

Abstract

The objective of the thesis is to describe the use and behavior of adverbial intensifiers of adjectives in today's informal spoken British English. For the lack of freely available corpora, the language of the popular television series *Skins* is used as the source of material. In the theoretical part of the thesis, the use of intensifiers based on their elementary syntactic and semantic functions is briefly described, and the main tendencies that influence their behavior in present-day colloquial English are characterized. The theoretical part then lists the basic features of the grammar of conversation and identifies the differences between authentic conversation and television dialogue. Finally, it gives a short description of the use and behavior of intensifiers in the language of the American sitcom *Friends*.

The initial section of the practical part of the thesis examines the features of conversational grammar in the *Skins* dialogues. It subsequently provides an analysis of the use of intensifiers in the series, with a special focus on their frequency of occurrence, degree of delexicalization and collocational patterns.

key words: intensification, adverbial intensifiers of adjectives, collocational patterns, grammar of conversation, colloquial English, television dialogue, authentic conversation