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certainty

Sommario/riassunto

In this paper, we investigate the evolution from imperatives to discourse markers in Romance, with a corpus-based approach. We focus on the case of items coming from verbs meaning 'to look', in a semasiological perspective: Spanish and Catalan *mira*, Portuguese *olha*, Italian *guarda*, French *regarde*, Romanian *uite*. We show that they all share many uses, among which turn-taking, introduction of reported speech, hesitation phenomenon, topic-shifting and modalization, except for French *regarde*. We then establish (against Waltereit, 2002) that the development
