**Abstract**

The present study focuses on object extraposition in English based on an analysis of corpus findings. The construction in question comprises a monotransitive verb complemented by *it* which anticipates an object nominal content clause introduced by the conjunctions *that, when* or *if/whether*, immediately juxtaposed to the anticipatory *it*. The aim of the study is to determine the types and frequency of verbs which occur with object *it* extraposition and to describe what factors influence the use of anticipatory *it*.

The study first provides a review of the relevant topics and outlines a summary of possible factors influencing the occurrence of the construction under study. It focuses on the properties of the verb and complements, the nature of object extraposition in English and the realisations of the object function, and lastly, it outlines the possible factors leading to the use of anticipatory *it* object.

The research part of the study consists of two parts. The first one deals with the selection of material and methodology, while the second presents the description and analysis of the findings. The primary main part of the research was conducted on the data containing 836 sentences that were drawn from the British National Corpus.

The research shows that the most frequent verbs occurring with anticipatory *it* object followed by a *that*-clause are *have*, *see to* and *take*, and *like*, *hate*, *believe*, *love*, *prefer* and *appreciate* when followed by a *wh-clause.* Overall, 61 different verb types allow complementation with anticipatory *it* object, while 12 verbs may occur with more than one type of complement clause. The most frequent verbs belong to the semantic class of emotive verbs accounting for 36 per cent, while the most frequent pattern of complementation is direct object followed by a *that-clause* constituting 50.5 per cent of the total occurrences.

**Keywords:** anticipatory *it*, extraposed clauses, object extraposition, factual verbs, nominal content clauses