

Introduction

We are pleased to present the first of the three volumes that will be published as of this year, which now have full versions of the texts in Portuguese and English. This volume compiles works that deal with the methodology utilized in the collection of geolinguistic data, specifically initiated by the data collection of the ALiB - Linguistic Atlas of Brazil, with emphasis on the difficulties that the inquirers of an atlas often find in the registry of some responses and the strategies adopted to obtain valid answers.

The volume, which is under the aegis of the “alibian methodology”, arose from the need to discuss the effectiveness of research instruments and strategies to promote the return of discussions to the academic community. In summary, these are analyzes of the contributions of more than a decade of data collection by the project team in the 250 survey points distributed throughout Brazil. The peculiarities of each region and how to reformulate the issues were at the heart of this volume. It is true that these are not the first works on the methodology of an atlas nor the ALiB's. Over the years and with the progress of field research, much has already been written and conveyed on the subject.

This volume is an addition to the other works already published, rectifying or ratifying the convictions conveyed in the academy. In this way, subjects relevant to the collection of phonetic and lexical data were worked out, as in the articles dealing with the collection of data for questions 32 (abóbora), 54 (aftosa), 102 (questão) and 138 (doido), and 41 (that investigates the names for camomila / chamomile) ALiB surveys specifically and the selection of some questions of the data collection from the Alagoas atlas. As a consequence of the reflection on the empirical action of the interview, the volume contemplates an article that approaches the methodology of data collection discussing the subject and pointing out ways to guide new works in the area. Finally, the natural consequence of a scientific work that will always culminate in other works, which will represent new dialectological challenges. And now to the texts.

Regarding the sequence presented above, the first text *Reinterpreting dialectological void in the north of Brazil*, from Marilúcia Barros Oliveira, Celiane Sousa Costa and Flávia Helena da Silva Passo, discusses questions that are not easily answered when the Phonetic-Phonological Questionnaire and the Semantic-Lexical Questionnaire are applied. Especially those related to the questions 32 (abóbora / pumpkin) and 41 (camomila / chamomile) respectively. The authors describe and analyse the possibilities to obtain the answers to the question about ‘abóbora’ (investigating the maintenance of the proparoxytone¹) and the variants for the white flower with a yellow centre used to make tea,

¹ Designating or relating to a word having an acute accent on the antepenultimate syllable.

especially for babies, which were registered as “camomila”, “maçanilha”, “macela” among other variants throughout the national territory.

Strategies to obtain answers in the ALiB interviews about question 054 – aftosa (foot-and-mouth disease) in the capital cities of Midwest and Southeast of Brazil, article signed by Vanessa Yida, Myriam Rossi Sleiman Gholmie and Celciane Alves Vasconcelos, describes the strategies utilized by the inquirers of the Linguistic Atlas of Brazil (ALiB) in the reformulation of question 054 of the Phonetic-Phonological Questionnaire (QFF) - in order to obtain the *aftosa* response - in interviews conducted in the capitals of the Midwest and Southeast Regions. The authors discuss the achievement of the lexicon in question and the difficult mental association that the informant needs to do to remember this disease, which is not always present in urban life, even in regions with typically rural economies, such as the Midwest. The counterpoint with the Southeast, more industrialized, gives the text the necessary subsidy for reflections on the use of the language in different spaces.

The article *The interviewer's strategies : analysis of question 102 of the QFF, in five capitals of the Northeast of Brazil*, by Fabiane Cristina Altino and Reinaldo César Zanardi, analyzes the strategies of the interviewer to obtain valid answers to question 102 of the QFF (which checks the variations of the word *questão*), of the Linguistic Atlas of Brazil in five Northeastern capitals, and proposes to follow the methodological path to obtain the name of the referent which, although it is of the everyday and the common vocabulary of Portuguese speakers, finds barriers in the formulations of the question. The simplicity of the question may induce the informant to think that this is not the denomination sought.

In *The Inquirer and the difficulties in obtaining answers to the Linguistic Atlas of Brazil: the case of doído*, by Vanderci de Andrade Aguilera and Mariana Spagnolo Martins again it is discussed the methodology of the Brazilian Linguistic Atlas by means of the analysis of the answers given to the Question 138 of the Phonetic-Phonological Questionnaire (QFF) of the ALiB (ALiB NATIONAL COMMITTEE, 2001) in the capitals of the North and South Regions. In addition, the authors discuss the difficulties and strategies encountered by the interviewers in obtaining the desired answers, having as background the presumable linguistic taboo that underlies the meaning of the word.

The article *Does the chicken put or lay eggs? Responses and non-responses of informants of the Linguistic Atlas of the State of Alagoas –ALEAL*, authored by Maranúbia Pereira Barbosa Doiron, presents a description and analysis of abstentions and non-valid answers that were recorded by ALEAL informants to some questions in the Phonetic- Phonological Questionnaire (QFF). In examining the reasons that lead the speakers to make such occurrences, the article intends to contribute to a correct interpretation of the obtained information and to rethink the current methodologies, always with a view to the cartographic production, base of Geolinguistics. The ALEAL, “generated” in the post-ALiB era, contributes to the methodological improvement and tests, in a way, the scientific legacy of the national atlas.

Returning to the thought of Nascentes that we will only be able to conduct an interview after all the completed surveys, the article *Contributions of the Linguistic Atlas of Brazil project to the methodology of geolinguistic research: the role of the inquirer*, signed by Marcela Moura Torres Paim and Silvana Soares Costa Ribeiro, revisits the manuals of Dialectology and presents aspects related to methodological procedures in the ALiB Project surveys, discussing the role of the interviewer during the interviews, in order to verify the strategies used to achieve the desired data and to solve the interviewer's difficulties in obtaining specific answers at the time of application of the linguistic questionnaire.

Finally, the expectation of continuity of the works in the area is printed in the article *Geolinguistic research in Brazilian indigenous areas: challenges and strategies*, by Abdelhak Razky, Regis José da Cunha Guedes and Eliane Oliveira da Costa, which presents a reflection on theoretical and methodological aspects involved in the research Portuguese Linguistic Atlas of Indigenous Areas (ALiPAI) of the GeoLinTerm project developed in two IES - UFPA and UnB - and discusses the necessary adaptations made in the methodology of geolinguistic research to account for the geosociolinguistic characteristics of the indigenous communities, object of studies of the ALiPAI.

As final words, it is up to the organizers of this volume to point out the reasons for the reduced number of published texts: their theme, their involvement in the projects mentioned here, and the illusion that everything has already been said about the methodology of data collection. We think we are at the beginning of this journey, we know much more than we knew at the beginning of the ALiB project and yet we know very little about the informant/inquirer interaction, about the potentialities of a data collection instrument, and even less about the technologies that can assist in recording the data. In short, we are like Nascentes, learning with each inquiry, each reading and each new testimony about the "paradox of the observer". In this way, we thank the authors who shared with us their experiences and the evaluators who contributed to this volume and wish readers a good reading.

The Organizers