

The prepositions, as a word class, is not uniquely determined. Some linguists consider the preposition as a particular morpheme, some others as an auxiliary, not fully significant word class, some linguists do not regard the preposition as a word at all. The prepositions, from the formal point of view, can be divided into primary and secondary and, depending on the number of their components, into one-verbal and multi-verbal prepositions. The secondary prepositions are further divided by the majority of linguists into adnominal, adverbial and adverbial, however some linguists speak of adjectival instead of adverbial prepositions. The lexical meaning of prepositions is analysed in different theories, we are of the opinion that the preposition has a lexical meaning. This fact has been proved by I. K. Kutcherenko (10), and we have verified his theory in the practical part of our dissertation. We have focused on the semantic nuances of chosen causal secondary prepositions, collocates, which are the most frequently used with prepositions, and also the frequency of causal prepositions. Depending on a given context, prepositions can change their lexical meaning and can be replaced by synonymous equivalent terms. Using examples from Russian and Czech national corpus, and also from Russian, Czech and to a limited extent Ukrainian press, we have demonstrated, that even prepositions, which do not appear at first approach to be causal, or are not listed as causal by linguists, can express causal relations. On the contrary some causal prepositions can have in some context other meanings than causal. The classification of secondary prepositions in semantic groups is also subject to different approaches from linguists. There are even secondary prepositions belonging to several semantic groups. In our dissertation we have also compared the valency, gender, number and the number of components of Russian, Czech and to a limited extent Ukrainian secondary prepositions, whereas this comparison exposed substantial differences. As a consequence of the constant dynamic evolution of the system of prepositions, new causal secondary prepositions, and as we have seen in the press and the national corpus, they are used the less often.