13, it can be said that the proportion of indicative and past subjunctive is absolutely different from the research of British English. Therefore, the reality is that past subjunctive (31) is used twice as much as the indicative (32) in the clauses introduced by *as if*. Nevertheless, it can be said that American English uses past subjunctive after this expression really frequently, even more than British English.

(31) *He palmed her bottom as if it were a basketball and brought his lips to her ear.*

[COCA:2012:FIC:Bk:RecipeDesire]

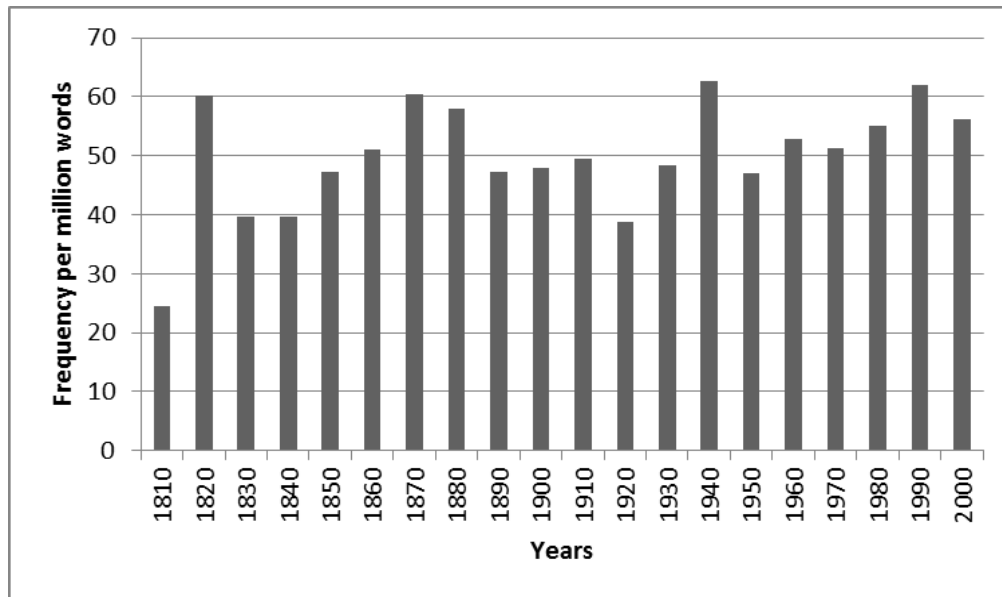
(32) *You act as if it was murder.* [COCA:2012:SPOK:CNN_DrDrew]

COHA research on *as if* + past subjunctive

The procedure of researching COHA was not similar to two previous researches. This time, *as if* was input into the COHA's search engine and was followed by all of the personal pronouns and past subjunctive form of the verb *be* (*were*).

According to following Figure 12 and the research, it can be said that the usage has been fluctuating since 1810, however, the frequencies of usage are really high, the highest point (62,59 per million words) was achieved in 1940.

Figure 12 Development of usage of past subjunctive *were* in clauses introduced by *as if*



Generally, it can be said that Quirk et al.’s assertion (1985, 1013) that clauses beginning with *as if* are followed rather by indicative *was* was truthful only in the case of British English. However, in the case of American English, Quirk et al.’s assertion (1985, 1013) is not truthful because the usage of past subjunctive *were* in these clauses is still dominant.

BNC research on clauses introduced by *as though* + past subjunctive

Table 14 BNC research on past subjunctive used by clauses introduced by *as though*

Clause introduced by <i>as though</i> + verb <i>be</i>	Frequency
Indicative <i>was</i>	483
Past subjunctive <i>were</i>	627
IN TOTAL	1 110

The procedure of researching BNC was same as previous researches on clauses introduced by *as if*. This time, *as though* was input into the BNC’s search engine followed by personal pronouns (*I, me, he, him, she, her, it*) and verb *be* (in all of its forms). Nevertheless, the cases with personal pronouns in singular number except the personal pronoun *you* were only counted (cases with plural number are not distinguishable from the indicative mood just as the verb *be* with personal pronoun *you*). This methodology was chosen because it simply complies the requirements of past subjunctive in clauses introduced by *as though* (*as though she were*).

According to previous Table 14, it was proved that in British English, past subjunctive (33) in the clauses started with *as though* is used most frequently. However, indicative (34) was measured also in really high frequency of usage. Generally, it can be said that British English uses really commonly past subjunctive in these clauses, however, indicative is catching up with the past subjunctive.

(33) *Yet our art persists in trying to render the world as though it were here, now, available, he wrote. [BNC:1991:W_fict_prose]*

(34) *I usually have to, as though I was a bloody woman, but I hate it. [BNC:1990:W_fict_prose]*

COCA research on clauses introduced by *as though* + past subjunctive

Table 15 COCA research on past subjunctive used by clauses introduced by *as though*

Clause introduced by <i>as though</i> + verb <i>be</i>	Frequency
Indicative <i>was</i>	1310
Past subjunctive <i>were</i>	2017
IN TOTAL	3 327

The methodology was same as in the previous research of British National Corpus. *As though* was input into the COCA's search engine together with personal pronouns (*I, me, he, him, she, her, it*) and verb *be* (in all of its forms). However, the cases with personal pronouns in singular number except the personal pronoun *you* were only counted (cases with plural number are not differentiable from the indicative mood just as the verb *be* with personal pronoun *you*). This methodology fulfils the requirements of past subjunctive in clauses introduced by *as though* (*as though he were*).

As it is shown in the previous Table 15, it was proved that American English uses dominantly past subjunctive (35) in clauses starting with *as though*. However, cases with indicative (36) were also discovered really frequently, therefore, this instance is same as the British English. American English also uses past subjunctive in these clauses really frequently, however, indicative *was* is catching the past subjunctive *were*.

(35) *Her lips, stretched thin, were quivering. Her eyes pleaded as though she were a child. [COCA:2011:FIC: Bk:Forbidden]*

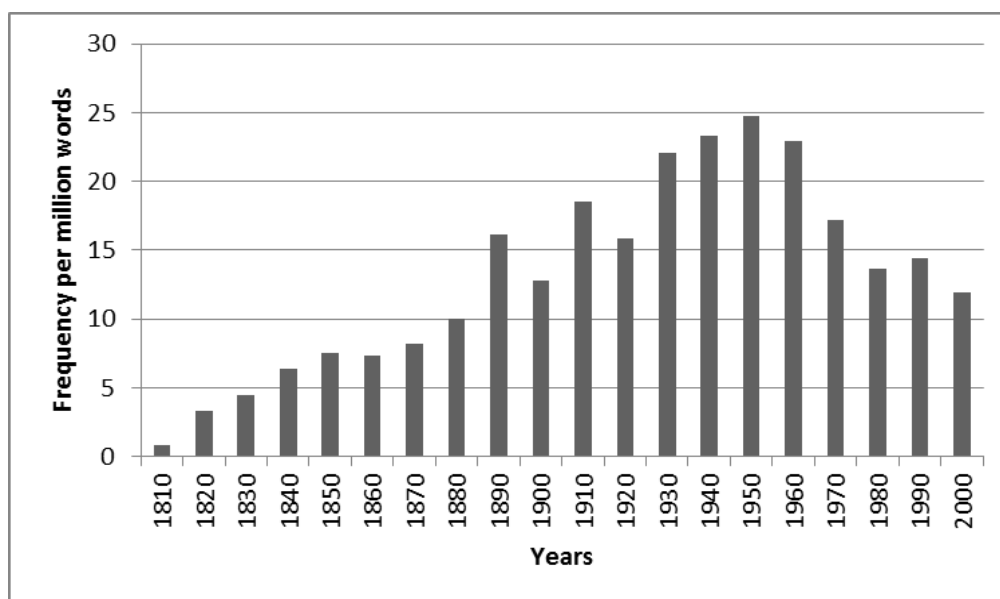
(36) *Even Katie looked different: she smiled more readily, as though she was no longer the shy girl who had to be dragged out to dances.* [COCA:2009:FIC: AntiochRev]

COHA research on clauses introduced by *as though* + past subjunctive

The procedure of researching COHA was not similar to two previous BNC and COCA researches. This time, *as though* was input into the COHA's search engine and was followed by all of the personal pronouns and past subjunctive form of the verb *be* (*were*).

According to following Figure 13 and the research of COHA, it was proved that the usage of this connection has been increasing since 1810. Nevertheless, since 1890, the usage started fluctuating. The highest point was achieved in 1950 where the frequency 24,8 per million words was measured. Generally, it can be said that development of past subjunctive in clauses started with *as though* increasing, however, since 1970, it started slowly decreasing.

Figure 13 Development of usage of past subjunctive *were* in clauses introduced by *as though*



This time, Quirk et al.'s assertion (1985, 1013) that clauses introduced by *as though* are followed rather by indicative *was* was not so precious. As it was proved in the research, past subjunctive *were* is still dominant in clauses introduced by *as though*. For this time, research agrees with Leech et al. (2009, 65) who claimed that past subjunctive *were* is still in use when it comes to these fixed phrases.

3.2.2 *Wish*-clauses

BNC research on *wish*-clauses

Table 16 BNC research on *wish*-clauses followed by past subjunctive *were*

Phenomenon which follows <i>I wish I</i>	Frequency
Past subjunctive <i>were</i>	23
Indicative <i>was</i>	70
IN TOTAL	93

I wish together with personal pronoun in first person singular (*I*) and with verb base of the verb *be* (*be*) were input into the BNC's search engine. The methodology meets the requirements of past subjunctive in clauses introduced by this expression (*I wish I were*).

The research and previous Table 16 indicate that in British English, the usage of past subjunctive *were* (37) in *wish*-clauses is nowadays decreasing. However, twenty three results which were found prove that past subjunctive *were* is still in use, unfortunately, only to a certain extent. Nevertheless, in *wish*-clauses, indicative (38) is dominant in British English.

(37) *I wish I were satisfied my Ferdinando is.* [BNC:1990:W_fict_prose]

(38) *I wish I was twenty years younger.* [BNC:1991:S_conv]

COCA research on *wish*-clauses

Table 17 COCA research on *wish*-clauses followed by past subjunctive *were*

Phenomenon which follows <i>I wish I</i>	Frequency
Past subjunctive <i>were</i>	204
Indicative <i>was</i>	223
Indicative <i>am</i>	1
IN TOTAL	428

As well as in the previous research of BNC, *I wish* together with personal pronoun in first person singular (*I*) and verb base of the verb *be* (*be*) were input into the COCA' search engine. This methodology fulfils again the requirements of past subjunctive in clauses introduced by this expression (*I wish I were*).

Previous Table 17 shows the result. In American English, the indicative *was* (39) is also leading, however, the past subjunctive *were* (40) is still in use there, this time with high frequency of usage. Interestingly, one case with the indicative *am* was also found (41). Generally, it can be said that indicative *was* is in American English prevailed, nevertheless, the past subjunctive *were* is also still used really frequently. Therefore, it is not losing its usage as it is in the case of British English.

(39) "*I wish I was dead.*" [COCA:2012:FIC:FantasySciFi]

(40) " *The solo guitar is limited, " Ribot says. " It's not an orchestra. If you get into saying, ' Oh, I wish I were an orchestra, you're going to be overplaying like crazy.* [COCA:2011:NEWS:SanFranChron]

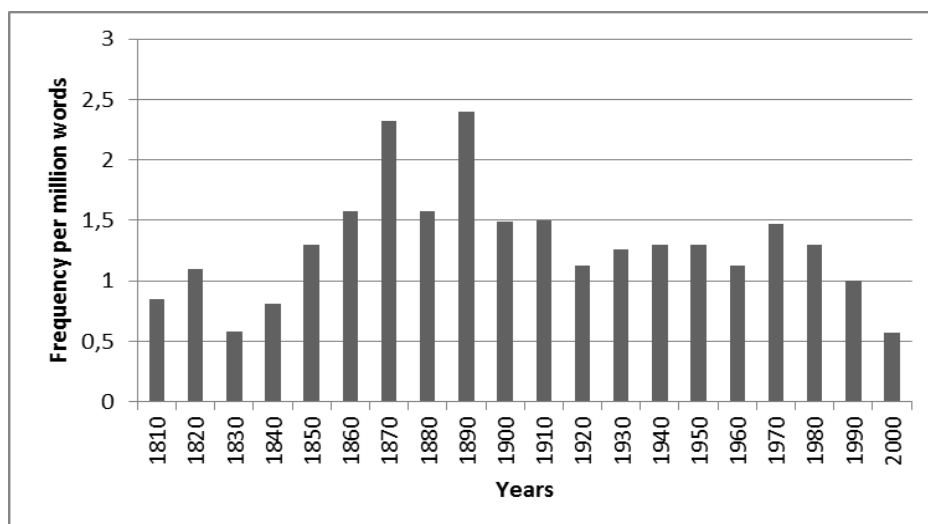
(41) *I mean, he said -- he said to me, " I wish I am a liar.* "[COCA:2005:SPOK:CNN_Zahn]

COHA research on *wish*-clauses

In this research, the verb *wish* together with personal pronoun in the first person singular (*I*) and past subjunctive *were* were input into COHA's search engine since this connection is appropriate to the past subjunctive used in *wish*-clause (*I wish it were*).

As it is seen in the following Figure 14, the development of usage of past subjunctive *were* in *wish*-clauses has been since 1810 fluctuating. However, since 1830s, the usage started increasing till 1870 when the usage started fluctuating and then since 1970 decreasing. This fact supports also the fact which was proved in COCA research. The highest frequency of usage was achieved in 1890 where frequency 2,04 per million words was measured.

Figure 14 Development of usage of past subjunctive *were* in *wish*-clauses



Therefore, it can be said that the usage of past subjunctive *were* in *wish*-clauses is not used in British English, however, in American English, it is still in regular use. Also, the research agrees with Quirk et al.'s statement (1985, 1013) that indicative *was* is replacing the past subjunctive *were* in *wish*-clauses, however, the research proved that this statement is true only in the case of British English. Despite of the fact that past subjunctive *were* was found being less used than the indicative *was*, the difference was not as crucial as it was in the case of British English (the difference is only nineteen cases). Therefore, it can be said that in American English, the occurrence of past subjunctive *were* in *wish*-clauses is not yet losing.

CONCLUSION

Finally, it can be said that this thesis disproves Quirk et al.'s statement (1985, 155) that subjunctive is nowadays disappearing from English. It was proved that the usage of mandative subjunctive after the expression *demand that* is still in regular use and dominates not only in British but also in American English. However, their statement agrees with the cases of *appropriate that* and *desirable that* which are controlled by *should*-clauses in British English, in American English by indicative mood.

It was also proved that when it comes to the usage of past subjunctive in clauses introduced by *as if* and *as though*, English still uses the past subjunctive *were* variant, even though the indicative *was* seems to be catching up with the subjunctive.

Speaking about *wish*-clauses, Quirk et al.'s statement (1985, 1013) about replacing past subjunctive *were* by indicative *was* was precious. However, in the case of American English, the difference between indicative and past subjunctive was inconsiderable. Therefore, it can be said that the occurrence of past subjunctive *were* in *wish*-clauses is not losing yet.

Finally, it was proved that subjunctive behaves really individually. In clauses of American English which are introduced by *appropriate that*, the indicative mood is replacing mandative subjunctive, in British English it is indicative mood together with *should*-clauses which are substituting. When it comes to subjunctive used in connection with *desirable that*, it was proved that British English uses rather *should*-clauses, however, American English uses rather indicative.

However, when it comes to American English in usage of past subjunctive, it still frequently uses this construction as it was proved in the research of *wish*-clauses and clauses introduced by *as though* and *as if*. Therefore, subjunctive is not disappearing from English nowadays, however, in some clausal constructions it has been replaced by other types of clauses or sentence constructions.

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