

Abstract

This thesis will focus on the supposed ongoing changes in the use of the *s*-genitive form. It will examine 200 genitive constructions found in on-line versions of quality newspapers, and describe them in terms of parameters that have been established as determining factors for the choice of genitive construction, for example possessor animacy, syntactic weight, final sibilant and semantic relationship holding between the constituents of the phrase, as well as those connected to the journalistic prose itself (e.g. language economy).

Key words: Genitive, *s*-genitive, *of*-genitive, genitive variation, journalistic prose