Adriana D'Angelo
La negoziazione dell'identità culturale e linguistica

Abstract – The meanings of a language represent the culture of a social group and we cannot understand a different culture without an access to its language. Learning a language is not only learning its grammar rules, but it is also learning the behaviour of an entire society. The relationship between language and culture is very complex, in fact they evolve together and influence one another in the process and the way we think about the world is directly influenced by the language we use to talk about it. A problem occurs when cross-cultural interactions take place, when the message of the producer and message of the receiver come from different cultures. Learning a language means learning the behavior of a given society together with its cultural customs because every single language is the product of the thought of the society it refers to. Contact among cultures is increasing and intercultural communication is essential for the understanding of different beliefs and unknown backgrounds.

Keywords: cultural identity, cultural shock, social distance, multiculturalism, negotiation, cross-cultural interaction.