

Abstract

The subject of the present study is an analysis of five ditransitive verbs: *give*, *lend*, *send*, *offer* and *show*. The study focuses on the position of the two objects and on the factors that have an impact on the object ordering. An attempt is here made to provide a systematic overview of the position of the two objects with respect to their realization (i.e. substantival or pronominal). As regards the realization of the two objects, four types are distinguished: i. both O_i / O_{prep} and O_d realized by nouns; ii. both O_i / O_{prep} and O_d realized by pronouns; iii. O_i / O_{prep} realized by a noun and O_d by a pronoun; iv. O_i / O_{prep} realized by a pronoun and O_d by a noun. The position of the objects is assumed to be associated with the distribution of communicative dynamism or in other words with the principle of end-focus, i.e. that given information tends to precede new information. The second principle that operates in the ordering the two objects is the principle of end-weight. Of the three (or four, including intonation) factors whose interplay determines the FSP function of a clause element, in the case of ditransitive complementation the most important role is played by the contextual factor. Therefore, particular attention is paid to the context-dependence / independence of the two objects. The present study attempts to demonstrate whether the position of the two objects is in accordance with these principles and whether there are other potential factors that might play a role in object ordering.