

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Forword (*Mihai M. Zdrengea*) / 9

Introduction / 19

Abbreviations / 24

1. Epistemic/Deontic Modality

1.1. General characteristics / 25

1.2. Function of the modal verbs / 32

1.3. Tense, negation, voice / 36

1.4. Presentation of the epistemic/deontic use of the modals / 40

1.5. The primary modals and negation / 50

1.6. Modals and cognate verbs / 53

2. A correlation between the modal verbs in English and Italian

2.1. Generalities / 57

2.2. The Italian epistemic-evidential system / 58

2.3. Two types of epistemic reading / 72

2.4. The special modal "bisogna" / 77

2.5. Asymmetry between "dovere" and "potere" / 79

3. Mood and modality

- 3.1.** General characteristics / 91
- 3.2.** Levels of modality / 93
- 3.3.** Description of mood and modality / 98
- 3.4.** Mood / 100
- 3.5.** Modality / 105
- 3.6.** Corpus and analysis / 117
- 3.7.** Discussions / 127

4. Semi-modals

- 4.1.** General characteristics of the semi-modals / 135
- 4.2.** The relation between semi-modals and marginal modals / 146
- 4.3.** Quasi auxiliaries modal expressions / 163
- 4.4.** Quasi modal auxiliaries compared with modal auxiliaries / 164

References / 167