ABSTRACT: This paper analyses the syntax of the position (pre- or post-verbal) of the clitic pronouns, related to the SV/VS(O) orders, in finite, independent clauses in Brazilian Portuguese (BP), in theater plays written by Brazilian authors born in Santa Catarina, during the 19th and 20th centuries. The analysis articulates presuppositions of the Theory of Variation and Change with the Generative Theory and, within a diachronic perspective, defends that the evolution in the frequency of use of clauses with enclisis/proclisis and with the subject anteposition/postposition, verified in texts written by Brazilians along the centuries reflects a period of change in which there is a competition between standards generated by different grammars, in Kroch’s (1989, 2001) sense.