Abstract

The BA thesis focuses on presentation sentences with the verb ‘have’, on their categorisation, and on the tendencies of the respective categories. Presentative constructions carry existential meaning; the verb ‘have’ is semantically emptied and the postverbal element – the object – represents the rheme, a new piece of information introduced to the discourse. The main source for the thesis is Ebeling’s research of have-presentatives.

The aim of this BA thesis is to identify the categories and the method of transformation into there-existingals is applied. The tendencies and characteristic features of the respective categories are analysed, and the nature of both subjects and objects is described from the viewpoint of their concrete/abstract, animate/inanimate nature. The semantic roles of subjects are also determined.

The empirical part of the thesis is based on the sample of 100 instances drawn from the British National Corpus.

Keywords: presentation sentence, ‘have’, subject, object, semantic role