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DIPLOMOVÁ PRÁCE

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Anticipační *it* v předmětu
Anticipatory *it* objects

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Na tomto místě bych chtěla poděkovat vedoucí své diplomové práce,
PhDr. Markétě Malé, Ph.D., za její zájem, cenné rady a čas, který věnovala mé
práci.

Prohlašuji, že jsem diplomovou práci vypracovala samostatně, že jsem řádně citovala všechny použité prameny a literaturu a že práce nebyla využita v rámci jiného vysokoškolského studia či k získání jiného nebo stejného titulu.

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Abstrakt

Predkladaná práca sa zaoberá postpozíciou predmetu v angličtine a je založená na analýze príkladov získaných z Britského národného korpusu (BNC). Skúmaným javom je použitie anticipačného *it* predchádzajúceho extraponovanej obsahovej vete (uvedenej spojkami *that*, *when* alebo *if*) vo funkcii predmetu monotranzitívneho slovesa.

Cieľom tejto práce je zistiť aké typy sloviess sa vyskytujú v konštrukcii s anticipačným *it*, aký je výskyt vedľajších viet v postpozícii a popísať, čo jeho použitie ovplyvňuje.

Štúdia sa skladá z teoretickej a analytickej časti. Teoretická časť obsahuje relevantné teoretické východiská k danej problematike, popisuje vlastnosti slovesa a jeho doplnenia, charakter postpozície predmetu v angličtine a spôsoby jeho realizácie vo funkcii predmetu a vymenúva faktory, ktoré môžu mať vplyv na výskyt skúmaného javu.

Výskumná časť práce pozostáva z dvoch častí. V prvej sú uvedené spôsoby selekcie skúmaného materiálu a metódy výskumu a druhá časť poskytuje popis a rozbor výsledkov. Najdôležitejšia časť výskumu je zameraná na vzorku 836 viet získaných z korpusu BNC.

Výskum ukázal, že najfrekvencovanejšie slovesá vyskytujúce sa v konštrukcii s anticipačným *it* a extraponovanou vedľajšou obsahovou vetou uvedenou spojkou *that* sú *have*, *see to a take*, a slovesá *like*, *hate*, *believe*, *love*, *prefer* a *appreciate*, keď je funkcia predmetu v postpozícii realizovaná vedľajšou vetou uvedenou spojkami *if* alebo *when*.

Celkový počet rôznych sloviess, ktoré môžu predchádzať anticipačnému *it* je 61, pričom 12 sloviess sa vyskytuje s rôznymi vedľajšími vetami.

Najfrekvencovanejšie slovesá patria do sémantickej triedy emotívnych sloviess a predstavujú 36% z celkového počtu. Najčastejšie sa vyskytujúca vedľajšia veta je obsahová oznamovacia veta, ktorá tvorí 50,5% výskytov.

Kľúčové slová: anticipačné *it*, vedľajšie vety v postpozícii, postpozícia predmetu, faktické slovesá, vedľajšie vety obsahové

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 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

List of abbreviations

CGEL	Huddleston, R., G.K. Pullum, (2002) <i>The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language</i>
LGSWE	Quirk, R. et al., (1999) <i>Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English</i>
NP	noun phrase
O	object
O _d	direct object
O _i	indirect object
O _{prep}	prepositional object
P	predicate
PC	predicative complement
PC ^O	object-oriented predicative complement
PC ^S	subject-oriented predicative complement
PP	prepositional phrase
S	subject
SGEL	Quirk, R. et al., (1990) <i>A Student's Grammar of the English Language</i>
V	verb
*	ungrammatical
?	marginally acceptable

List of tables

Table 1	Verb types followed by <i>it that</i> occurring in the first 200 excerpts.....	38
Table 2	Frequency of occurrences of the constructions under study	40
Table 3	Frequency of verb types followed by <i>it that</i> in the first 200 excerpts...	41
Table 4	Frequency of verb types followed by <i>it that</i> attested in the BNC.....	46
Table 5	Frequency of verb types followed by <i>it when</i> attested in the BNC.....	49
Table 6	Frequency of verb types followed by <i>it if/whether</i> attested in the BNC.....	51
Table 7	Frequency of the patterns with anticipatory <i>it</i> attested in the BNC	52
Table 8	Semantic classes of the verbs with <i>it that</i> , <i>it when</i> and <i>it whether/if</i>	54
Table 9	Distribution of patterns across semantic classes	56
Table 10	Distribution of semantic classes across the patterns with anticipatory <i>it</i>	57
Table 11	Verbs occurring with more than one pattern	58
Table 12	Verb types occurring without anticipatory <i>it</i>	65
Table 13	Most frequent verb types occurring without anticipatory <i>it</i>	66
Table 14	Frequency of complementation of verb types with and without anticipatory <i>it</i>	68

Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	9
2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND	11
2.1 VERB	11
2.1.1 Verb and its valency	11
2.1.2 Transitivity	14
2.2 PROPERTIES OF COMPLEMENTS	18
2.2.1 Syntactic features of complements	18
2.2.2 Semantic features of complements	20
2.3 OBJECT AND EXTRAPOSED OBJECT	22
2.4 REALISATIONS OF THE OBJECT FUNCTION	24
2.5 ANTICIPATORY <i>IT</i>	27
2.6 FACTORS LEADING TO THE USE OF ANTICIPATORY <i>IT</i>	30
2.6.1 Acceptability of <i>it that</i>	30
2.6.2 Verb types affecting the acceptability of <i>it that</i>	32
3. MATERIAL AND METHOD	37
3.1 SELECTION PROCESS	37
3.2 HYPOTHESES AND METHODS OF ANALYSIS	40
4. ANALYSIS	41
4.1 THE FIRST 200 EXCERPTS	41
4.2 DISTRIBUTION OF VERB TYPES OCCURRING WITH ANTICIPATORY <i>IT</i>	46
4.2.1 Verb types in the construction <i>V it that</i>	46
4.2.2 Verb types in the construction <i>V it when</i>	49
4.2.3 Verb types in the construction <i>V it if/whether</i>	51
4.3 SEMANTIC CLASSIFICATION OF THE VERBS OCCURRING WITH <i>IT</i> <i>THAT</i>	53
4.3.1 Distribution of the verb types and patterns	55
4.4 VERBS WITH ANTICIPATORY <i>IT</i> OCCURRING WITH MORE PATTERNS	58
4.5 MULTIPLE-PATTERN VERBS	61
4.5.1 Extraposed clauses introduced by <i>that</i>	61
4.5.2 Extraposed clauses introduced by <i>when</i>	63
4.5.3 Extraposed clauses introduced by <i>if/whether</i>	64
4.6 COMPLEMENTATION WITHOUT ANTICIPATORY <i>IT</i> OBJECT	65
5. CONCLUSION	70
REFERENCES	73
SOURCES	75
RESUMÉ	76
Appendices	83

1. Introduction

The purpose of this thesis is to investigate the use of extraposed clausal objects immediately following and juxtaposed to anticipatory *it* (e.g. *He spilled it that you were the thief*)¹ in spoken and written texts, based on the analysis of corpus findings.

Let us first turn our attention to the explanations for studying the phenomenon in question. First, we may say that the reasons relate to the relative scarcity of anticipatory *it* object. Nominal content *that*-clauses frequently occur in extraposition - according to *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English*" they occur overall more than 200 times per million words, rising to more than 500 times per million words in academic prose."² On the other hand, anticipatory *it* typically manifests itself in the subject position but it is rarely used as an anticipatory object.

Second, the construction under study is treated in reference grammars only marginally, and the conditions for its usage are outlined rather vaguely, if commented on at all. Several factors that lead to the use of extraposed subjects have been described in detail, one of the most prominent ones being the preference for light subjects in the English language. However, the motivations for the use of anticipatory *it* object are expected to be different from those affecting the use of extraposed subjects.

The objective of this research is, accordingly, to provide an analysis of the construction where anticipatory *it* occurs in object position complementing a monotransitive verb and is followed by an extraposed clausal object. More specifically, to define the types and frequency of verbs allowing such complementation, to semantically classify these verbs, describe patterns of object *it* extraposition with respect to the types of extraposed clauses, and finally determine possible factors influencing the use or non-use of *it* object extraposition in English, such as the semantic nature of the superordinate verb.

¹ Cf. Bolinger, 1997: 68

² Cf. Biber et al., 1999 (henceforth LGSWE): 676

The presented paper consists of two parts. After providing a theoretical framework in Section 2, the research part is presented in Sections 3 and 4. The theoretical part reviews the properties of verbs and complements that are relevant with respect to the study, describes the phenomenon of object *it* extraposition and outlines the factors influencing the use of anticipatory *it*. The research part first describes methodology used to collect and analyse data for this study and subsequently presents the description and analysis of the data. Finally, Section 5 summarises the results of the findings and gives an account of the conclusions drawn.

2. Theoretical background

As the scope of this thesis is a specific type of complementation of a monotransitive verb, namely a verb followed by anticipatory *it* object, we shall first present a theoretical background regarding the relevant properties of the verb, as well as some properties of complements. For the most part, this section deals with the extraposition in English, focusing on the phenomenon of extraposed objects, uses of the pronoun *it*, essentially the so called anticipatory *it*, and possible reasons influencing the use *it*.

2.1 Verb

2.1.1 Verb and its valency

The verb is the central part of the sentence not only in English but also across other languages in which the category of verbs exists. According to Allerton, the verb acts as an important nucleus for the type of sentence pattern, because the verb in a particular sentence selects the basic sentence structure. Therefore, verbs may be subclassified in accordance with the type(s) of sentences they are found in. Below are listed the examples of the verbs that may occur in the given sentence patterns, as in the sentences [1] to [3], but they are not acceptable in others, namely [4] to [9]:

- [1] *Oliver stumbled.*
- [2] *Oliver damaged the key.*
- [3] *Oliver thrust the key into the lock.*
- [4] **Oliver damaged.*
- [5] **Oliver thrust.*
- [6] **Oliver stumbled the key.*
- [7] **Oliver thrust the key.*
- [8] **Oliver stumbled the key into the lock.*
- [9] **Oliver damaged the key into the lock. (Allerton, 1982: 1)*

The reason why the sentences [4] to [9] are not acceptable is not their semantic oddity or a lack of sense: Allerton claims that if there were rules in the English language that would allow the use of sentence [4] giving the sense of "Oliver did

some damaging/damage", which would be similar to *John read* as in "John did some reading", then it would be possible to ascribe such meaning to it. However, there are grammatical constraints that do not make such usage in English possible, which means that verbs may only occur in certain sentence structures; for example the verb *push* may be used in sentences [1], [2] and [3] above instead of *stumble*, *damage* and *thrust*, while there are some verbs which are allowed in one type of sentence structure only. The potential of the verb to occur in a particular sentence structure is called valency, or in other words, valency is the capacity of a verb to combine with certain sentential constituents (Allerton, 1982: 1).

In more general terms, as stated by Čermák, valency is not traditionally considered a verb category³ because it does not express subcategorisation of a larger category, neither textual (or communicative) relations, nor coherence; and it is more general than collocability as the latter occurs as its concrete realisation (Čermák, 2001: 134). Although our primary concern is the complementation of the monotransitive verb and the property of valency is most prominent in the verb, it may be added as a footnote here that it is evident in members of other word classes, too.

Valency is a systemic syntagmatic relation of a given word to the words before and after it, whose interpretation and form it predetermines, often by way of morphological or lexical signals. These formal signals, so called **exponents of valency**, by which valency is realised and also signalled, are diverse: they are chiefly cases and prepositions (*view of*, *responsible to*), some conjunctions (*think that*), particles, or even predetermined occurrence of a certain category or word class. Regarding the verb and its relation to the other categories, the **right valency** is of most importance, namely the part which fills the object valency, i.e. the occurrence or non-occurrence of the object. Hence the traditional distinction between **transitive** (the occurrence of the object) and **intransitive verbs** (non-occurrence of the object).⁴

³ Cf. Čermák: „...dříve se jí v zúženém ponětí říkalo *rekce*.“ (Valency was formerly referred to as *government*.) (Čermák, 2001: 134)

⁴ Cf. Čermák, 2001: 134

It is important to note that valency of the word is already given in the system and therefore is of lexical, not syntactic, nature and cannot be influenced by a speaker's choice or communicative needs. When a word undergoes the process of word formation, its valency is retained and we can speak of inheritance of the structure. In the theory of valency syntax (or dependency grammar), the verb is the core of a sentence and, to its right and left, there are arguments⁵ which are generally predetermined by a given verb. Valency in this sense is the ability of a verb to bind a certain number of syntactic slots, i.e. arguments. Some of these slots must be realised in the clause (they are obligatory), some may be realised, but not necessarily (they are optional). This ability is primarily lexical, that is systemic, not syntactic (Čermák, 2001: 134).

In addition, Daneš discriminates between valency and **intention** of the predicator. Valency of the verb, which coincides with the organisational function of the predicator⁶, is defined in similar terms, namely as the ability of the verb to combine with other elements in order to fill the structure of the sentence. It follows that that valency is a verb property that operates on the formal-syntactic level. The sum of all verb valencies, that is all different word forms, is called the **valency potential**. Intention of the verb, on the other hand, is connected with the predicate,⁷ and it is, in fact, analogical to valency, except that it operates on the semantic level. It is pertinent to note that valency and intention are not to be separated, as valency is a manifestation of a verb's intention on the syntactic level. Also, valency is not equivalent to the notion of **government**, which is a relation where the head constituent requires a complementation in a given form (an appropriate case) of a subordinate constituent. Valency, on the other hand, comprises not only the grammatical object, and some obligatory adverbials, but also the grammatical subject.

⁵ Cf. Čermák: „Tato syntaktická koncepce (inspirovaná pův. Tesnièreem, viz I 5.4211) vychází z toho, že jádrem věty je sloveso, které má vpravo i vlevo od sebe zpravidla argumenty, resp. aktanty (též participanty), předurčované obecně samotným slovesem.” (This syntactic approach (originally inspired by Tesnière) is based on the concept that the verb, as the core of a sentence, normally has arguments, or actants (also participants) to its right and left.) (Čermák, 2001: 166)

⁶ Predicator is an expression usually containing a finite verb having a certain form and meaning. (Daneš, Hlavsa, 1981: 49)

⁷ Predicate is the semantic component of the predicator. (Daneš, Hlavsa, 1981: 49)

Therefore we may conclude that in the Czech linguistic tradition, the level of valency is considered to belong to the area of grammatical form and it co-exists with the level of verb's intention which is perceived semantically. Both these levels may be distinguished as autonomous but cannot be isolated from each other, thus the concept of valency then refers to the number of arguments, their type and form (Daneš, Hlavsa, 1981: 49).

Regarding the British approach, Huddleston and Pullum use the term valency in a slightly different way: it is a more general property of the verb which simply determines the number of complements a verb requires, occupying both the left-hand and right-hand slots, but it does not cover the **kinds** of complements⁸ at the same time. In terms of valency, verbs then may be classified as monovalent, bivalent and trivalent, depending on whether they combine with one, two or three complements.⁹ Further subcategorisation of verbs is made according to their **complementation**, i.e. the kinds and combinations of complements a verb takes, or in other words, the appropriate complements that are **licensed**¹⁰ by a given verb.

In sum, the Czech approach defines valency on a formal-syntactic level as a property of the verb which determines the way it combines with other elements in order to fill the right and left syntactic slots, and is intertwined with the property of intention, defined on the semantic level, so that they are both reflected in the number of semantic arguments a given verb binds with. The British approach views valency as a property which determines the number of verb complements filling the right and left slots, whereas complementation covers the kinds of complements a verb requires.

2.1.2 Transitivity

Another property of the English verb is transitivity which is connected with the nature of verb complementation. Quirk et al. state that a particular verb has to be

⁸ Cf. Huddleston, Pullum et al., 2002 (henceforth CGEL): "For some, valency covers not just the number but also the kind of complements: [...] for which we use the term 'complementation' [...]." (CGEL, 2002: 219)

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Cf. CGEL: "The most important property of complements in clause structure is that they require the presence of an appropriate verb that licenses them." (CGEL, 2002: 219)

followed by an appropriate element or elements (such as object, complement and adverbial, which are considered obligatory elements of the clause structure), otherwise the clause is incomplete. In other words, they define the term transitive as applying to all verbs that require an object, inclusive of the verbs present in the clause types *SVOO*, *SVOC* and *SVOA* (Quirk et al., 1985: 54).

Huddleston and Pullum offer a more detailed description of the verb properties. They start with a definition of the types of complements and then continue to discuss the verb properties in the context of canonical clause structures:

Complements fall into two categories: **core** and **non-core complements**.¹¹ Core complements are usually noun phrases; while non-core complements are typically prepositional phrases. In the example sentences *Kim gave Pat the key* and *Kim gave the key to Pat* the core complements are *Kim*, *Pat*, *the key* and a non-core complement is *to Pat*. The noun phrase *Pat* which complements the preposition *to* is called an **oblique** as it is related to the verb indirectly through the preposition, while the other noun phrases (*Kim*, *Pat*, *the key*) are related to the verb directly. However, there is a distinction between *Kim* and the other core complements, such that *Kim* has the function of the subject, while the rest of the clause realised by a (extended) verb phrase is referred to as the predicate. Thus, the structure of the clause may first be divided into the subject and the predicate, where the subject is not considered a constituent of the verb phrase but as its **external complement**. Complements other than the subject are internal to the verb phrase, i.e. they are **internal complements**(CGEL, 2002: 216). English is regarded a subject-prominent language which means that the subject is an obligatory constituent of a canonical clause.

A typical internal core complement is the object, which is not always obligatory, as its presence is conditioned by the aforementioned verb property of transitivity. A transitive use of a verb means that the verb is followed by an object, while an intransitive verb does not require an object as its dependant. In addition, there is

¹¹ Cf. CGEL: "We distinguish between core and non-core complements. [...] An NP related to the verb by a preposition in this way is referred to as an *oblique*." (CGEL, 2002: 216)

also a category of dual-transitivity verbs¹² as some verbs, such as *read*, may be used both transitively and intransitively, as in *She read* and *She read the letter*.¹³

There are two subclasses of transitive verbs: monotransitive and ditransitive, where monotransitive verbs take a direct object (O_d)¹⁴ only and ditransitive verbs are complemented by two objects, one being a direct object, while the other is either an indirect object (O_i), or a prepositional object (O_{prep}), as shown in the examples below:

- [10] *She wrote a novel.* [monotransitive: S-P- O_d]
[11] *She told him the truth.* [ditransitive: S-P- O_i - O_d]¹⁵
[12] *Please say something to us.* [ditransitive: S-P- O_i - O_{prep}]¹⁶

Apart from the object, there is another type of internal complement, so called predicative complement (PC),¹⁷ exemplified in the following:

- [13] *Ed seemed quite competent.* [complex-intransitive: S-P-PC^S]
[14] *She considered Ed quite competent.* [complex-transitive: S-P-O-PC^O]

Syntactically, *quite competent* is an internal complement of the verb phrase. Semantically, it is similar to a predicator in that it does not directly refer to a person (as opposed to *she* and *Ed* which refer to specific persons), but designates "a property that is predicated of the person referred to by *Ed*,"¹⁸ thus it carries a predicative function. Predicative complements are typically realised as a noun phrase or an adjective phrase.

As regards the category of transitivity, [13] is intransitive, while [14] transitive. However, both complements also have a predicative function, making the

¹² Quirk et al. speak of multiple class membership of verbs: "A given verb can belong, in its various senses to more than one class, and hence can enter into more than one clause type. The verb *get* is particularly versatile, being excluded only from type *SV*." (SGEL, 2004: 205)

¹³ Cf. CGEL, 2002: 216-217

¹⁴ Cf. CGEL: "[...] the direct object (O_d) occurs in both the monotransitive and ditransitive clauses... At the general level, the direct object may be defined as a grammatically distinct element of clause structure which in canonical agent-patient clauses expresses the patient role." (CGEL, 2002: 244-245)

¹⁵ Cf. CGEL, 2002: 217

¹⁶ Cf. Quirk et al., 1985: 1170

¹⁷ Quirk et al. label the element found in *SVC* pattern as complement and distinguish between subject and object complement, labelled C_s and C_o , respectively. (Quirk et al., 1985: 54)

¹⁸ Cf. CGEL, 2002: 217

structure more complex than common transitives, hence the terms complex-intransitive (which in this case is subject-oriented) and complex-transitives (object-oriented). In [14], the PC *quite competent* is a semantic predication of *Ed*, but *Ed* is not its subject (it is the object of *considered*), thus *Ed* is considered to be the predicand of the *quite competent* (CGEL, 2002: 217).

Considering the abovementioned description, we may speak of five canonical structures based on the contrast between transitive-intransitive and ordinary-complex, as shown in Figure 1 (CGEL, 2002: 218):

Figure 1 Five canonical structures of verb complementation

	ORDINARY	COMPLEX
INTRANSITIVE	<i>I left.</i> (S-P)	<i>I got better.</i> (S-P-PC)
MONOTRANSITIVE	<i>I took the car.</i> (S-P-O)	<i>I kept it hot.</i> (S-P-O-PC)
DITRANSITIVE	<i>I gave Joe a key.</i> (S-P-O-O)	

In terms of both transitivity and valency we may provide the following classification based on Huddleston and Pullum (CGEL, 2002: 219).

Figure 2 Classifications in terms of transitivity and valency

	TRANSITIVITY	VALENCY
<i>He died.</i>	intransitive	monovalent
<i>This depends on the price.</i>	monotransitive	bivalent
<i>Ed became angry.</i>	intransitive (complex)	bivalent
<i>He read the paper.</i>	monotransitive	bivalent
<i>He blamed me for the delay.</i>	monotransitive	trivalent
<i>This made Ed angry.</i>	monotransitive (complex)	trivalent
<i>She gave him some food.</i>	ditransitive	trivalent

We shall adopt the view of Quirk et al. regarding the interpretation of clauses such as *This depends on the price* where, alongside the intransitive interpretation,¹⁹ they provide a complementary analysis whereby the noun phrase *the price* is the complement of the preposition *on* and not the direct object of the verb. It follows

¹⁹ Huddleston and Pullum regard *on the price* as a none-core complement and the verb *depend* as intransitive, thus the clause is of the type *SVA*.

that the clause is of the type *SVO* and the noun phrase following the preposition is called a prepositional object (Quirk et al, 1985: 1156).

Lastly, it should be noted that, using the above classification, the scope of our thesis covers only the bivalent ordinary monotransitive type of complementation, specifically complementation by an extraposed object *that*-clause. Although the extraposed object *that*-clause with anticipatory *it* occurs also in trivalent (complex) monotransitive as well as ditransitive patterns (cf. examples [15], [16]), these constructions will be excluded from the description.

- [15] *On a first visit to a partner's parents, she decided, she would want to make it clear that her relationship was primarily with him, not them.* (AOR 47)
- [16] *When the doctors broke it to him that he would need an operation, his son noted that 'he is taking it like a hero.* (A7C 404)

2.2 Properties of complements

Core complements carry some important properties that distinguish them from non-core complements, as they are more directly related to verbs. Since the study focuses on anticipatory *it* objects, object being a typical internal core complement, let us turn our attention to some typical properties of complements, namely their syntactic features, such as licensing, obligatoriness, position, as well as semantic ones, specifically argumenthood, selection and role.

2.2.1 Syntactic features of complements

The syntactic features of complements that are especially relevant with respect to the scope of the thesis are licencing, obligatoriness and position.

First and foremost property of complements is **licensing**, which means that a verb requires a suitable complement; or in other words, complements are confined in that they may only occur with a particular kind of verb. It follows that the verb is the governing element permitting a certain pattern of complementation. For example in *She mentioned the letter* and **She alluded the letter*, the verb *mention* licenses an object *letter*, but the verb *allude* does not. In other words, there is dependence between complements and governing verbs, referred to as

subcategorisation. Verbs are subcategorised in accordance with the complementation they allow: for example, monotransitive verbs take a direct object as in *She mentioned the letter*, but *allude* is not possible in such pattern as it does not license a direct object.²⁰ Also, verbs often take more than one pattern of complementation, for instance *think*, which may be found in complex-transitive as well as in intransitive clauses (*Let me think for a moment*, where the PP is an adjunct), or in mono-transitive constructions (*She was obviously thinking uncharitable thoughts*) (CGEL, 2002: 219).

Quirk et al. speak of multiple class membership of verbs and cite the verb *get* as notably flexible appearing in almost all clause types, namely *SVO*, *SVC*, *SVA*, *SVOO*, *SVOC* and *SVOA* (SGEL, 2004: 205).

Another feature of licensing is that in syntactic terms, it determines the type of phrase or clause that is licensed. This mainly regards the choice of preposition and subordinate clause construction. If a PP acts as a complement, it is often selected by the verb, and in such cases the preposition cannot be replaced unless changes to grammaticality or meaning occur, compare:

- [1] *It consists of egg and milk./He gave it to Pat.*
[2] **It contains of egg and milk./*He bought it to Pat.* (CGEL, 2002: 220)

In [1] the presence of the PP is dependent on the suitable kind of verb and both PPs function as complements of the verb according to the licensing criterion, as opposed to the anomalous examples in [2]. Similarly, the verb of the superordinate clause specifies the type of subordinate clause allowed: for example, the verb *depend* licenses an interrogative clause as its external complement, as in *Whether we go abroad depends on the cost*, and not a declarative one like **That we go abroad depends on the cost* (CGEL, 2002: 220).

Secondly, there is the property of **obligatoriness**, i.e. that complements may be obligatory or optional. In *She perused the report* and *She read the report, the report* is an obligatory complement in the former, but an optional one in the latter.

²⁰ *Allude* is a transitive prepositional verb which takes the preposition *to*, as in *The problem had been alluded to briefly in earlier discussions*. Cf. <http://oxforddictionaries.com/definition/allude?q=allude>.

A complement is obligatory if its omission results in ungrammaticality or an unsystematic change of meaning. Compared to licensing, obligatoriness is a stricter criterion as it is a case of a verb requiring a certain pattern of complementation, while with licensing the verb only allows it. Both criteria fall under the principle of subcategorisation, *peruse* belongs only to the class of monotransitive verbs, while *read* can be both monotransitive and intransitive. If an element is obligatory with certain verbs, it is considered a complement even in the case of it being optional with other verbs, unless there is contrary evidence. Hence, if an element is obligatory, it is a sufficient condition for it to be a complement (CGEL, 2002: 221-222).

Thirdly, there are some restrictions on the **position** of complements. They normally occur in a default position for a particular type of complement, while other positions are restricted and limited to specific conditions. For example, the default position of the subject is before the predicator, (*She will accept the proposal*), while it may occur after the auxiliary verb in interrogative clauses (*Will she accept the proposal?*), or declarative clauses in cases of a limited number of elements in the initial position (*Only then / *Because she is desperate will she accept the proposal*). The position of a PP as complement is as in the following, *He gave the beer to Kim*, whereas it may occur initially, as in *To Kim he gave the beer*, under certain restricted discourse circumstances (CGEL, 2002: 225).

All three properties of complements appear to be relevant in the description of anticipatory *it* + extraposed clausal object. We shall be concerned with monotransitive verbs which license direct or prepositional objects realised by content clauses. With these verbs, the use of anticipatory *it* may be an obligatory property of the construction, or an optional alternative. Where the content clause is extraposed, anticipatory *it* assumes the default object position in the clause.

2.2.2 Semantic features of complements

The key semantic features of complements are **argumenthood**, selection and role. First, the propositional meaning of a clause, in simple terms, arises from the combination of semantic predicate with one or more arguments. Ideally, the

semantic predicate coincides with the syntactic predicator and the arguments coincide with complements. For example, in *He always reads the paper before breakfast*, the arguments of *read* are the complements *he* and *the paper*, but not the adjuncts *always* and *before breakfast* (CGEL, 2002: 226).

However, there are some complements which do not correspond to arguments, namely dummies, which are realised by the pronoun, have no semantic content and thus carry a syntactic function only. For example, in *It upset me that she didn't write*, *it* is not an argument of *upset*, it only occupies the syntactic position of subject but does not contribute to the meaning of the clause. Similarly, raised complements do not correspond to arguments such that they are only syntactic complements of a given element which is normally superordinate to the element they are related to semantically. For instance, in *Pat seems to have misled them*, *Pat* is a syntactic complement of *seem*, but semantically, it is an argument of *mislead* (CGEL, 2002: 226).

Second, **selection restrictions** on arguments are normally imposed by semantic predicates, for example *enjoy* selects an animate subject, as in *Kim enjoyed the concert* and *frighten* an animate object, as in *They frightened the cat*. Since arguments usually correspond to complements, we may say that selection restrictions apply to complements (CGEL, 2002: 227).

Third, the arguments of a predicate carry a range of **semantic roles** in the situation represented by the clause. These roles depend on the semantic properties of a given verb. For example, in the following clauses the subjects and objects bear various roles:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| [3] <i>Kim shot the intruder.</i> | [S: agent; O: patient] |
| [4] <i>Kim heard an explosion.</i> | [S: experiencer; O: stimulus] |

It is important to bear in mind that there is no invariance when it comes to the relation between complement types and semantic roles associated with them, and that the role depends on the meaning of the verb, rather than the meaning of the complement itself. In other words, as has been mentioned before, the intention of

the verb is crucial in ascribing the semantic role to its complement.²¹ Adjuncts, on the other hand, have normally the same semantic role in various situations as their interpretation is given by their own semantic content (CGEL, 2002: 227).

2.3 Object and extraposed object

The term extraposition is applied to the process whereby a heavy or focal constituent is postponed to the final position in the clause, while its regular position in the clause is taken by a substitute form. The extraposition of a clausal subject²² is the most significant and it is almost invariably found in subordinate nominal clauses (Quirk et al., 1985: 1391). Major reference grammars treat this phenomenon exhaustively, while giving less attention to the extraposition of the object.²³ As both types of *it* extraposition operate on a similar principle, we may draw some basic characteristics of the object *it* extraposition from the description of the subject extraposition. Let us consider the following examples:

- [1] *It was necessary to postpone the meeting.* [subject + extraposed subject]
[2] *We thought it necessary to postpone the meeting.* [object + extraposed object]

In [1] the NP *it* functions as a syntactic subject, so called anticipatory subject, while the subordinate clause *to postpone the meeting* is the postponed subject. Correspondingly, the pronoun *it* in [2] is the **anticipatory object** filling the syntactic slot of the object in the clause pattern *SVOC*, and accordingly, it is used as the subject of the related passive sentence *It was thought necessary to postpone the meeting*. In example [2] the subordinate clause *to postpone the meeting* is then the postponed, or **extraposed object**; it functions as an object semantically, but does not occupy that position syntactically. Complex-transitive clauses (as the example sentence [2]) are a typical environment of occurrence of extraposed

²¹ Cf. Daneš, Hlavsa, 1981: 48-49

²² Cf. also LGSWE: "Nominal clauses are used as subject, subject predicative, or direct object in the main clause. Finite nominal clauses are introduced by the (omissible) subordinator *that* or by a *wh*-word. Subject clauses are usually extraposed [...]" (LGSWE, 1999: 193)

²³ "More rarely, it is used as an anticipatory object." (LGSWE, 1999: 332)

objects, but we also see examples of *SVOA* constructions, such as the following: *I put it to you that you knew what the consequences would be.*²⁴

Quirk et al. specify two main cases of extraposition of a clausal object in the clause types *SVOC* and *SVOA*: first, when the clausal object can undergo the process of extraposition, and second, when it must do so. The former applies to cases when the clausal object is an *-ing* clause, as in the following *SVOC* clause type examples: *You must find it exciting working here* (cf. *You must find working here exciting*, *Working here is exciting*), and the latter when the object is either a *to*-infinitive clause or a *that*-clause, for example *I made it my objective to settle the matter* (cf. **I made to settle the matter my prime objective* but *I made settling the matter my prime objective*). The examples for the *SVOA* type are *I owe it to you that the jury acquitted me*, where the extraposition is optional, and *Something put it into his head that she was a spy*, where it is obligatory.²⁵

In addition, Huddleston and Pullum comment on content clauses in the extraposed object function in the chapter "Other constructions" as follows:²⁶

- [3] *I take it you'll be accepting their offer.*
- [4] *He didn't like it that she had brought the children.*
- [5] *She resents it that they appointed someone less qualified than her.*
- [6] *You can depend on it that she'll find a solution.*
- [7] *We owe it to you that we go off so lightly.*
- [8] *I put it to you that the man's a charlatan.*
- [9] *This brought it home to us that we were in great danger.*

Example [3] is a case of an idiom (*take it*) licensing the subordinate clause, another example is *have it* in *Rumour has it that they're getting divorced*. By contrast, *like* in example [4] is not idiomatic but it does not license a content clause when standing alone, cf. **He didn't like that she had brought the children*, other verbs like *hate* or *dislike* probably display the same behaviour. In example [5] the *it* can be omitted with no obvious change in meaning and it seems that *resent* and *regret* are the main verbs that behave in such manner. *It* in [6] is an

²⁴ Cf. CGEL, 2002: 247

²⁵ Cf. Quirk et al., 1985: 1393

²⁶ Cf. CGEL, 2002: 963

object of the preposition *on* rather than the verb alone and because the preposition cannot take a declarative content clause as complement, the *it* is an obligatory constituent. Other such constructions are *bank on*, *rely on*, *get over*, *see to* and verbal idioms like *get wind of*, *take my word for* etc. The last three examples differ slightly from the first four as the *it* is not in juxtaposition with the content clause. In [7] the *it* can be omitted if the content clause is preposed (*That we got off so lightly we owe to you*) and in [9] the *it* may be omitted without any positional changes of the content clause (*This brought home to us that we were in great danger*), as also in *He had taken (it) for granted that he would be given a second chance*, while there exist no such variations in example [8] (CGEL, 2002: 963).

2.4 Realisations of the object function

Since the subject of our research is monotransitive complementation where the pronoun *it* occurs in an anticipatory function, let us discuss the variety of ways in which the object may be realised. Monotransitive verbs take a direct object which may be realised by a noun phrase or a clause.

The object may be realised by an NP, as in *Tom caught the ball*²⁷ where *the ball* is the direct object. In addition, there are monotransitive verbs which, according to the classification of Quirk et al. belong to the category of "type I prepositional verbs" and "type I prepositional-phrasal verbs". These verbs are followed by a prepositional object which is similar to the direct object, namely because it may become the subject of a corresponding passive construction, as in: *The management paid for his air fares. His air fares were paid for by the management.*²⁸ Another similarity is seen in prepositional verbs followed by a *that*-clause or a *to*-infinitive clause: in such constructions "the preposition disappears and the prepositional object merges with the direct object of the monotransitive pattern." Compare the complementation of *remember*, a monotransitive verb, and *agree on*, a prepositional verb (Quirk et al, 1985: 1178):

²⁷ Cf. Quirk et al., 1985: 1176

²⁸ Ibid.

Figure 3 **Complementation by noun phrase as prepositional object**

<i>They <u>agreed</u></i>	<i> <u>on the meeting.</u> <u>on it.</u> <u>on meeting each other</u> <u>on when to meet.</u> <i>(that) they would meet.</i> <u>to meet each other.</u> </i>	<i>They <u>remembered</u></i>	<i> the meeting. it. meeting each other. when to meet. <i>(that) they had met.</i> to meet each other. </i>
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Next, the direct object may be realised by a finite or a nonfinite clause. Let us now consider briefly the types of complementation by a finite clause as it is the one relevant in our research. The finite clause functioning as object, with respect to the scope of our research, can be a subordinate declarative clause (*that*-clause) and a subordinate interrogative clause (*wh*-clause), such as *I noticed that he spoke English with an Australian accent*,²⁹ *I'm not sure whether she prefers coffee*,³⁰ respectively. It should be noted that the focus is on content clauses which allow extraposition, thus nominal relative clauses, such as *I took what they offered me*³¹ are not within our scope of interest.

There are three types of verbs phrases occurring in *that*-clauses, and they are semantically related to the governing verbs in the superordinate clause, namely an indicative verb, a putative *should* and a subjunctive verb. The most common is the indicative verb type, the putative *should* type is more frequent in British English, while the subjunctive verb is rather typical for American English. The examples are as follows, respectively: *I suppose that he is coming/will be coming/will come/has come alone*; *I regret that he should be so stubborn* and *I request that she go alone* (Quirk et al., 1985: 1180).

Altogether, we may speak of four categories of superordinate verbs which license *that*-clauses functioning as object, two of which are quite common, and the other two occur to a lesser extent. The major types are, first, the so called **factual verbs** (e.g. *agree, admit, claim*, as in, *They agree/admit/claim that she was misled*), which are characteristically followed by the indicative in the dependent clause and

²⁹ Cf. Quirk et al., 1985: 1049

³⁰ Cf. Quirk et al., 1985: 1052

³¹ Cf. Quirk et al., 1985: 1056

they present information as a fact or proposition (Quirk et al., 1985: 1180). Factual verbs fall into two subcategories, the so called "public" and "private" types.³² The "public" type of factual verbs introduce reported statements, as the above examples show. The "private" type expresses "intellectual states such as belief and intellectual acts such as discovery" (Quirk et al., 1985: 1181).

The second type are **suasive verbs** (e.g. *demand* in *People are demanding that she should leave/leave/leaves the company*), which occur with the putative *should*, mandative subjunctive verb and in British English also with the indicative verb. Semantically, suasive verbs normally have future reference and they convey intentions or directives for change (Quirk et al., 1985: 1181).

The third type are **emotive verbs** (e.g. *regret, marvel, rejoice*, as in *I regret that she worries/should worry/*worry about it*)³³ which occur with both, the indicative verb and the putative *should*, and express emotions. The other minor type is represented by **hypothesis verbs**, (e.g. *wish, suppose, would rather*) which occur with verbs in hypothetical past, as in *She wished she hadn't spent the money*; or the *were*-subjunctive, as in *I wish (that) she were here* (Quirk et al., 1985: 1183).

Additionally, there is a group of idiomatic or phrasal verbs that may be followed by *it* and an extraposed clause, such as *let (it) out, noise (it) about/abroad, put (it) about, rub (it) in*, like in the following: *Jack let (it) out [= 'divulged'] that the animal had been stolen*. The anticipatory *it* in these clauses is optional, however it is not commonly omitted. There is a similar example with *it* being obligatory in the construction *take it that*: *I take it that you are enjoying yourselves* (Quirk et al., 1985: 1183-1184).

Alternatively, the verbs taking a *that*-clause can often be complemented by a *wh*-interrogative clause, for instance *confirm, depend, doubt, know, record*, as for example in:

[1] *I asked her to confirm whether the flight had been booked.*

³² Cf. Quirk et al. "These states and acts are 'private' in the sense that they are not observable: a person may be observed to *assert that God exists*, but not to *believe that God exists*. Belief is in this sense private." (Quirk et al., 1985: 1181)

³³ Ibid. 1183

- [2] *Can you confirm which flight we are taking?*
[3] *They haven't yet confirmed how much these flights costs.* (Quirk et al., 1985: 1184)

Such sentences are non-assertive and the use of the *wh*-interrogative clause, which by itself suggests "a certain lack of knowledge on the part of the speaker"³⁴ is especially common in sentences where the superordinate clause is negative or interrogative. In addition, some verbs, like *ask* and *wonder*, which by default express a degree of uncertainty, appear with the *wh*-clause without the restriction for the context to be non-assertive.

What is relevant with respect to our research is that the object of a monotransitive verb is often realised by a *that*-clause and also a *wh*-interrogative clause. Regarding the former, it is pertinent to note that there are particular verb types occurring in the superordinate clause, namely factual, suasive, emotive and hypothesis verbs, while for the latter, the superordinate verbs either occur in non-assertive contexts, or they themselves express uncertainty.

2.5 Anticipatory *it*

In connection with anticipatory *it*, as well as other 'special uses' of *it*, the question arises of whether the pronoun is to be regarded as referential or rather devoid of meaning. The pronoun *it* stands a unique position among other personal pronouns thanks to its versatility of use. The most typical function of *it*, parallel to the other personal pronouns, is referential, such that the identity of the reference is usually provided by the linguistic context (cataphoric or anaphoric reference) or it is understood, in view of the reference being made in a specific situation, or the common knowledge of the speaker and hearer (situational reference). In addition to the referential function of the pronoun, there are uses of *it* that are non-referential (or at least not clearly referential) (CGEL, 2002: 1481).

³⁴ Ibid. 1184

Major reference grammars draw slightly different enumeration of special uses of *it* but we may list them under three basic headings, as noted in the *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English* (LGSWE, 1999: 332).

Empty subject/object

The pronoun *it* in the function of the syntactic subject or object, so called empty *it*, has no definite reference. It is most typically used to allude to weather conditions [1], time [2] and place or distance [3].

[1] *It's cold.*

[2] *It is eight o'clock in the morning.*

[3] *It's a long way from here to there.*³⁵

Mostly it is found as an empty subject, as the above examples demonstrate, but occasionally also as a semantically empty object, as in *He squashed her with a look, exchanging eye signals with Bobby that it was time to beat it*. In such examples the pronoun *it* is a part of an idiom (*beat it* meaning "get away"); other verbs include *leg it* ("walk, run") or *tough it* ("persevere") (LGSWE, 1999: 128).

Anticipatory subject/object

The pronoun *it* functions as subject in cases where a clausal subject has been extraposed to the final position, as in *It is not surprising that 90 per cent of the accidents are caused by excess speed* (LGSWE, 1999:332). Again, *it* is more seldom used as an anticipatory object, for example, *We leave it to the reader to appreciate what this will mean in due course*. or *He found it hard to be madman with a knife*.³⁶ In these cases *it* anticipates a clausal object which has to be extraposed because in the given clause pattern there is an intervening obligatory clause element, *to the reader* and *hard*, respectively (LGSWE, 1999:155).

Subject in cleft constructions

Lastly, *it* occurs in cleft sentences where the sentence is divided into two clauses, each having its own verb: the pronoun *it* functions as an empty theme, it is followed by the verb *be* and, the clause element following *be*, normally the final

³⁵ Cf. LGSWE, 1999: 332

³⁶ Cf. LGSWE, 1999: 155

item in the main clause, receives the primary focus, for example, *Oh Peter, it's today you're going up to Melbourne, isn't it?*, or *It was at this stage that the role of the DCSL became particularly important* (LGSWE, 1999:155).

There does not appear to be general agreement regarding the (non-)referential interpretation of the "special uses" of *it*.

A traditional approach has it that anticipatory *it* does not carry basic referential meaning; however, it is perceived as not completely devoid of meaning. Although it has no apparent referent in the extralinguistic reality, it still holds its "language internal meaning" as it anticipates or points forward to the extraposed clause (Seppänen, 2002: 443-444).

A more modern approach to both the weather and anticipatory *it* has shifted in two directions: On the one hand, the approach of Bolinger, Kaltenböck and Quirk et al. to a certain extent,³⁷ and Seppänen, Huddleston et al. and Haegemann on the other.

Quirk et al. state that due to the forward-pointing function of *it* the pronoun cannot be considered as totally devoid of meaning. Similarly, Kaltenböck considers both the weather *it* and anticipatory *it* as a meaningful and referential pronoun at all times. Bolinger for example, notes that in sentences like *I can understand it that the election hurt them*³⁸ the pronoun appears to be anaphoric as it refers to "some fact already broached." He lists some more examples and concludes that the "expletive" *it* preserves some of its value and is in fact meaningful (Bolinger, 1997: 66).

According to the other approach, critical of the Bolingerian view, in both uses of *it* the pronoun is seen as a mere dummy occupying the syntactic position of the subject and not contributing to the clause semantically; for example, the *it* in *It is quite true that her car was stolen* is a dummy which fills the vacant subject

³⁷ Quirk et al. state that the weather *it* has "little or no semantic content." (Quirk et al., 1985: 748)

³⁸ Cf. Bolinger, 1997: 66

position. (Seppänen, 2002: 444). In Seppänen's words, *it* is presented as "a grammatical dummy devoid of both reference and meaning."³⁹

We shall consider anticipatory *it* as a non-referential use of *it*, or in other words anticipatory *it* object as a dummy object, i.e. a semantically empty element.

2.6 Factors leading to the use of anticipatory *it*

Bolinger in the book *Meaning and Form* provides a number of examples of the sentence pattern which is the primary objective of the thesis, that is a monotransitive verb followed by *it* in object function anticipating an adjacent clausal object, and he discusses the conditions under which the pronoun *it* is acceptable or unacceptable, verb types which occur with *it that*⁴⁰, and finally, the effect of time reference (Bolinger, 1997: 66).

2.6.1 Acceptability of *it that*

2.6.1.1 Miscellaneous factors

Some of the factors that influence the acceptability of *it* are the following: negation, presence of certain auxiliaries, emphasis, sentence modifiers, and a change of context. They are described in short and exemplified below.

Some clauses with *it that* are acceptable if the polarity of the clause is negative, but their grammaticality is doubtful when in the affirmative, as in:

- [1] *?I believed it that the election hurt them.*
- [2] *Not for a moment did I believe it that the election hurt them.* (Bolinger, 1997: 66)

Certain auxiliaries make the clause with *it that* acceptable, for example *can*, the use of *would* instead of *do* in interrogatives, or the use of *do* for emphatic effect.

³⁹ Cf. Seppänen, 2002: 445

⁴⁰ The cover term *it that* will be used to refer to the constructions under study, i.e. verb+anticipatory *it*+extraposed clausal object.

Bolinger also notes that the acceptability of [7] suggests that it is not affirmativeness that limits the possibilities.

- [3] **I understand it that the election hurt them.*
- [4] *I can understand it that the election hurt them.*
- [5] **Do you believe it that the election hurt them?*
- [6] *Would you believe it that the election hurt them?*
- [7] *I positively do believe it that the election hurt them.* (Bolinger, 1997: 66-67)

Next, there are some sentence modifiers that affect the possibility of the use of *it that*, compare:

- [8] ?*It's that he's a Republican that I find so objectionable.*
- [9] *It's just (only, merely, simply) that he's a Republican that I find so objectionable.* (Bolinger, 1997: 67)

Also, if we interchange the subjects in the superordinate and subordinate clauses, we see that [10] is grammatical, as the proposition expressed in the *that*-clause "remains a fact regardless of his views",⁴¹ while both examples would be equally appropriate without the pronoun *it*:

- [10] *He won't believe it that I am better than he is.*
- [11] ?*I won't believe it that he is better than I am.* (Bolinger, 1997: 67)

Finally, a similar sentence uttered in different contexts is acceptable with *it that* in one case [12], while ungrammatical in the other [13]:

- [12] *He had to go and blab it that I was seen out with a blonde last night.*
- [13] *I can't hear what that fellow's blabbing. [...] He's blabbing (*it) that you were seen out with a blonde last night.* (Bolinger, 1997: 67)

What some of the above have in common is that in the examples [2], [4], [6], [9] and [12] it is apparent that the sentences convey something about a matter that does not qualify as new information; on the contrary, the topic has already been mentioned prior to the utterance. For instance, in [4], *can understand* must be a remark about an aforementioned topic; similarly, negation together with *it that* is

⁴¹ Cf. Bolinger, 1997: 67

allowed if the clause refers to some information that has been confirmed before, however, it is unacceptable to utter *I do not believe it that the election hurt them.* in the context where the topic of "them being hurt by the election" has not been mentioned before (Bolinger, 1997: 67). Hence, we may say that a *that*-clause preceded by the pronoun *it* is often allowed in the context where the topic the clause refers to has been previously introduced.

2.6.2 Verb types affecting the acceptability of *it that*

2.6.2.1 Factive verbs

It is our hypothesis that the construction which is the subject of our thesis, a monotransitive verb + anticipatory *it* + extraposed clausal object, is preferred with certain group of verbs occurring in the superordinate clause, specifically verbs which fall into the following semantic categories:

First and foremost, it is a class of the so called factive verbs which presuppose the proposition expressed in a following clause as the truth, or as a fact. In Bolinger's words "a factive verb implies the factuality of its complement is in the mind of the speaker, not the shared knowledge of it between the speaker and hearer" (Bolinger, 1997: 68). For example, the speaker would not use the verb *know* unless he or she acknowledged the proposition as true: in the example *John knows they're guilty*, the presupposed information is not shared between the speaker and the hearer, but the speaker and John (Bolinger, 1997: 68). Bolinger thus suggests that the *it that* pattern is likely to occur with **factives**, rather than **non-factives**, compare the ungrammaticality of [14] and the acceptability of [15]:

[14] **He can't swallow that you dislike him.*

[15] *He can't swallow it that you dislike him.* (Bolinger, 1997: 68)

If we take the example [14] and replace the factive verb with a non-factive one, such as *understand*, the resultant sentence [16] is still grammatical. However, it is possible to use *it* in the same sentence as long as the topic is considered familiar, that it has been introduced, compare:

[16] *He can't understand that you dislike him.*

[17] *He can't understand it that you dislike him.* (Bolinger, 1997: 68)

Furthermore, Bolinger distinguishes another subclass of factive verbs, cf. *emotional factives*⁴² which are typically "limited to what is already present to the mind" when they occur with *that*-clauses. These include verbs like *admire*, *hate*, *love*, *welcome* and they require *it*:

[18] **I just love that you are moving in with us.*

[19] *I just love it that you are moving in with us.* (Bolinger, 1997: 68)

It is also noted that based on whether a verb does or does not use *it*, we may differentiate between verbs of attitudes and verbs of feelings. It follows that verbs of feelings whereby one clearly communicates their emotional reaction to a certain situation or fact, are more strongly factive than verbs of attitude [20]. For that reason, verbs like *resent* require *it* [23] and they "will not admit a questioning of the fact" [21].

[20] *I'm sorry she did that, if she did.*

[21] **I resent it that she did it, if she did.*

[22] **I resent that she did that.*

[23] *I resent it that she did that.* (Bolinger, 1997: 69)

Finally, there are the verbs of reporting, like *announce*, *find*, with which the use or non-use of *it* depends on the familiarity or novelty of information, as seen in the following:

[24] *Did you find (*it) out that the check was bad?*

[25] *When did you find (it) out that the check was bad?* (Bolinger, 1997: 69)

Francis et al. 1996 in their publication *Grammar Patterns 1: Verbs* draw attention to three groups of verbs that occur in the pattern *V+it+that*, namely the "love" and "hate" group,⁴³ which seems to coincide with Bolinger's subgroup of emotional factives, then the "arrange" group, containing verbs related to arrangements and

⁴² Quirk et al. mentions *emotive verbs* which take a *that*-clause as complementation. (Quirk et al., 1985: 1180)

⁴³ They list for example *appreciate*, *(can't) bear*, *hate*, *like*, *love*, *resent*, *(can't) stand*. (Cf. Francis et al., 1996: <https://arts-ccr-002.bham.ac.uk/ccr/patgram/ch09.html#s02>)

plans;⁴⁴ and lastly, a vaguely defined group of "verbs with other meanings", comprising for example *have*, *put about* and *take*, as in *Rumour has it that Britain's universities are jam-packed full of bright ideas struggling to escape from those ivory towers.*⁴⁵

2.6.2.2 Time reference of the superordinate verb

The verbs of supposition, such as *guess*, *presume*, *pretend*, *suppose*, typically communicate new information, that is, they communicate a topic that has not been broached. It follows that that they would not normally accept the structure with *it*. The verbs in the following examples seem to invariably exclude *it*:

- [26] *Who would have supposed (*it) that things would turn out this way?*
[27] *He pretended (*it) that he was the one.* (Bolinger, 1997: 70)

However, other verbs belonging to these groups, like *conjecture*, *guess*, *hypothesize*, *imagine*, *presume*, *theorize*, do allow *it* in certain contexts. What appears to be the main factor is the tense of the superordinate verb. When we compare the following examples, we see that the sentences which express something that has already happened accept *it* ([28] and [30]), while those that refer to the future disallow *it* ([29] and [31]):

- [28] *I was the one who guessed (it) that you would win.*
[29] *I guess (*it) that you will win.*
[30] *I never expected (it) that he would be there.*
[31] *I don't expect (*it) that he will be there.* (Bolinger, 1997: 70)

The verbs of persuasion, for example *intend*, *order*, *recommend*, *suggest*, display similar behaviour, perhaps to an even greater extent, as they frequently refer to the future. As seen in the examples below, whether or not *it* is acceptable depends on the time reference of the utterance: the ones referring to a past event, [33] and [35], are grammatical with *it that* too:

⁴⁴ These verbs, in fact, are beyond the scope of our thesis as they normally occur in the passive, as in *It was arranged that I should go along to the inn to see him.* Cf. Francis et al., 1996: <https://arts-ccr-002.bham.ac.uk/ccr/patgram/ch09.html#s02>)

⁴⁵ Cf. Francis et al., 1996: <https://arts-ccr-002.bham.ac.uk/ccr/patgram/ch09.html#s02>

- [32] *I suggest (*it) that they wait.*
 [33] *I suggested (it) that they should wait.*
 [34] *We don't intend (*it) that you shall be inconvenienced.*
 [35] *We didn't intend (it) that you should be inconvenienced.* (Bolinger, 1997: 70)

It is relevant to note that the above mentioned factor of futurity does not imply that a future tense restricts the use of *it that*; neither does it mean that sentences with a past tense generally allow *it*, compare the following:

- [36] *Clerk, this set looks to be about what we want. Do you guarantee (*it) that it won't cause any trouble?*
 [37] *Clerk, the last set we bought developed a short circuit after we'd only used it a couple of weeks, and I hate to bring stuff in for repair all the time. – We guarantee (it) that you will not have any trouble.*
 [38] *They didn't carry out your wishes because I didn't recommend (*it) that they should make the attempt.* (Bolinger, 1997: 70)

In [36], although the second sentence refers to the future, the matter of "the set causing trouble" has not been mentioned prior to the utterance, and thus the structure with *it that* is unacceptable, as opposed to example [37] where it is clear from the previous context that the matter has been shared beforehand. Likewise, in [38], though referring to the past, *it* makes the sentence ungrammatical as "making the attempt" is not a familiar topic.

It may be concluded that the factor of time reference does influence the acceptability of *it*, nonetheless, it seems to be overridden by the impact of topic familiarity; or in other words, the structure with *it* is either acceptable or ungrammatical depending on whether the topic has or has not been broached prior to the utterance.

2.6.2.3 Idiomatic expressions

Last but not least, there is a number of idiomatic expressions, such as, *bruit about*, *bring*, *give away*, *get*, *have*, *let be known*, *spill*, *take*, which use *it*. The pronoun can sometimes be replaced by a substantive [39] and [40], apart from, for instance, the verb *take*, where *it* is the only option [41].

- [39] *They finally got it (got the idea) that I meant them no harm.*
[40] *He spilled it (spilled the beans) that you were involved in that operation.*
[41] *I take it that you wanted something else. (Bolinger, 1997: 75)*

In conclusion, the use of anticipatory *it* seems to be motivated by the semantic function of the verb in the matrix clause, most importantly it tends to occur with factual verbs, suasive verbs and emotional factives. Additionally some idiomatic verbs are followed by *it that*, as well as verbs of reporting. Other factors influencing the acceptability of *it* are the presence of certain auxiliaries, negation, time reference and the aspect of whether or not the topic presented in the subordinate clause has been previously introduced.

3. Material and Method

In the preceding chapter we have presented the key approaches to the so called special uses of *it* and some of the factors that appear to influence the use or non-use of anticipatory *it*. We have also described the ways in which the extraposed object may be realised and pointed out that the complementation by a *that*-clause or *wh*-clause is the focus of our research. Before we proceed to introduce the hypotheses and describe the methods of obtaining the research material and methods of analysis, let us explain the choice of the source material.

As mentioned in the theoretical part of the thesis, the constructions with anticipatory *it* in object position complementing a monotransitive verb are relatively rare, compared to the clauses with anticipatory *it* in subject position and anticipatory *it* complementing a ditransitive or complex transitive verb. Also, the constructions under study are not associated with a particular type of text, unlike the subject anticipatory *it* constructions, which are particularly frequent in academic prose (LGSWE, 1999: 676). For these reasons, the source material was drawn from the largest general corpus of contemporary British English available to us – the British National Corpus (BNC).⁴⁶

3.1 Selection process

The selection of the material from the BNC was performed in several steps.⁴⁷ First of all, we searched for the first 200 occurrences of the sequence "it _CJT", i.e. the word *it* followed by the subordinator *that*, which contained an anticipatory *it* juxtaposed to an object dependent clause.

The hits that the query returned were examined manually, and those that did not satisfy our conditions, such as *Speelman had to give up his queen to avoid being*

⁴⁶ "The British National Corpus (BNC) is a 100 million word collection of samples of written and spoken language from a wide range of sources, designed to represent a wide cross-section of British English from the later part of the 20th century, both spoken and written." (Cf. About the British National Corpus: <http://www.natcorp.ox.ac.uk/corpus/index.xml>)

⁴⁷ The web-based corpus search engine *BNCweb* (CQP-Edition) available on-line from <http://bncweb.lancs.ac.uk/> was used.

mated, but by that time he had so many pieces for it that he was still able to draw comfortably (A30 709), were discarded. All 200 examples are attached in the appendix and they are listed in the same order as the search returned, together with the text identifier (a three-letter code) and sentence number of the citation, for example the first occurrence being *I think of him as an artist who writes history, and I take it that the history he writes includes the history he has principally suffered — that of Poland* (A05 841).

In order to obtain the first 200 occurrences with anticipatory *it* + object followed by a *that*-clause, it was necessary to examine 487 concordance lines. It reveals that the constructions with an anticipatory *it* account for 41.1 per cent. These sentences will be described in more detail in the following chapter. However, we have found that a rather small number of verb types preceding anticipatory *it* is recurs in the excerpts, as shown in Table 1. Moreover, a total of only three verb types constitute 95.5 per cent of all excerpts.

Table 1 **Verb types followed by *it that* occurring in the first 200 excerpts**

verb (types)	no. of occurrences (tokens)	
	Σ	%
<i>have</i>	111	55.5
<i>see to</i>	58	29.0
<i>take</i>	22	11.0
<i>love</i>	3	1.5
<i>assure</i>	1	0.5
<i>contrive</i>	1	0.5
<i>covet</i>	1	0.5
<i>depend on</i>	1	0.5
<i>make</i>	1	0.5
<i>know</i>	1	0.5
TOTAL	200	100

As such a limited list of verb types would not be sufficient for our research purposes, it was necessary to perform more searches so as to acquire an adequate amount of data. Therefore, apart from the construction *verb + it + that*, we examined the cases with prepositional object (*verb + preposition + it + that*), and complementation by other nominal clauses (*verb + it when, verb + it + whether/if*).

In order to obtain sentences with the structure *it that* preceded by verbs other than those listed in Table 1, we examined all the immediate left verbal collocates of the construction.

The search returned a total of 103 verb types and the concordance lines of these verbs which preceded immediately *it that* were examined. Again, the examples with anticipatory *it* were saved, while the others discarded, such as *I think it was in his er his agreement when he made it that it was only er a face up, it weren't to pull down and rebuild.* (KCS 1315), where *it* is referential with the preceding noun phrase *his agreement*. We will be referring to the set of these sentences as *V it that*.

To obtain a database of verbs followed by *it + wh*-clauses, we searched for "it when", "it if" and "it whether" (where the clause is introduced by *wh*-elements *when* and *if* or *whether*). Similarly, all the immediate left verbal collocates of the constructions were examined manually, the acceptable examples were saved, while the others, such as *I'll get it when we s-- unless you, have you got another one?* (KNS 458), were discarded. For simplification purposes, we will be referring to these sentences as *V it when* and *V it if/whether*, respectively.

A slightly different procedure was used to search for prepositional verbs preceding *it that*: First, we searched for the prepositional immediate left collocates of *it that*. All the sequences where the preposition was immediately preceded by a verb were further examined manually and those that did not contain the anticipatory *it* construction, such as *In 1934 he proposed to it that the Palestine and Transjorda should be united under his crown, the Arabs recognizing the Mandate, including Jewish righttsm and each state keeping its own political status with the respective prime ministers reporting to Abdallah* (APD 485), were discarded. These sentences will be referred to as *V prep it that*.

As a result, a large database of 836 sentences, cf. Table 2, where a monotransitive verb is complemented by anticipatory *it* object followed by a *that*-clause or *wh*-clause was acquired. These sentences will be examined in more detail in the analysis part of the thesis.

Table 2 **Frequency of occurrences of the constructions under study**

construction type	no. of occurrences	
	Σ	%
<i>V it that</i>	301	36.0
<i>V it prep that</i>	121	14.5
<i>V it when</i>	244	29.2
<i>V it if</i>	170	20.3
TOTAL	836	100

3.2 Hypotheses and methods of analysis

Based on the factors that favour the use of anticipatory *it*, which have been presented in the theoretical part of the thesis, we propose a hypothesis that anticipatory *it* object is likely to occur with monotransitive verbs belonging to similar semantic groups, such as factual verbs and verbs referring to feelings. In addition, the use of *it* is likely to be dependent on or at least related to the context of the utterance, with the concept of the so called shared knowledge playing the crucial role.

The main focus of our analysis will be the *it that* database. The clauses will be explored with respect to the verb tense and modality in the superordinate clause, the time reference of the utterance, and the semantic class of the governing verb, such as *understand* in *Do I now understand it that the whole programme is subject to maximum price?* (JNM 50).

4. Analysis

4.1 The first 200 excerpts

As has been mentioned in the previous section, in order to assess the frequency of object *it* extraposition where the clausal object is realised by a *that*-clause, the initial 200 occurrences of the construction (*V it that*) were extracted from the BNC. The results are presented in the table below.

Table 3 Frequency of verb types followed by *it that* in the first 200 excerpts

verb	occurrences		
	Σ	%	%
<i>have</i>	111	55.5	95.5
<i>see to</i>	58	29.0	
<i>take</i>	22	11.0	
<i>love</i>	3	1.5	4.5
<i>assure</i>	1	0.5	
<i>contrive</i>	1	0.5	
<i>covet</i>	1	0.5	
<i>depend on</i>	1	0.5	
<i>make</i>	1	0.5	
<i>know</i>	1	0.5	
TOTAL	200	100	

However, it has to be taken into account that 95.5 per cent of the examples occur with three recurring verbs, namely *have*, *see to* and *take*, while *have* is the most frequent as it represents 55.5 per cent of all occurrences. It may be added here that these three verbs are overall the most frequently occurring verbs that take the anticipatory *it* object, as will also be shown in the following chapter.

Let us now comment on the characteristics of these verbs in more detail. Both *have it* and *take it* are idioms⁴⁸ and *see to* is a phrasal verb⁴⁹. The idiomatic nature

⁴⁸ Cf. Both are listed in The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary as idioms: *have it (that...)*, means "to claim that it is a fact that..." and *take it (that...)* means "to suppose; to assume" (http://oald8.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/dictionary/have+it#have_1 and http://oald8.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/dictionary/take+it#take_1).

of these expressions might suggest that they are well-established in the English lexicon, are used in given patterns and thus stand out with respect to their high frequency of usage in comparison with the other governing verbs that are the subject of the study.

To support the fact that *have it*, *take it* and *see to it* are undeniably recognised as the most typical verbs taking anticipatory *it* object we may refer to *Grammar patterns 1* and Quirk et al. (1985). The former mentions that *have*, *take* and *put about*⁵⁰ constitute a special subgroup taking the pattern *V it that*, delimited on the basis of their idiomatic character. The latter comments in a note on the "private verb" *see* that it can be used with a *that*-clause in which the present tense is referring to the future (Quirk et. al. 1985: 1182), as our examples show: *See to it that they do* (H7P 766) or *Just see to it that he does not also cast his eyes on Ana* (HGK 1090). In fact, we have found that 61 per cent of the examples with a superordinate sentence in the present or future contain a *that*-clause in the present tense with future reference, which makes up 36 per cent of all *see to it* examples attested in the BNC.

Additionally, Bolinger lists the idiom *have it* among some others that are specific to *it* although the pronoun *it* may be replaced by a noun phrase, such as *have the word*, while *take* is exclusive to *it* and the pronoun is irreplaceable (Bolinger 1997: 75). Nevertheless, the search query "{have/V} the word" did not return any positive results, therefore it may be understood that the *it* object of *have* in the sense of "claiming that something is a fact" is highly unlikely to be substituted by another nominal. Besides, *have* is not a kind of verb that licenses a *that*-clause; if it occurs in juxtaposition to *that*, *that* is a relative pronoun rather than a conjunction, as for example in *It was the colour of a skirt I once had that he had specially liked* (FEE 854).

⁴⁹ Cf. Ibid: *see to it* that means "to make sure that..."

(http://oald8.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/dictionary/see+to+it#see_1__138)

⁵⁰ The third verb belonging to the group is *put about*. Its pattern *V it P that* is beyond the scope of our thesis. Cf. Collins COBUILD Grammar Patterns 1: Verbs., *Chapter 9.2 Introductory it as Object* (<https://arts-ccr-002.bham.ac.uk/ccr/patgram/ch09.html#s02>).

Therefore we may conclude that both idiomatic expressions, *have* and *take*, occur almost invariably with anticipatory *it* when juxtaposed to a nominal clause, as in the following:

- [1] *We do indeed have it that a causal circumstance necessitated its effect.* (EVX 599)
- [2] *I take it that you're not disputing then that the change in the traffic flows that I've indicated would actually what would be achieved?* (J9U 1090)

As can be seen from the table above, all the other verbs occur with very low frequency. The verb *make* has 5 more occurrences in the BNC and *love* and *know* are also found in the constructions with other patterns, i.e. *V it when* or *V it if*, therefore these will be commented on later. The remaining five verbs seem to be marginal cases with or without *it*: *depend on* and *covet* cannot be followed by a *that*-clause without *it* as they normally license an object realised by a noun phrase, and neither does *contrive*. The verb *assure* is more likely to be followed by a *that*-clause in the construction without *it*.⁵¹

- [3] *For example, if a centre already has some devolved responsibility, the Quality Audit will look at the way in which the centre assures that the SCOTVEC criteria are being applied.* (HBM 2351)

Regarding the time reference of the utterance in clauses with *see to*, the *that*-clause is most likely to be in the present tense if the construction refers to the future. There has been found 16 examples as opposed to only two in which *will* is used in the subordinate clause, compare [4] - [7]. Also, the sentences referring to the future account for almost 30 per cent compared to the other uses of *see to*.

- [4] *'Please see to it that Miss Asshe receives my note,' he told the man, who sniffed.* (CD2 1231)
- [5] *'I'll see to it that Polly don't get into any debt again, don't you worry.'* (CDM 1878)
- [6] *So you'd better see to it that Luke and Sonny don't go often to the village.* (B1X 3078)
- [7] *Provided a Minister can maintain an effective performance in the House, the Whips see to it that he will get his way.* (ECC 242)

⁵¹There are 178 hits with *assure+that*-clause and the majority of them are passive structures.

Another tendency that is apparent from the excerpts concerns the verb form of *have*: in 84 examples (75.7 per cent) the simple present tense of the 3rd person singular is used, as the expressions with *have it* normally introduce a fact that is generally thought to be true, or a story, a piece of news that might or might not be true. The most commonly used are *rumour* (31 examples), *legend* (28), *tradition* (9), *myth/mythology* (6), *gossip* (5), *wisdom* (3), *folklore* (3) as shown in the following:

- [8] *Rumour has it that Bonaparte has panicked and ordered the retreat.* (B20 2494)
- [9] *Legend has it that it was here that Yusuf met his death beneath the hooves of his enemies, steeds; here also that El Cid received a fatal wound.* (ASW 388)
- [10] *Tradition has it that the first fenoderee was actually a handsome prince from the proud fairy tribe of the Ferrishyn.* (CAC 993)
- [11] *Today's myth has it that the Davy miner's lamp brought safety to Britain's coal pits.* (B77 631)
- [12] *Gossip has it that Madonna has also captured Beatty's heart.* (CAN 768)
- [13] *Traditional wisdom has it that there are two sexes.* (ASK 73)
- [14] *Country folklore has it that dobies were actually the sad little GHOSTS of unwanted or plain women, who would fumble around the house trying to be useful until their spirits had been exorcised.* (CAC 694)

It seems that the idiomatic character of *have it that* extends over the whole lexical unit, comprising the colligational and collocational behaviour of the verb. The tendency for the verb to be used in the 3rd person singular observed in our material corresponds to the results obtained from all the instances of the construction *have it that* in the BNC: the form *has* is used in 70 per cent of the constructions, while all the other forms account for less than 20 per cent (*had* 19.7, *have* 9.9, *having* 0.5 per cent). This does not correspond to the overall distribution of the forms of lexical *have* in the BNC with *have* as the most frequent form (43.4 per cent), followed by *had* (32.2 per cent) and *has* (4.5 per cent). The use of the third person singular form of *have* therefore seems a typical feature of the idiomatic lexical unit. Moreover, the left collocations of the construction appear restricted as well. Again, our data are in agreement with the overall view based on the whole BNC. Here the subject of *have it that* is most frequently the lemma *rumour* (50 instances), followed by *legend* (45) and *tradition* (14). All other nouns occur with

a frequency lower than 10, the most frequent being *myth* (7), *gossip* (6), *story* (6), *wisdom* (5) and *folklore* (5). The lexical unit can thus be described as "rather uncertain (alleged) story" + *has* + *it* + *that*-clause.

Although the constructions *take it that* and *see to it that* can also be considered fixed, they do not display the same degree of idiomaticity as *have it that*.

The construction *take it that* typically contains the base form of the verb (57.8 per cent of the occurrences of the construction in the BNC). It is often modified by modal verbs *can*, *may*, *must*, *shall*, and it combines with first person pronominal subjects *I* and *we*, e.g. *So we can take it that Mick is none too keen on an open door policy at 10 Records?* (C9K 2330)

The phrasal verb *see to* is most frequently used in the infinitive within the construction with anticipatory *it* object (43 per cent). The subject is most frequently *I* or *they*, e.g. *I shall personally see to it that you are put away in a place where not even the crows can land their droppings on you!* (CH4 2300)

In sum, the most important finding is that there are three verbs that are expected to be used in *it* object extraposition, namely *have*, *take*, and *see to*, being idioms and a phrasal verb, respectively, out of which *have* is the most prominent accounting for more than a half of all examples.

4.2 Distribution of verb types occurring with anticipatory *it*

4.2.1 Verb types in the construction *V it that*

In the previous chapter we have commented on the most common verbs allowing the complementation with anticipatory *it* followed by a clausal object. The table below presents all the verbs found in the BNC that occur with anticipatory *it* followed by a *that*-clause.

Table 4 Frequency of verb types followed by *it that* attested in the BNC

	occurrences
verb types	Σ
<i>have</i>	163
<i>see to</i>	113
<i>take</i>	100
<i>make</i>	6
<i>bear</i>	4
<i>leave</i>	3
<i>love</i>	3
<i>think</i>	3
<i>read</i>	2
other verbs	25
TOTAL	422

Altogether there have been found 34 different verbs in the BNC occurring with *it* object extraposition out of which only 9 account for two occurrences and above. The results obtained from the preliminary analysis of the phenomenon in question (as presented in Table 3), regarding the most frequent verb types, are also reflected in the findings presented in the table above. Taken as a whole, the verbs *have*, *see to* and *take*, (accounting for 38.5, 26.7 and 23.6 per cent of the instances of the anticipatory *it* constructions analysed, respectively) are most expected to take the complementation by anticipatory *it* followed by a *that*-clause. Other verb types attested in the BNC that are not as frequent are *make*, *bear*, *leave*, *love*, *think* and *read*. In addition there are 25 "other verbs" that are represented by one occurrence, namely *allow for*, *assume*, *assure*, *believe*, *calculate*, *contrive*, *covet*,

deem, depend on, get, get over, know, look on, object to, play, plug, recognise, reflect upon, say, see, think of, understand, vouch for, will, word.

It is also apparent that, aside from *see to*, the majority of verbs (26) take a direct object while 8 other verbs, each represented by one example in the BNC, are followed by a prepositional object, namely *allow for, depend on, get over, look on, object to, reflect upon, think of* and *vouch for*, for example:

- [1] *He will see to it that his office arrangements are parallel with the professional plane he has reached. (HUI 429)*
- [2] *And here we did see, by particular favour, the body of Queen Katherine of Valois; and I had the upper part of her body in my hands, and I did kiss her mouth, reflecting upon it that I did kiss a Queene, and this was my birthday, thirty-six years old, that I did kiss a Queene. (CD3 459)*
- [3] *Helen : For some reason I thought of it that they've given me this monster of a baby that I wasn't going to be able to love, and some woman came round — she may have been the hospital social worker or an almoner — and spent about an hour telling me (CRS 1120)*

Additionally, the superordinate clause may contain a modal verb, especially in the case of *bear* and *believe* which in all instances occur with *can't* or *couldn't* (cf. [4], [5]) and most of the prepositional verbs, namely, *allow for, vouch for, depend on, look on, get over, think of, see to* (cf. [6] - [10]). If the idiom *have* is not taken into account (in view of its collocational behaviour), 29.2 per cent of the instances of the other verbs occur with a modal, with *see to* being preceded by a range of modals, *will, would, can, be able to, could, have to, must*, out of which *will* and *would* are prevalent (cf. [9] and [10]).

- [4] *I find her so sweet and I can't bear it that she's blind. (HGK 2426)*
- [5] *They're, they're, oh they're vastly improved to, to, I mean when I first had the er plaster off, which was for ten days it was, I could not believe it that these fingers were not going but I'm told that that's quite usual. (KC3 426)*
- [6] *They could of looked on it that I was depriving somebody. (FR5 2543)*
- [7] *I should have allowed for it that he was no ordinary man, and could move like a thunderstorm when he willed. (K8S 1884)*
- [8] *We could walk round to the stables, if you do not object to it — I can vouch for it that the grass is not wet — and then perhaps Miss Araminta will not hear as the horses will not come to the front door.' (HGV 1913)*

- [9] *My son will see to it that you have an allowance to meet your everyday needs, and Padre Jorge will instruct you on the sacrament of holy matrimony and your obligations to your husband. (EWH 973)*
- [10] *Instead he told the judge that if he let his son go free, he would see to it that his got into no more trouble. (HPG 347)*

An implication of these findings is that the possibility of prepositional objects occurring with extraposed *that*-clauses is not especially high considering that 71.4 per cent of all occurrences of the construction *V it that* are monotransitive verbs licensing a direct object. Nearly 30 per cent of the excerpts (excluding those with *have it*) contain a modal verb in the superordinate clause.

4.2.2 Verb types in the construction *V it when*

Another pattern that represents the phenomenon under study is the construction in which the verb is followed by anticipatory *it* and a content clause introduced by *when*.

Table 5 Frequency of verb types followed by *it when* attested in the BNC

	occurrences
verb types	Σ
<i>like</i>	77
<i>hate</i>	57
<i>believe</i>	29
<i>love</i>	28
<i>mean</i>	15
<i>bear</i>	7
<i>enjoy</i>	4
<i>stand</i>	4
<i>take</i>	3
<i>admit</i>	3
<i>see</i>	2
<i>appreciate</i>	2
<i>resent</i>	2
<i>dislike</i>	2
other verbs	9
TOTAL	244

It can be seen from the data there are 23 verb types occurring with the construction in question, out of which *like* and *hate* are the most frequent (32 and 23.4 per cent of all occurrences, respectively), followed by *believe* and *love*, whose distribution is nearly the same (11.9 and 11.5 per cent, respectively). *Mean* accounts for 6.1 per cent and all the other verb types for less than two per cent. There are 9 other verbs that are attested only once, namely *miss*, *understand*, *admire*, *tape*, *loathe*, *arrange*, *credit*, *record*, and *overstate*. It may be added that all these verbs take a direct object as there have not been found any instances with the pattern verb+ preposition + *it* + *when*, where *when* would introduce a nominal content clause (the *when*-clauses occurring in extraposition are adverbial clauses of time).

It is noteworthy that three verbs, namely *like*, *believe* and *hate*, tend to occur with the subject of the 1st person singular pronoun, as exemplified below. Also, the majority of the sentences with *like* and *hate* are in the present tense in the indicative and they convey a personal preference regarding one's behaviour, actions, or the situation in more general terms, while *believe* occurs in the construction with *couldn't* or *could hardly* (26 and three examples, respectively) referring to a past action or situation.

- [11] *I don't like it when he sings.* (A0V 1102)
- [12] *'But I like it when boys whistle at me,' she continued.* (CDM 2764)
- [13] *I really hate it when you burp.* (KP6 2830)
- [14] *Jean, 39, said: 'I couldn't believe it when Bonnie ate the money.'* (CH2 3012)
- [15] *They could hardly believe it when Mum said it was tea-time.* (G23 834)

4.2.3 Verb types in the construction *V it if/whether*

Turning our attention to the last type of the construction under study, an extraposed clausal object may be realised by a content *wh*-clause introduced by *whether* or *if*. It should be noted that only two occurrences with *whether* have been found, namely *doubt* and *recognise*.

Table 6 Frequency of verb types followed by *it if/whether* attested in the BNC

	occurrences
verb types	Σ
<i>like</i>	38
<i>prefer</i>	26
<i>appreciate</i>	23
<i>help</i>	21
<i>bear</i>	15
<i>hate</i>	11
<i>regret</i>	9
<i>love</i>	6
<i>stand</i>	4
<i>believe</i>	2
<i>take</i>	2
<i>understand</i>	2
<i>doubt*</i>	2
<i>recognise*</i>	2
other verbs	7
TOTAL	170

*The verbs *doubt* and *recognise* have both been attested once in the construction with *if* and once with *whether*.

As shown in the table, 21 verb types occur with the construction *V it if/whether*. Again, *like* is the most prominent accounting for 22.4 per cent, followed by *prefer*, *appreciate* and *help* (15.3, 13.5 and 12.4 per cent, respectively). All these verbs take a direct object only, as there are no examples with the pattern verb+ preposition + *it* + *if* followed by a nominal content clause (verb+ preposition + *it* + *whether* does not occur at all, and the *if*-clauses in extraposition are adverbial clauses of condition).

There are a few relatively frequent verbs, such as *bear, hate, regret, love* and *stand*, while the remaining verbs account for less than two per cent. The group "other verbs" with one instance each comprises *face, fancy, forbid, handle, imagine, know* and *mind*.

Compared to the use of the verb *like* in the preceding pattern (*V it when*), it is much less likely to occur with the present simple when in juxtaposition with *it if*, cf. [16], [17], as it more often occurs in the construction with the modals *should, will* or *would* [18], [19], *would* being the most prominent. This suggests that the pattern *V it if* is more likely to be used to refer to a hypothetical situation in the present rather than a preference, or one's likes and dislikes.

- [16] *'Animals don't like it if you move suddenly.* (FS2 551)
- [17] *I like it if they're independent to some degree.* (HAE 4277)
- [18] *I suppose I would like it if he was more successful.* (CB8 2268)
- [19] *well you shouldn't you should use your own, that's Beth's, you wouldn't like it if Beth pinched yours would you? [pause] eh? ooh, you scratched mummy last night, look there* (KP7 216)

It may be concluded from the data that has been acquired that the most common pattern that occurs in object *it* extraposition is *V it that*, as it constitutes 50.5 per cent of all examples attested in the BNC, the patterns *V it when* and *V it if* less frequent accounting for 29.2 and 20.3 per cent, respectively. The table below also shows that there are no significant differences in the number of variant verbs that may enter into these constructions. Although it may be mentioned that the pattern *V it that* is represented by the highest number of verb types, the majority of them have only one occurrence in the BNC.

Table 7 **Frequency of the patterns with anticipatory *it* attested in the BNC**

pattern:	no. of occurrences		no. of verbs (types)
	Σ	%	Σ
<i>V it that</i>	422	50.5	34
<i>V it when</i>	244	29.2	23
<i>V it if/whether</i>	170	20.3	21
TOTAL	836	100	61*

*the total number of different verb types. The number is not identical with the sum of the types occurring in the individual patterns since some verbs occur in more than one pattern.

4.3 Semantic classification of the verbs occurring with *it that*

As presented above, there have been found 61 different verbs that allow anticipatory *it* object. It has been hypothesised that the object *it*-extraposition probably bears relation to the semantic function of the superordinate verb. After examining the semantic nature of the predicates we propose the semantic classification as shown in Table 8.

The classification is based on several sources: the Quirk et al.'s discussion of the types of governing verbs with a *that*-clause as complementation⁵², and the classification of mental verbs in LGSWE, mainly the speech act verbs which seem to overlap with Quirk et al.'s public verbs, as they introduce a direct statement.⁵³ The following semantic classes are proposed: public, private, suasive and emotive. The class of emotive verbs, i.e. "verbs of attitude and emotion"⁵⁴, is based on the categorisation of verbs controlling complementation by *wh*-clauses as found in *Grammar patterns*⁵⁵ and LGSWE.⁵⁶

Let us first briefly characterise these semantic classes. **Public** verbs include verbs that introduce a factual proposition and at the same time they are observable [1], while **private** verbs usually introduce beliefs or states of mind, and therefore they are not observable [2]. **Emotive** verbs express emotions, feelings, attitudes, or in other words, one's emotional reactions to a situation [3]. The class of **suasive** verbs includes verbs which convey orders, suggestions, or one's preferences, intentions for change or desires [4]. Finally, there are some unclassified verbs [5] and idioms [6].

- [1] *I mean I think that's extremely important to allow children to erm you know play things out in the best way that they [pause] which is in a sense their way of coming to terms with things erm and to answer their questions as honestly as I can and to admit it when I don't know the answers erm ...*
(KRL 1905)

⁵² Cf. Quirk. et al., 1985: 1179-1181

⁵³ Cf. LGSWE, 1999: 663-689

⁵⁴ Ibid. 686

⁵⁵ Cf. Francis et al., 1996: <https://arts-ccr-002.bham.ac.uk/ccr/patgram/ch09.html#s02>

⁵⁶ Cf. LGSWE, 1999: 663-689

- [2] *'God bless ye, Rubberneck,' a voice cried out, and, at that, at least, he knew it that they were not mad at him.* (BNC 1897)
- [3] *'I love it that you've asked me — it's bothering me that I've got to do this report by Monday.'* (CEF 764)
- [4] *'I prefer it if men find ways of dressing to enhance their personality rather than using clothes to make up for the lack of one.'* (FBM 1682)
- [5] *The Famlio patrol doesn't admit it or record it when ships get past them.* (G3G 1463)
- [6] *Shall we leave it that I will consider making a direction at the next hearing in relation to that figure [pause] and the question of any interest thereon [pause] but will defer [pause] any such er decision until you've had time to consider it* (JJU 68)

Table 8 Semantic classes of the verbs with *it that, it when* and *it whether/if*

public		private		emotive		suasive		other	
verb	Σ	verb	Σ	verb	Σ	verb	Σ	verb	Σ
<i>have*</i>	163	<i>take*</i>	105	<i>like</i>	115	<i>see to*</i>	113	<i>help*</i>	21
<i>admit</i>	3	<i>believe</i>	32	<i>hate</i>	68	<i>prefer</i>	26	<i>make</i>	6
<i>object to</i>	1	<i>mean</i>	15	<i>love</i>	37	<i>arrange</i>	1	<i>leave*</i>	3
<i>overstate</i>	1	<i>understand</i>	4	<i>bear</i>	26	<i>assure</i>	1	<i>contrive</i>	1
<i>play</i>	1	<i>think</i>	3	<i>appreciate</i>	25	<i>covet</i>	1	<i>depend on</i>	1
<i>plug</i>	1	<i>recognise</i>	3	<i>regret</i>	9	<i>forbid</i>	1	<i>handle</i>	1
<i>say</i>	1	<i>see</i>	3	<i>stand</i>	8	<i>instruct</i>	1	<i>record</i>	1
<i>vouch for</i>	1	<i>doubt</i>	2	<i>enjoy</i>	4	<i>will</i>	1	<i>tape</i>	1
<i>word</i>	1	<i>know</i>	2	<i>dislike</i>	2				
		<i>read</i>	2	<i>resent</i>	2				
		<i>allow for</i>	1	<i>admire</i>	1				
		<i>assume</i>	1	<i>face</i>	1				
		<i>calculate</i>	1	<i>loathe</i>	1				
		<i>credit</i>	1	<i>mind</i>	1				
		<i>deem</i>	1	<i>miss</i>	1				
		<i>fancy</i>	1						
		<i>get</i>	1						
		<i>get over</i>	1						
		<i>imagine</i>	1						
		<i>look on</i>	1						
		<i>reflect upon</i>	1						
		<i>think of</i>	1						
9	173	22	183	15	301	7	144	8	35

*These verbs may be further subclassified as *idioms*.

The table presents the variety and the number of verbs (at the bottom of the table) in each semantic class (e.g. there are 9 different public verbs), the number of examples with *it that* occurring with particular verb types (e.g. *have* belongs to public verbs and accounts for 163 examples) as well as the overall number of occurrences for each semantic class (e.g. public verbs are represented in 174 instances). There are several findings that can be discussed in more detail: first, the distribution of the verb types, second, the most typical semantic class(es) and third, the distribution of the patterns across the semantic classes.

4.3.1 Distribution of the verb types and patterns

The semantic class of private verbs has the largest number of verb types. It comprises 22 different verbs out of a total of 61 (36.1 per cent). One of the private verbs is significantly frequent (*take*), two are notably frequent (*believe* and *mean*), a small number of verbs have between five to two instances (*understand*, *think*, *recognise*, *see*, *doubt*, *know* and *read*) and the remaining verbs occur only once.

The second largest class is represented by 15 emotive verbs (24.6 per cent) which contain five verbs that are significantly frequent, namely *like*, *hate*, *love*, *bear* and *appreciate*. Together they account for 90 per cent (271 occurrences) of all examples within the class. Five other verbs (*regret*, *stand*, *enjoy*, *dislike*, *resent*) have between 10 to two instances, while five occur only once.

Public and suasive classes comprise nine verbs each. In the class of public verbs *have* is significantly frequent with 163 occurrences (94.2 per cent). Similarly, there is one highly frequent suasive verb *see to*, which accounts for 113 examples (78 per cent), *prefer* which is relatively frequent with 26 occurrences (18 per cent) and the other verbs do not occur more than once.

Finally, there is a group of unclassified verbs since they do not resemble the characteristics of any class. Although *make it* belongs to idioms, its meaning in

the examples with *it that* is not idiomatic, i.e. it does not have the sense of "to succeed, to manage,"⁵⁷ c.f. [7] to [10] below:

- [7] *Right, it's about this erm [pause] lady, I'll make it that she lived on Dartmoor with her erm grandson [pause] erm [pause] and her [pause] moth-- and he sa-- daughter and she is a gran-- , she was a grandlady [pause] a grandmother. (KE2 1831)*
- [8] *But you know, until then I think we're gonna have to make it that the railway goes on the table, she ju-- , she doesn't see it Carl, she just [pause] when she broke that (KBG 592)*
- [9] *And it more or less made it that we'd got to go back for the ten and thruppence. (FY1 377)*
- [10] *Well that's what I was going to say if if we could make it that the training course came after next week and not next week then. (JA3 704)*

In examples [7] and [8] the expression *make it* can be paraphrased as "to understand, to suppose" and thus classified as a private verb, while in [9] and [10] it appears to be a suasive verb meaning "to cause, to make possible." Although it is not possible to classify these verbs, it has no significant influence on the outcome of the study as the unclassified verbs constitute a marginal group compared to the other semantic classes.

Second, considering the total number of occurrences in each meaning group presented in the table below, the following may be concluded.

Table 9 **Distribution of patterns across semantic classes**

semantic class	no. of occurrences	
	Σ	%
<i>emotive</i>	301	36.0
<i>private</i>	183	21.9
<i>public</i>	173	20.7
<i>suasive</i>	144	17.2
<i>other</i>	35	4.2
TOTAL	836	100

⁵⁷ Cf. definitions in Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary available on-line from http://oald8.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/dictionary/make+it#make_1

Emotive verbs, particularly *like* and *hate*, are most expected to be found in the construction with *it that* comprising nearly 36 per cent of all occurrences, followed by private and public verbs, 21.9 and 20.7 per cent, and lastly, suasive verbs which, with approximately 17 per cent are slightly less frequent than the groups of factual verbs (private and public). Therefore the verbs which express one's emotional attitude or reaction to a situation or a possible situation, seem most likely to allow complementation with anticipatory *it* object.

In sum, considering the variety of verbs belonging to each semantic class together with the number of examples, it may be said that the private and emotive verbs, notably *take, believe, like hate, love, bear, appreciate*, are the most significant with respect to the use of anticipatory *it* object.

Lastly, let us discuss the relation between the patterns following anticipatory *it*, namely the complementation with a *that*-clause or a *wh*-clause and the semantic classes of the verbs under study.

Table 10 **Distribution of semantic classes across the patterns with anticipatory *it***

patterns	semantic classes / no. of occurrences			
	public	private	emotive	suasive
<i>V it that</i>	169	121	6	116
<i>V it when</i>	4	51	186	1
<i>V it if/whether</i>	x	11	109	27
TOTAL	173	183	301	144

The table shows that the construction *V it that* is most frequently represented by the verbs of the public type and notably frequently by the private type, too. On the contrary, the *wh*-clauses introduced by *when* and *if/whether* are quite partial to emotive verbs as they are represented by a rather small proportion in the other semantic classes. It is interesting to note that public verbs are almost invariably complemented by *it* and a *that*-clause; only two public verbs (four instances), namely *admit* and *overstate*, occur with a construction other than *V it that*.

4.4 Verbs with anticipatory *it* occurring with more patterns

It has been concluded above that some of the verbs belonging to the classes of private and emotive verbs are expected to occur with *it* object extraposition in view of the fact of their relatively high frequency. Turning our attention to the verbs that occur with more than one pattern,⁵⁸ it will be shown that the assumption drawn earlier may be confirmed by the findings presented below.

Table 11 Verbs occurring with more than one pattern

verbs	no. of occurrences per pattern			TOTAL
	<i>V it that</i>	<i>V it when</i>	<i>V it if</i>	Σ
<i>like</i>	x	77	38	115
<i>take</i>	100	3	2	105
<i>hate</i>	x	57	11	68
<i>love</i>	3	28	6	37
<i>believe</i>	1	29	2	32
<i>bear</i>	4	7	15	26
<i>appreciate</i>	x	2	23	25
<i>stand</i>	x	4	4	8
<i>understand</i>	1	1	2	4
<i>recognise</i>	1	x	2	3
<i>see</i>	1	2	x	3
<i>know</i>	1	x	1	2

As can be seen from the table, there are five verbs, namely *take*, *love*, *believe*, *bear* and *understand* that occur with all the patterns under study, i.e. anticipatory *it* followed by both a *that*-clause and *wh*-clauses. One of these verbs, *understand*, may be considered marginal because it has been attested in the BNC only four times. *Love*, *believe* and *bear* have similar frequencies, ranging from 26 to 37 occurrences, and *take* is the most frequent one with 105 examples. Additionally, there are seven verbs that occur with two patterns: the verb *see* occurs with *V it that* and *V it when*, *recognise* and *know* with *V it that* and *V it if*, and finally four verbs, namely *like*, *hate*, *appreciate*, *stand*, occur with *V it when* and *V it if*.

⁵⁸ These verbs will be referred to as multiple-pattern verbs.

Before going further, let us say a few words about the verbs which, despite the fact that they occur with two patterns, we consider to be marginal due to their low frequency, i.e. *stand*, *recognise*, *see* and *know*. *Stand*, which has a few more occurrences than the latter three, is an emotive verb, and except for one example [1] where *stand* has its literal meaning, it is used figuratively to mean the same as *bear*, cf. examples [2] and [3]. The other three verbs are all private verbs, cf. [4] to [6].

- [1] *He says he's doesn't know if his legs will stand it when he walks over the lip.* (K1J 457)
- [2] *'I can't stand it when you touch me like that.* (H9L 2891)
- [3] *I couldn't stand it if you go for expertise.'* (HTS 1971)
- [4] *Er if you stand back from our situation and see it that er the contribution rate for employees was reduced from sixty five per cent for er a company i-- it became a balance of cost and that works out now at five per cent, so the total inputs of the scheme is ten per cent of earnings and that was down from eighteen per cent.* (K77 334)
- [5] *God bless ye, Rubberneck, ' a voice cried out, and, at that, at least, he knew it that they were not mad at him.* (BNC 1897)
- [6] *Just the strange things that again you know it's it's having an idea and recognizing it that it would be useful.* (JP6 128)

Additionally, it should be emphasised that only the verbs of two semantic classes have been attested in more than one pattern, namely private and emotive verbs (6 verbs in each group), out of which the private verbs *take*, *believe* and the emotive ones *like*, *hate*, *love*, *bear*, *appreciate* are considered significant due to their relatively high frequency and will be discussed in more detail.

Finally, after evaluating the sentence modality in the examples with *like*, *hate*, *appreciate*, *understand*, *take*, *love*, *believe* and *bear*, we have not found any significant tendencies that could be considered to be generally valid. A vast majority of the examples are declarative sentences, as interrogatives and imperatives together account for mere 10 per cent of the instances. 37 examples of interrogative sentences have been found, out of which 10 are positive *yes-no* questions (cf. [7] – [9]), three negative *yes-no* questions (cf. [10]), seven *wh*-questions (cf. [11] – [13]), while the majority of 17 examples constitute declarative questions (cf. [14]).

- [7] *Are we to take it that the company headquarters, not the battalion headquarters, will be in Glasgow?* (HHX 7936)
- [8] *'Do I take it that you work for the same man as the two who broke into my house?' she asked.* (GOP 1874)
- [9] *On the basis of that argument, can we take it that the boundary review that will be undertaken will now be on geographical location rather than population distribution?* (HHX 6234)
- [10] *Don't you just hate it when that happens?* (CK5 925)
- [11] *How would you like it if you were sexually harrassed?'* (JYB 711)
- [12] *How will he take it if the weather in New York turns really bad?* (FYV 1464)
- [13] *Why do you think we like it when people who are being bigheaded get show up?* (G3P 2402)
- [14] *I take it that you do live there by yourself, Fran?* (JXV 2481)

What may be interesting to note is that 22 interrogative sentences occur with the pattern *take it that* and one with *take it if*, seven with *like it if*, three with *like it when*, while the other verbs occurring in questions are *love*, *hate* and *understand*. It follows that the verb *take* is most expected to occur in interrogative sentences, especially the declarative type which accounts for 14 examples.

There are only two instances of the exclamative sentence type; one of the sentences has the initial phrase introduced by *how*, c.f. [15], while the other is an exclamatory question, c.f. [16], i.e. it is interrogative structurally (a negative *yes-no* question), but exclamatory with respect to the meaning and force of the utterance. In addition, there are 16 examples in which the exclamative character of the sentences is indicated merely by the exclamation mark, they do not display any syntactic structure typical of exclamative sentences, c.f. [17]. The majority of the instances are of the *it when* type and four of the *it if* type.

- [15] *How she hated it when her daughter wasn't there!* (H97 1935)
- [16] *Don't you just hate it when that happens!* (KD8 10095)
- [17] *Well I don't mind doing one card, but I hate it when I've got about seven or eight of them chuffing things!* (KCX 864)
- [18] *I love it when it's warm!* (KDV 5249)
- [19] *'It'll be a delightful distraction and I would appreciate it if you came along!'* (AEA 1536)

Thus, the only assumption that can be drawn from these findings is that the majority of examples with anticipatory *it* object are declarative sentences. If interrogatives sentences should occur, they are expected to be found with the pattern *it that*, especially with the verb *take*, while exclamatory sentences are marginal.

4.5 Multiple-pattern verbs

4.5.1 Extraposed clauses introduced by *that*

Among the multiple pattern verbs complemented by *it that* there are four verbs whose occurrence is rather small for any meaningful statistical evaluation and the only frequent verb type is the verb *take* which has a strong to be complemented by clauses referring to the present.

Regarding the superordinate clause, the subject is almost invariably the 1st person singular pronoun and the verb in the present tense, except for three cases with the verbs *bear* and *believe*, which have three instances in the past.

- [1] *I take it that they are still undisturbed.* (ANL 3016)
- [2] *'I love it that you've asked me — it's bothering me that I've got to do this report by Monday.'* (CEF 764)

Also, the verbs *bear* and *believe* have the controlling verb pre-modified by the modals *can't* or *couldn't*, and to a certain extent, also *take* occurs with a modal verb, especially *can*, *may*, *must*, cf. the examples below:

- [3] *I can't bear it that you are unhappy.* (FAJ 2110)
- [4] *Then when we were alone: 'Darling, tell me — ' I could not bear it that she suffered so.* (FPH 1834)
- [5] *They're, they're, oh they're vastly improved to, to, I mean when I first had the er plaster off, which was for ten days it was, I could not believe it that these fingers were not going but I'm told that that's quite usual.* (KC3 426)
- [6] *'I think we can take it that a representative of the Security Service was regarded as, ahh, fundamental.'* (H86 380)
- [7] *You can't take it that it is you have to draw your scale diagram.* (FMJ 561)
- [8] *It is true that even then he might still be acting in the course of his employment, but we must take it that this curious piece of metaphysics*

exempts the employer from vicarious liability for this particular tort. (FSS 1114)

It may be generalised that the extraposed clauses are marked for either present (*take, bear, understand*) or past tense (*take, bear, love, believe*). The tendency is especially apparent in the verb *take* which has 70 per cent of instances with the *that*-clause referring to a present action or situation, while 20 per cent to the past. The subordinate clauses complementing *love*, on the other hand, refer to the past or recent past expressed by the present perfect tense.

- [9] *I take it that Mr Treadwell wants her about her husband's funeral?* (HA2 1252)
- [10] *I take it that Barbara was your mistress when you first introduced her to Hugo and that she remained your mistress after Hugo was killed and she married Paul.* (CJF 1626)
- [11] *Try 'I'm pleased that the office manning problem is on next week's agenda — I'm worried that it needs more urgent attention' or 'I love it that you've asked me to go away — it's bothering me that I've got to do this report by Monday.'* (CEF 739)
- [12] *Then when we were alone: 'Darling, tell me -' I could not bear it that she suffered so.* (FPH 1834)
- [13] *They're, they're, oh they're vastly improved to, to, I mean when I first had the er plaster off, which was for ten days it was, I could not believe it that these fingers were not going but I'm told that that's quite usual.* (KC3 426)
- [14] *'I think we can take it that a representative of the Security Service was regarded as, ahh, fundamental.'* (H86 380)
- [15] *We may take it that the utilitarian in him could accept with Ricardo's labour theory of value his hostility to landlords, who might be regarded as unproductive and bone-idle, and share with him a reluctance to extend that hostility to master-manufacturers.* (EF4 80)
- [16] *I take it that they were too realistically magical to exist in the world as we know it.* (ACN 2635)

It might be interesting to note that the subject of the verb phrase in the subordinate clauses usually refers to a human being, around 50 per cent of the instances, while approximately 20 per cent are represented by the personal pronoun *you*, and the third most frequent is *he* or *she*, or a noun phrase in the 3rd person, such as *Mick, the tenant, Barbara, the child, Mr Treadwell* etc. Non-human subjects occur only with *take* and *understand*, for example *this show, statements, the correct interpretation, the crucial time, these fingers* etc. Therefore, be it private verbs of cognition like *understand* and *take*, or emotive verbs *bear, love, believe*, the

speaker in most cases communicates an attitude towards the behaviour or circumstances of another person, or comments on human interaction, relationships, opinions etc.

Thus, it can be assumed that the multiple-pattern verbs with *it that* have a strong tendency to be complemented by clauses referring to the present, while a smaller part of the instances to the past. The clauses with private verbs typically express an understanding of a present matter, while those with emotive verbs refer to either the present or the past expressing disbelief or negative attitude towards a past action.

4.5.2 Extraposed clauses introduced by *when*

A corresponding tendency is apparent in the extraposed clauses introduced by *when*. Similarly, around 70 per cent of the examples, particularly the ones containing the emotive verbs *appreciate*, *bear*, *hate*, *like*, *love*, are marked for present tense. Also, the utterances are usually in the 1st person singular (about 80 per cent) and normally convey one's preference in general or how one feels about a situation, as in the following:

- [17] *But they really appreciate it when they get help and encouragement from the local branches, from Carlisle to Plymouth.* (GXA 435)
- [18] *'I can't bear it when my husband touches me,' the dead voice went on.* (HH3 3285)
- [19] *I hate it when I can't figure things.* (HOM 114)
- [20] *I like it when it's quiet and its juts me an Marie.* (A74 457)
- [21] *I love it when he raises his eyebrows in that sardonic fashion...* (CAS 849)

On the contrary, the private verb *believe*, pre-modified by *couldn't* or *could hardly*, seems to be partial to past reference as all of the extraposed *wh*-clauses are in the past tense. (Interestingly, the utterances convey a degree of disbelief, as the polarity of the super-ordinate clause is invariably negative (as opposed to *hate*, *love* and *appreciate* where it is affirmative, while with *like* both positive and negative), cf. the examples below:

- [22] *For instance, I couldn't believe it when we were kept in the dark about the team until the hour before kick-off.* (CBG 9209)

- [23] *As had happened the day before, the time simply flew for Fabia, so that she could again hardly believe it when Ven told her that they would take the funicular a little way down the hill to a restaurant where they would have lunch. (JYF 1992)*

4.5.3 Extraposed clauses introduced by *if/whether*

The majority of the examples found with this pattern also refer to the present, however, they indicate how one feels about or react to a possible, hypothetical situation, thus the superordinate verb is preceded by *would* (with the verb *hate*, *like*, *love*; around 73 per cent) or *could* (*bear*; around 79 per cent) in most cases and the subordinate verb is in the past form, as in these examples:

- [24] *Then he said, almost aggressively, 'I couldn't bear it if you found someone else, if you were two-timing me. (JY0 1032)*
- [25] *She would absolutely hate it if she had to submit her family to that sort of ordeal. (H8F 2253)*
- [26] *Kat would like it if the only role model was Diamanda Galas. (CHA 1001)*
- [27] *'I would love it if this programme opened a can of worms.'* (C88 2036)

Additionally, the examples with *appreciate* almost invariably follow the pattern *would* + *appreciate* in the superordinate clause (approximately 87 per cent), while the subordinate verb occurs either with *would* or *could* or it is in the past form (evenly distributed as represented by eight, seven, and six examples, respectively). Also, these utterances have a specific discourse function as they propose a directive, request or a suggestion, and the grammatical structure is effectively used as a politeness strategy (examples with *should*, such as [31] , are even more tentative than with *would*).

- [28] *I'd appreciate it if you'd refrain from speaking for me. (CAE 2537)*
- [29] *'First, we'd appreciate it if you'd sign this document – a small formality,' Grimwood assured her in his most Uriah Heep tone. (CN3 778)*
- [30] *I would appreciate it if you gave up without a fight. (G1W 2749)*
- [31] *I should like it if you would join us for lunch. (CKC 3210)*

Nonetheless, there are a few examples referring to a real present situation, or expressing a preference as a general statement, however, they are very marginal, represented by seven instances, such as the following:

- [32] *I can't believe it if that's all, oh no that's eight, don't worry.* (HYT 126)
- [33] *I can't bear it if you take any risks now!* (FSF 1942)
- [34] *But he hates it if his friends aren't nearby, and he's difficult to catch...*
(BPB 523)
- [35] *I get fed up with cooking the same old thing - I like it if I can experiment.*
(EBR 968)

4.6 Complementation without anticipatory *it* object

Having discussed the complementation of multiple-pattern verbs, the last part of our analysis attempts to answer the question whether these verbs can be complemented by a *that*-clause or *wh*-clause without anticipatory *it*. First, eight verbs have been examined, specifically *appreciate*, *bear*, *believe*, *hate*, *like*, *love*, *take*, *understand*, with respect to the number of hits the search returned, i.e. complementation of these verbs by either a *that*-clause, *if*-clause or *when*- clause without *it*, as shown in Table 12. Second, we explored the examples in which the number of occurrences without anticipatory *it* is relatively similar to that with *it* in order to see whether there are any tendencies regarding the use or non-use of *it*.

Table 12 **Verb types occurring without anticipatory *it***

	hits without <i>it</i>	occurrences with <i>it</i>
verb type	Σ	Σ
<i>believe</i>	9220	32
<i>understand</i>	1447	4
<i>appreciate</i>	588	25
<i>take</i>	237	105
<i>like</i>	160	115
<i>bear</i>	53	26
<i>love</i>	24	37
<i>hate</i>	19	68

Before moving on to an analysis of the facts, it should be mentioned that by the number of hits we mean the total number of occurrences of all constructions with the juxtaposition of the verb and the conjunctions *that*, *when* or *if/whether*. In order to obtain exact data, an extensive manual examination will need to be conducted, which exceeds the scope and purpose of this study.

Firstly, it has been noted in the earlier chapters that *take it* as an idiomatic expression requires complementation with anticipatory *it* in object extraposition.⁵⁹ This assumption may be confirmed after the examination of the examples without *it*. Regarding the clause introduced by *that* or *when*, most of them are passive constructions following the structure *care/decision/assumption* + modal verb+ *be taken that*, or *take* is in post-modification:

- [1] *Care must be taken that the correct denomination of stamp is printed on the envelopes.* (EA9 2467)
- [2] *Perhaps Ted told Jean of the walks the four of us took when Eva got tired of working; and the time Eva's feet hurt and she hailed a cab — absolute Roman decadence for Dad, Ted and me.* (C8E 1505)
- [3] *There are a number of routes you could take if you want to work in a job where you'll be looking after the countryside* (CHH 160).

Considering that the meaning of *take* in the examples without *it* is not idiomatic as it retains its literal meaning, and there have not been found nominal clauses complementing *take* without *it*, it may be concluded that the verb *take* requires anticipatory *it* if complemented by a nominal clause.

On the contrary, there are three verbs which seem to favour complementation without anticipatory *it*, as shown in the table below:

Table 13 Most frequent verb types occurring without anticipatory *it*

	<i>that</i> -clause		<i>when</i> -clause		<i>if</i> -clause	
	with <i>it</i>	without <i>it</i> *	with <i>it</i>	without <i>it</i> *	with <i>it</i>	without <i>it</i> *
verb	∑	∑	∑	∑	∑	∑
<i>believe</i>	1	9173	29	15	2	32
<i>understand</i>	1	1325	1	46	2	76
<i>appreciate</i>	x	538	2	18	23	32

*The columns 'without *it*' contain the number of hits in the BNC.

It appears that the verbs *believe*, *understand* and *appreciate* have a preference for complementation by a *that*-clause without anticipatory *it*: a large number of examples occurs without *it* and also, these verbs do not essentially occur with the

⁵⁹ Cf. Chapter 2.6.2.3

pattern *it that* (but rather with *it when* or *it if*). *Believe* is almost invariably followed by a *that*-clause and according to the frequency breakdown, a larger portion of the examples appears to contain the superordinate verb in the present tense, as there are 3633 hits of the form *believe that/believes that*, while 1084 of *believed that*. It may occur with quite a wide range of modal verbs (*may, could, must, will, might, would, can, should* and *will*, listed by the order of frequency) with positive polarity. On the contrary, *believe it*, more frequently occurs with a *when*-clause, negative modal *could not* and past time reference.

- [4] *Amnesty International believes that their trials were unfair.* (A03 163)
- [5] *At no time have I believed that environment is a complete explanation of art.* (A04 1260)
- [6] *Mrs Marcos may believe that America still has the final say in Philippine affairs; after all, America persuaded her husband to call the election that led to his downfall in 1986.* (ABF 955)

A similar tendency is evident with the verb *understand* which is also more likely to occur with a *that*-clause and, when in complementation without anticipatory *it*, it can be pre-modified, by a range of modal verbs (*will, must, can, should, would, could, may*, listed by the order of frequency) in the positive form. Thus the complementation by clauses introduced by *when* or *if*, with or without *it*, seems to be marginal in general.

- [7] *I understand that Cook has an excellent relationship with the butcher.* (A0D 2781)
- [8] *You will understand that I am only acquainted with the members of the Institute who come here regularly — who, in essence, are the ones who work in this area.* (ANL 2649)
- [9] *You must understand that I can do nothing further for you.* (AC7 178)

Appreciate also has the most occurrences with a *that*-clause, only that the pre-modification by modals is limited to *will* or *can*, while with *if*-clauses, it follows a similar structure as observed in the examples with anticipatory *it* object, i.e. *would + appreciate + if*-clause with *would/could*, the only distinction being that these instances are quite often passive constructions containing anticipatory *it* subject, cf. example [13].

- [10] *I appreciate that outdoor water is usually cold and, having been on a canoeing course at Plas-y-Brenin some years ago, I know how cold the Conwy is in April.* (BMF 1098)
- [11] *Readers will appreciate that even if a combination of Sgt Bilko and the Roux Brothers was running the Cookhouse, with only £1.43 to feed an adult with three meals a day it is not possible to challenge the Savoy Grill.* (A67 718)
- [12] *I would appreciate if you would pass these on to the delegate concerned.* (HD2 1977)
- [13] *To help us give you a speedy response it would be appreciated if you could have your policy number readily available.* (AYP 1472)

The results obtained from a manual examination of the concordance lines of the verbs *like*, *hate*, *bear* and *love* are shown in Table 14.

Table 14 Frequency of complementation of verb types with and without anticipatory *it*

verbs	that-clause		when-clause		if-clause		TOTAL	
	<i>it</i>	without <i>it</i> *	<i>it</i>	without <i>it</i> *	<i>it</i>	without <i>it</i> *	<i>it</i>	without <i>it</i>
<i>like</i>	x	3	77	3	38	4	115	9
<i>hate</i>	x	3	57	3	11	x	68	6
<i>bear</i>	4	4	7	x	15	x	26	4
<i>love</i>	3	1	28	1	6	x	37	2

The number of examples in which the verbs are complemented by a nominal clause introduced by conjunctions *that*, *when* or *if* without anticipatory *it* (cf. examples [14] – [22]) is rather low in comparison with the examples with *it*. It can be assumed that the verbs *like*, *hate*, *bear* and *love* are more likely to occur with anticipatory *it* when complemented by a nominal clause.

- [14] *I LIKE that you tell me about it, your flesh impatient with words, you say: go inside me — yeah — yeah — no — more — and your body whiplashes head to toe, the ill-appreciated G spot, baby you got it.* (A0L 1797)
- [15] *I don't like when there's only er me in the house all day long, I don't like it when the house, the house is too tidy, when er there's no children around.* (KRT 2481)
- [16] *I don't like if I can't see what's on the cards.* (J13 5068)
- [17] *I hate that I cause her so much pain.* (HUA 112)
- [18] *Hate when I get punished.* (KPA 3461)

- [19] *I couldn't bear that they should always pay for me because I didn't want them to know how awful Robert had become.* (GOT 174)
- [20] *Life's hard enough to bear if you're not a genius.* (ABW 1309)
- [21] *Fabia loved that he seemed as befuddle-headed as she.* (JYF 2621)
- [22] *No, I've farted once every morning, I love when you wake up.* (KD5 1261)

After having compared the above examples with those with anticipatory *it*, with respect to the time reference, modality and polarity of sentences, there has not been found any significant differences that could possibly lead to a conclusive generalisation as to what determines the preference of the use of *it*. The only possible explanation that comes to mind is based on an assumption made by Bolinger that "An attitudinal verb such as *be sorry* is not as strongly factive as a verb that expresses just one's emotional reaction, such as *resent*."⁶⁰ If taken into consideration that the emotive verbs *like*, *hate*, *bear* and *love* favour complementation with *it*, while the private verbs *believe*, *understand* complementation without anticipatory *it*, we may extend the abovementioned assumption such that expressing one's emotions, compared to states of mind, implies that there is no questioning of the fact expressed in the complementation. It follows that such fact is more readily in the mind of the speaker and this established information is commented on in the superordinate clause with respect to the speaker's feelings about it.⁶¹ For example, in '*God, I hate it when you're mysterious!*' (FP6 396) the established fact is "you're being mysterious" expressed in the extraposed clause, while the new information, the speaker "hating the fact" in the superordinate clause.

⁶⁰ Cf. Bolinger, 1997: 69

⁶¹ Cf. also Kaltenböck, 2005: 144

5. Conclusion

As has been outlined in the introduction the main objectives of this study are as follows: first, to find which verbs allow complementation with anticipatory *it* when followed by nominal clauses introduced by *that*, *when* and *if/whether*; second, to semantically classify these verbs; and third, to establish which verbs allow more patterns of complementation and whether they can also occur without anticipatory *it*.

First, after the analysis of the sample of the first 200 excerpts, in order to assess the most common verbs occurring with object anticipatory *it* + *that*-clause extraposition, it has been found that 95.5 per cent of the instances are represented by three verbs, *have*, *see* and *take*, *have* being the most prominent one, constituting 55.5 per cent of the total number.

Additionally, the expressions *have it that*, *see to it that*, *take it that* can be considered fixed, although the first one displays a much greater degree of idiomaticity than the latter two. The typical features of the lexical unit are the restrictions on the left collocations of the construction, as the subject of *have it that* is most frequently *rumour*, *legend* and *tradition*, as well as the use of the 3rd person singular form of *have*. From the perspective of fixedness of these expressions these verbs may be expected that to favour complementation with anticipatory *it*, rather than without *it*. This expectation can be confirmed as the research has shown that *have*, *see to* and *take* do require anticipatory *it* when complemented by a subordinate content declarative clause.

The analysis of 836 instances of the construction in question revealed that there are 61 monotransitive verbs allowing complementation by anticipatory *it* juxtaposed to a *that*-clause or *wh*-clause, out of which eight verbs take a prepositional object (and are followed by a *that*-clause), namely *allow for*, *depend on*, *get over*, *look on*, *object to*, *reflect upon*, *think of* and *vouch for*, while the other verbs license a direct object.

The most typical verbs, apart from the abovementioned *have*, *see to* and *take*, are as follows: *appreciate*, *bear*, *believe*, *hate*, *help*, *like*, *love*, *mean* and *prefer*, each

accounting for more than 10 occurrences out of the total number. It may be noted that in addition to the idioms mentioned above, a few more were attested in the BNC, namely *help it* and *leave it* (21 and three occurrences, respectively), which makes a total of five idiomatic expressions allowing anticipatory *it* object.

Second, returning to the hypothesis posed at the beginning of this study, it is now possible to state that anticipatory *it* objects occur with superordinate verbs of certain semantic types. The verbs (except for eight "other" verbs that constitute 4.2 per cent of all instances) have been classified into four semantic classes: public, private, emotive and suasive verbs. According to the frequency of occurrence, emotive verbs account for 36 per cent and comprise 15 verb types, followed by private, public, and suasive verbs (21.9, 20.7 and 17.2 per cent, respectively). *Like* and *hate* are the most frequent verbs within the class of emotive verbs constituting 21.2 per cent out of the total number, while the majority of occurrences within the classes of private and public verbs is represented by a single verb, namely *take* and *have*, respectively.

In addition, there is a tendency to use the 1st person singular subject in the superordinate clause in most of the instances with emotive verbs, alongside the use of human subjects (especially the 2nd person and 3rd person singular) in the subordinate clause. These findings may imply that object *it* extraposition seems quite partial to contexts where the speaker conveys his or her feelings, likes and dislikes, attitudes or emotional reactions to (possible) situations. It follows that since the utterance expressed in the complementation is already present in the speaker's mind, or is part of the shared knowledge between the speaker and the hearer, which is the pre-condition of factivity (or factuality), the probability of the use of anticipatory *it* increases. Hence, apart from idiomatic expressions such as *have it*, *take it*, *see to it*, *(cannot) help it*, monotransitive verbs of the emotive type are expected to allow complementation with anticipatory *it* object.

Third, the examination of the excerpts with and without anticipatory *it* conducted on a small sample of data, specifically instances containing the verbs *appreciate*, *bear*, *believe*, *hate*, *like*, *love*, *take* and *understand*, has proved inconclusive. Although emotive verbs, namely *bear*, *hate*, *like* and *love* seem to be partial to complementation with anticipatory *it*, as opposed to private verbs occurring quite

frequently without *it*, the verb *appreciate* does not conform to this behaviour; despite being of the emotive type it frequently occurs with complementation by a *that*-clause without anticipatory *it*.

The preference for *it* is based on the assumption that verbs expressing emotions or emotional reactions are more strongly factive than other verb types, factivity being a precondition that affects the use of *it*, and thus they are expected to occur with anticipatory *it* object. Even though it may be argued that *appreciate* is not a typical emotional verb, such as (*cannot*) *bear*, *like* or *love*, and thus allows both patterns of complementation, perhaps this takes the argument too far. Therefore it is suggested that further research needs to be done to reliably establish the factors affecting the use or non-use of anticipatory *it* object.

Nonetheless, the present study provides systematic identification and classification of the constructions occurring with anticipatory *it* object, and ascertains tendencies regarding the phenomenon in question.

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Resumé

Táto práca sa zaoberá postpozíciou predmetu, ktorý je realizovaný vedľajšou vetou obsahovou a anticipovaný zámenom *it*, ako napr. *He spilled it that you were the thief* (Bolinger, 1997: 68). Postpozícia vedľajších obsahových viet sa v angličtine vyskytuje pomerne často, avšak anticipačné *it* je bežnejšie v pozícii podmetu. Nižší výskyt anticipačného *it* v predmete a fakt, že referenčné gramatiky tento jav popisujú viacmenej okrajovo a podmienky použitia anticipačného *it* v predmete nie sú úplne jasne vymedzené, patria medzi dôvody, ktoré nás viedli k výberu danej témy.

Účelom štúdie je urobiť analýzu konštrukcie, kde je monotranzitívne sloveso doplnené anticipačným *it*, ktoré je realizované vedľajšou obsahovou vetou v postpozícii. Na základe rozboru budú popísané typy vedľajších viet v postpozícii, definované typy a frekvencia slovies, ktoré sa v tejto konštrukcii nachádzajú a slovesá budú sémanticky klasifikované. Zo získaných poznatkov bude nakoniec cieľom vyvodiť faktory, ktoré môžu mať vplyv na použitie anticipačného *it* v juxtapozícii s vedľajšou obsahovou vetou.

Práca pozostáva z dvoch častí: teoretickej a výskumnej. Teoretická časť sa zaoberá vlastnosťami slovesa, ktoré sú vzhľadom na predmet skúmania relevantné; totiž intenciou, valenciou a tranzitivitou slovesa a popisuje ich z hľadiska českého i britského prístupu, a taktiež charakteristikami a syntaktickými a sémantickými vlastnosťami doplnenia slovesa. Ďalej pojednáva o syntaktických funkciách priameho a predložkového predmetu a predmetu v postpozícii, možnostiach realizácie syntaktickej funkcie predmetu, hlavne čo sa týka vedľajšej obsahovej vety oznamovacej (*that*-clause). V tomto bode je i zmienka o tzv. faktívnych slovesách, ktoré typicky predchádzajú vedľajšej obsahovej vete. Tieto nadradené slovesá je možné rozdeliť do štyroch kategórií: faktívne, persuzívne, emotívne a podmienkové, pričom skupinu faktívnych slovies tvoria dve podskupiny: „obecné“ a „privátne“ slovesá.

Teoretickú časť uzatvárajú kapitoly zaoberajúce sa problematikou anticipačného *it* jednak z hľadiska definície pojmu a špecifických funkcií zámena *it*, ale najmä čo

sa týka motivácií jeho použitia, či už obligatórneho, alebo voliteľného. Východiskovým zdrojom je Bolinger, z ktorý v knihe *Meaning and Form* uvádza niekoľko možných faktorov, ktorých prítomnosť ovplyvňuje prípustnosť použitia anticipačného *it*, napríklad negácia, premodifikácia určitými pomocnými slovesami (*can, would, emphatic do*) faktívny charakter nadradeného slovesa (predovšetkým emocionálne faktíva), či časová referencia vyjadrená v hlavnej vete (určité slovesá vyjadrujúce dej, ktorý prebehol inklinujú k použitiu *it* viac než slovesá vyjadrujúce dej budúci). Anticipačné *it* tiež vyžadujú niektoré idiomatické výrazy, ako napr. *bruit about it, bring it, give it away, get it, have it, spill it, take it*, viz. *I take it that you wanted something else* (Bolinger, 1977: 66-75).

V kapitole „Material and Method“ je vysvetlená adekvátnosť zdrojového materiálu nasledovne: keďže je výskyt anticipačného *it* relatívne nízky a na rozdiel od zámena *it* vo funkcii podmetu nie je skúmaná konštrukcia typická pre konkrétny typ textu (anticipačné *it* v podmete je obzvlášť frekventované v odbornej próze),⁶² sa ako najvhodnejší zdrojový materiál ukázal najväčší nám dostupný korpus súčasnej britskej angličtiny – Britský národný korpus (BNC).

Selekcia materiálu bola uskutočnená v niekoľkých krokoch: najprv bolo vyhladaných prvých 200 výskytov konštrukcie so vzorcom sloveso + *it* + spojka *that*. K získaniu prvých 200 výskytov skúmanej konštrukcie bolo potrebné manuálne analyzovať 487 konkordančných riadkov, pričom nevhodné príklady typu *Speelman had to give up his queen to avoid being mated, but by that time he had so many pieces for it that he was still able to draw comfortably* (A30 709) boli odstránené a príklady, kde spojka *that* uvádza vedľajšiu vetu obsahovú boli uložené, napr. *I think of him as an artist who writes history, and I take it that the history he writes includes the history he has principally suffered — that of Poland* (A05 841). Súbor všetkých 200 dokladov je priložený v prílohe ako „Appendix 1 - The first 200 excerpts“ a citácie sú označené príslušným kódom a číslom.

Keďže sa ukázalo, že táto databáza obsahuje relatívne malý počet slovesných typov (menovite *have, see to, take, love, assure, contrive, covet, depend on, make,*

⁶² Cf. LGSWE, 1999: 676

know) a takáto vzorka by nebola postačujúca na adekvátnu analýzu vzhľadom na ciele práce, bolo potrebné vykonať ďalšie vyhľadávania s inými parametrami. Po preskúmaní slovesných kolokácií z pozície ľavého kontextu kľúčového slova, v tomto prípade spojky *that*, vrátane toho že zahrnuté boli aj príklady s predložkovým spojením, ako napr. *I should have allowed for it that he was no ordinary man, and could move like a thunderstorm when he willed* (K8S 1884), bola vytvorená databáza o počte 422 príkladov, kde je anticipačné *it* v predmete realizované vedľajšou obsahovou vetou oznamovacou (teda vzorec s konštrukciou *V it that*).

Podobným spôsobom boli vytvorené databázy výskytov anticipačného *it* doplneného vedľajšou vetou obsahovou opytovacou (*wh*-clause) uvedenou spojkami *when* (vzorec s konštrukciou *V it when*) a *if* alebo *whether* (vzorec s konštrukciou *V it if*). Ako príklad môžeme uviesť tieto vety: '*But I like it when boys whistle at me,' she continued* (CDM 2764), *I like it if they're independent to some degree* (HAE 4277).

Databázu *V it when* tvorí 244 príkladov a *V it if* 170, pričom celkový počet výskytov skúmanej konštrukcie je 836. Táto databáza bola predmetom detailného skúmania vzhľadom na ciele práce a o výsledkoch pozorovaní pojednáva štvrtá kapitola.

Analýza prvých 200 výskytov anticipačného *it* v postpozícii realizovaného vedľajšou vetou „*that*-clause“ ukázala, že 95.5% príkladov z celkového počtu tvoria tri typy sloves, a síce *have*, *see to* a *take*, pričom *have* je najfrekvencovanejšie so zastúpením 55.5%, *see to* 29% a *take* 11%. Všetky tri slovesá môžu byť považované za ustálené spojenia (*have it* a *take it* sú idiomy a *see to* je frázoové sloveso), aj keď je potrebné zdôrazniť, že konštrukcie so slovesami *see to* a *take* nedosahujú takú mieru idiomatičnosti ako *have it*.

Lexikálna jednotka *have it* je charakteristická tým, že sloveso *have* sa v tejto konštrukcii spravidla vyskytuje v 3. osobe jednotného čísla a navyše kolokačné možnosti vľavo od slova sú značne obmedzené na niekoľko opakujúcich sa podstatných mien. Najbežnejšími substantívami vo funkcii podmetu sú *rumour*, *legend* a *tradition*, napr. *Rumour has it that Bonaparte has panicked and ordered*

the retreat (B20 2494). Na základe ustálenosti týchto výrazov by sa dalo predpokladať, že sa budú pravdepodobne častejšie vyskytovať s anticipačným *it* ako bez neho. Po overení možnosti výskytu týchto sloviess s doplnením s „*that*-*clause*“ bez zámene *it* môžeme tvrdiť, že slovesá *have*, *see to* a *take* vyžadujú v prípade doplnenia vedľajšou obsahovou vetou v postpozícii anticipačné *it*.

V práci sme sa hlavne zamerali na databázu všetkých 836 prípadov, teda vety s *it that*, *it when* a *it if/whether*. Celkové výsledky ukázali, že v korpuse BNC bolo identifikovaných 61 typov sloviess, ktoré sa vyskytujú so zámenom *it* a vedľajšou obsahovou vetou v postpozícii (s „*that*-*clause*“ alebo „*wh*-*clause*“). Osem z týchto sloviess sa nachádza vo väzbe s predložkovým predmetom, menovite *allow for*, *depend on*, *get over*, *look on*, *object to*, *reflect upon*, *think of* a *vouch for*, zatiaľ čo ostatné slovesa majú doplnenie priamym predmetom.

Najfrekvencovanejšie slovesá v rámci celej databázi sú *appreciate*, *bear*, *believe*, *hate*, *help*, *like*, *love*, *mean* a *prefer*, pričom každé z nich má viaž než 10 výskytov. Čo sa týka ďalších idiomatických výrazov, vyskytli sa ešte *help it* (21 výskytov) a *leave it* (3), čo znamená, že v korpuse BNC bolo dohromady nájdených 5 idiomatických výrazov nachádzajúcich sa v konštrukcii s anticipačným *it*.

V kapitole 3.2 je uvedený predpoklad, že anticipačné *it* má tendenciu vykytovať sa so slovesami určitej sémantickej skupiny, pravdepodobne sloviess prezentujúcich tvrdenie ako fakt, a sloviess vyjadrujúcich emócie. Po klasifikovaní 61 sloviess do sémantických tried, môžeme tvrdiť, že daný predpoklad sa potvrdil. Okrem malej skupiny 8 sloviess, tvoriacich len zlomok všetkých výskytov (4,2%), ktoré nebolo možné zaradiť do žiadnej sémantickej skupiny, môžeme prezentovať nasledovnú klasifikáciu, viz. Tabuľka 15.

Tabuľka 15 Sémantické triedy sloviess v konštrukcii s *it that, it when a it whether/if*

	slovesné typy	výskyt
	Σ	Σ
<i>obecné</i>	9	173
<i>privátne</i>	22	183
<i>emotívne</i>	15	301
<i>persuazívne</i>	7	144
iné	8	35
SPOLU	61	836

Podľa počtu dokladov je najfrekventovanejšia trieda emotívnych sloviess predstavujúca 36% z celkového počtu a zastupuje ju 15 slovesných typov. Po nej nasleduje skupina privátnych (21,9%), obecných (20,7%) a persuazívnych sloviess (17,2%). Najpočetnejšie emotívne slovesá sú *like* a *hate*, spoločne tvoria 21,2% všetkých výskytov, pričom triedy privátnych a obecných sloviess majú väčšinové zastúpenie v jedinom slovese, a to *take* a *hate* v tomto poradí.

Naviac, u emotívnych sloviess sa preukazuje tendencia vyskytovať sa s podmetom v nadradenej vete vyjadreným osobným zámenom v 1.osobe jednotného čísla (*I*), a zároveň podmetom vo vete vedľajšej vyjadreným zámenami *you, he* alebo *she* (v tomto poradí početnosti), napr. '*I love it that you've asked me – it's bothering me that I've got this report by Monday.*' (CEF 764). Tieto zistenia môžu implikovať, že zámeno *it* v postavení predmetu v postpozícii sa často vyskytuje vo vetách, v ktorých účastník diskurzu hovorí o tom čo má alebo nemá rád/rada, vyjadruje svoje pocity, postoje alebo emocionálne reakcie na reálne či hypotetické situácie.

To znamená, že výpoveď vyjadrená vo vedľajšej vete už musí byť prítomná v myšli účastníka diskurzu, prípadne je súčasťou tzv. „vzájomnej znalosti faktu“ medzi aktuálnym rečníkom a poslucháčom. Týmto je splnený predpoklad tzv. faktívnosti, ktorá spravidla funguje ako činiteľ ovplyvňujúci prípustnosť použitia anticipačného *it* predchádzajúceho vedľajšej vete obsahovej.

Pri snahe vymedziť podmienky, pri ktorých monotranzitívne sloveso pripúšťa či naopak nepripúšťa doplnenie s anticipačným *it* a následne vedľajšími vetami typu „*that-clause*” alebo „*wh-clause*”, sa nepreukázali výrazné tendencie, ktoré by

mohli prispieť k uspokojivému záveru. Dôkladné preskúmanie dokladov s anticipačným *it* a bez neho, ktoré prekračovalo možnosti a účel tejto práce, by sa mohlo stať predmetom ďalšieho výskumu.

Na základe vyššie uvedeného však môžeme konštatovať, že okrem idiomatických výrazov ako *have it, (cannot) help it, see to it, take it*, sa v konštrukcii s anticipačným *it* najčastejšie vyskytujú emotívne slovesá, najmä *(cannot) bear, hate, like* a *love*, ktoré sa v prípade doplnenia vedľajšou vetou obsahovou takmer vôbec nevyskytujú bez zámena *it*.

Na záver je potrebné zdôrazniť, že predkladaná práca prezentuje systematickú identifikáciu a klasifikáciu skúmaného javu, a zároveň predkladá určité tendencie, ktoré sprevádzajú prijateľnosť anticipačného *it* vo funkcii predmetu monotranzitívneho slovesa, ktorý je realizovaný vedľajšou vetou obsahovou.

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Appendices

Appendix 1: The first 200 excerpts

citation code and number	citation
A05 841	I think of him as an artist who writes history, and I take it that the history he writes includes the history he has principally suffered — that of Poland.
A07 1294	Eventually the Irish party was forced to return to Westminster to see to it that the appropriate denominational interests in England were strengthened and to show the Irish political leadership's compliance with the similarly organized Irish system (Miller 1973: 77–85).
A07 1389	Bishop Edward Daly in Derry liberally interpreted the needs of his Roman catholic pupils from the mid-1970s, allowing greater freedom and seeing to it that some alternative religious education was provided.
A0P 1390	Professor Dudek had envisaged the series coming out in paper covers (the format that was just becoming the way to the mass market); Leonard ensured that it went into hard; Dudek had not meant the books to be prestigious in format but vehicles of introduction; Leonard saw to it that his book could stand alongside the best that there were from both sides of the Atlantic.
A0T 298	Evolution must surely have seen to it that a good proportion of our thoughts are true of the world, and so in some simple sense the mind must perform computations which record the world and direct our behaviour appropriately.
A26 23	Legend has it that Rawlins remembered the lot although yesterday he confessed he might have forgotten one.
A27 357	Security and my creature comforts were cared for by a dry-cleaners on the street level; a cafe on the first floor that would send me up something on a tray when I came home late and tired; a retired beautician on the second floor who would revive me with an evening 'facial'; while the grocer round the corner saw to it that my larder was replenished for my homecomings.
A39 57	It is also much easier to create a market situation which will see to it that the value goes up.'
A6B 88	Moody thinks that 'the final stanza may allude to a variant of Ariadne's tale, which has it that she did not die of a broken heart but was loved by Bacchus'.
A6E 337	Bernie would always have it that he had known Malcolm since he was a mod in the sixties hanging out at — among other places — Eel Pie Island, where The Who and The Stones used to play.
A6E 1060	Now luck would have it that my drawing was spot on for a guy who drank in The Roebuck.
A89 207	ACHINESE proverb has it that if you want to be happy for a week, get married; for a month, kill a pig; for a lifetime, plant a garden.

A8D 43	In the early 1980s, because of her past connection with the military establishment, intellectuals tended to shun her and rumours had it that she worked for the Chinese KGB, the Ministry of State Security.
A9N 5	In an implicit reminder that 380,000 Soviet troops were still stationed on East German soil, he said: 'We firmly declared that we will see to it that no harm comes to the GDR.'
AAP 155	When Eberhard Bethge produced Bonhoeffer's volumes of papers, lectures and letters in a series of Collected Works in German, Hartwell saw to it that I reviewed each volume in The Bridge as soon as it arrived.
AB4 1196	He was a protégé of Sir William Chambers, who saw to it that he worked in every artistic department, including that of interior decoration, before he designed his first house at the age of eighteen.
AB4 1628	'It was a masterpiece of harmony,' wrote Littman, 'which can be attained when men see to it that their handiwork blends with their natural surroundings.'
ABB 739	Legend has it that the mandarin was so grateful to Earl Grey for services rendered that he gave him his secret tea recipe, to keep mind, body and spirit together in perfect harmony.
ABF 487	Almost everyone on yearly wages in the opera houses owes his or her job to party pull and, once hired, the unions see to it that they are not sacked.
ABG 1117	Optimistic leaks had it that the negotiators were making good progress on a statement of 'principles'.
AC7 137	I will see to it that you are not left with Mrs Ross on your hands.
AC7 425	Did she not understand that I would look after her, that I would see to it that she was safe and well?
AC7 881	He had done well that day — almost performed miracles — having located Mrs McLaren's Scottish relations; persuaded a most excellent and locally well-known lady to come at short notice and be in the house to stay with her; and had seen to it that the house itself was tidied, and cleaned ready, and supplied with food.
AC7 944	Again, although I visited her regularly, taking little presents; remembered her birthday and saw to it that her sons did the same; looked after her once when she was ill; and respected my husband's love for her, I did not take much notice of her suggestions: 'My mother seems to think ...
ACN 768	Gossip has it that Madonna has also captured Beatty's heart.
ACN 2635	I take it that they were too realistically magical to exist in the world as we know it.
ADB 1260	Even then, they can lose the post for the most bizarre reasons; Downing Street myth has it that Richard Cobb failed on his first attempt to get the Oxford Chair of Modern History because he wore bicycle clips throughout his interview.
ADS 284	'Then I think you must take it that you do know.'
ADX 1202	Convention has it that the source of parallel rays of light is behind the observer's left shoulder at 45° to the x, y and z axes.
AE9 116	The constable/warden had to see to it that the castle was properly stocked with provisions and munitions of war, and to pay the garrison.

AE9 151	Sometimes the king allowed subjects to take deer for themselves in his forests; the warden's duty was to see to it that they had a proper writ of warranty when they came to his forest, that they did not take more than the specified number, and that they took them in the prescribed manner.
AHA 979	It is little compensation to know that no fewer than six earned themselves the VC; myth has it that they were all won before breakfast.
AHA 1010	While we were among them, they would see to it that we were cherished.
AJY 1115	Legend has it that he used to angle in the Adige river and that when the waters flooded, many years after his death, they were stopped from breaching the walls of his church by prayers to his memory.
AM4 1107	Others have it that Sir Geoffrey missed the crucial part of the meeting because he was playing golf.
AM6 1096	In their extreme forms the 'techniques' school would have it that an actor's performance is detached from his own feelings during performance, that he represents a distillation of what he understands of the character's feelings; the Stanislavkian actor, on the other hand, becomes emotionally involved as he performs his role.
AMW 1110	Legend has it that Rhodes, largest of the Dodecanese islands set in the blue Aegean Sea, was home to the sun god Helios ... and little wonder given this island's mild climate and long sun-drenched summer days.
ANB 144	In the foyer a gambling room operated, legend having it that the young Alessandro Manzoni was discovered there by Vincenzo Monti and beaten so hard by him that he never gambled again.
ANH 1209	Rather, it commands the government to make sure that its actions do not help acceptable ideals more than unacceptable ones, to see to it that its actions will not hinder the cause of false ideals more than they do that of true ones.
ANK 321	One school of thought has it that William received his regular thrashing for untidy work and was then locked up in a tiny room to rewrite it.
ANL 2943	'I take it that you are George Tenison,' Bragg said.
ANL 3016	I take it that they are still undisturbed.'
AP0 316	Rumour had it that if you went to a Norman Mailer party, you'd see people smoking marijuana, covertly passing around a joint behind the bushes at the bottom of the garden.
APC 855	Rumour, the Reuters of Peru, had it that they were all fighting terrorists.
APW 3452	I'm going to see to it that my sending-off is as I want it.
AR2 44	He loved it that we had christened him and he knew that he was special to us.
AR3 731	A great deal of nonsense has been spoken and written in recent years concerning his lordship and the prominent role he came to play in great affairs, and some utterly ignorant reports have had it that he was motivated by egotism or else arrogance.
ARR 773	Some brilliant goals from both sides had seen to it that the score was 2-all by the eightieth minute of the match.

ARR 1560	But how can natural selection see to it that the two pathways are not mixed, and that cooperating groups of compatible genes emerge?
AS5 89	Towers had a fascination for Hardy, and having designed many in his professional days which were never built, he saw to it that Max Gate had not one, but two.
ASB 725	One view has it that they are the trusted preservers of law and order, men and women who do a difficult job very well and who deserve to be respected and admired throughout the communities which they protect.
ASD 2704	He must seek the advice of the wisest money-brokers and buy a pension scheme if he be self-employed; he must see to it that he does not over-extend himself on the mortgage front; he must run a motor car that doesn't drink petrol like tapwater and won't break him every time it needs a service from a franchised dealer; above all, he must abstain from vicious pleasures — or if he needs must indulge, then he must do so only in moderation.
ASK 73	Traditional wisdom has it that there are two sexes.
ASK 108	It could well and easily be replaced by a doctrine which has it that the surgeon's act carries liability only if good faith and due care and skill can be shown to be lacking.
ASK 152	What possible sense can there be in a legal rule, for example, which has it that a woman is presumed fertile even though she is past menopause or has undergone a hysterectomy operation?
ASN 1547	The portiere barked some instructions at the boy and made Sandison to understand that Aldo would see to it that the letter got posted.
ASW 388	Legend has it that it was here that Yusuf met his death beneath the hooves of his enemies, steeds; here also that El Cid received a fatal wound.
ASW 574	But the day when I first beheld this city I was well pleased therewith, and coveted it that I might be its Lord; and I besought the Lord our God that he would give it me.
ASY 327	Lord Joseph (as Secretary of State, Sir Keith) saw to it that there should be more parents on the governing bodies of schools; and since then they have been more and more frequently invoked.
BOA 479	Burton-on-Trent is one of the chief centres of the brewing industry, and legend has it that the origin of its pre-eminence was the discovery by a medieval monk that water pumped from the local sandstone after seeping through deposits of gypsum gave beer an excellent flavour.
BOL 672	In addition, he saw to it that the players had decent changing-rooms, and 'expert and scientific training methods' to 'preserve and lengthen their careers' (Examiner).
B11 1031	Rumour had it that although he made his home in an unoccupied derelict house near the CPR docks, he was really very wealthy, having buried his family fortune long ago and quite forgotten where he had left it.
B19 268	Rumour had it that my father and mother met in a Methodist Chapel where both were in the choir.
B1P 179	In the village in which the author currently lives there is now no cricket team, but rumour had it that there once was.

B1X 3078	So you'd better see to it that Luke and Sonny don't go often to the village.
B1Y 369	The family folklore has it that when delirious I had said, 'A big black dog sat on the bed and said, 'Can I help you?'
B20 2494	Rumour has it that Bonaparte has panicked and ordered the retreat.
B2F 5	The alternative argument has it that since people and situations differ you are better equipped to deal with them if you have a wide repertoire of behaviours to draw on.
B2P 1654	In his account of the rumours surrounding Constantius will, Ammianus points out that the gossip had it that Julian had been instituted heir and friends had been left legacies and trusts.
B2S 612	Rumour later had it that they were sunk en route .
B77 102	Rumour has it that Spain, off whose coast Britain dumps nuclear waste each summer, may support a ban as well.
B77 631	Today's myth has it that the Davy miner's lamp brought safety to Britain's coal pits.
B7G 2398	Environment is the soil and water that permits it to sprout and grow, or sees to it that it doesn't.
B7H 2038	An article in the issue of 10 February entitled 'Why the safety lamp increased accidents' (p 352) is headed 'Today's myth has it that the Davy miner's lamp brought safety to Britain's coal pits.
B7J 1347	'You've been seen around London lately with both John D. Hansom and Roderick Luckey, and rumour has it that both men want to marry you.
B7K 1801	Since then, scurrilous rumours have had it that no proceedings were to be published.
B7N 1683	(Rumour has it that a diet of Scottish scones and cookies can alleviate some of the effects of lead.
BM9 44	However, popular legend has it that Andrew Patterson, then Headmaster at the Manchester Schools for the Deaf at Old Trafford, was perturbed to counter on several occasions a group of ex-pupils gathered around a certain gas-lamp in the city — the gas-lamp being a popular meeting place of local deaf people (this was the subject of a Victorian drama as well.)
BMN 907	Rumour has it that he has taken up residence in the port of Leith, near enough to Edinburgh but, should matters go wrong, the best place for his departure by land or sea.
BMU 1790	I take it that you are one of our new neighbours, from Sunset Cottage?
BMW 1223	Dammit, he deserved to be reported to whatever professional body insurance investigators belonged to and if he upset her father she'd see to it that he was.
BNC 1897	'God bless ye, Rubberneck,' a voice cried out, and, at that, at least, he knew it that they were not mad at him.
BNJ 670	A persistent tradition has it that ancestors of America's second presidential family, the Adams, originally came from the village of FLORE.
BP7 202	Racecourse rumour, as reported by Annie, had it that there had been a big gamble on Pendero, that a professional gambler stood to gain a

	fortune if he won.
BPC 1622	Built by William the Conqueror in thanks for his victory over King Harold — legend has it that the high altar marks spot where Harold died from an arrow through his eye.
BPJ 811	Tim Littler has seen to it that guests will sample some of the great wines of the world with their dinner.
BPK 991	Tradition has it that the infliction was brought to the village in a parcel of clothing sent to a local family, the Beevers, one of whose members had died from the plague in London.
C87 1880	Legend has it that the guy who invented chess did so as a favour for his king.
C8A 2286	Legend has it that the bridge got its name from the plaintive cries of the prisoners as they were escorted across it.
C93 1225	Legend has it that Mother Shipton of Knaresborough, 1488–1561, whose real name was Ursula Sonthell, lived in Shiptonthorpe during some period in her life.
C98 349	Tradition had it that if the corn-dolly reached the following year's harvest intact, it augured well for the farm in the year to come.
C9K 2330	So we can take it that Mick is none too keen on an open door policy at 10 Records?
C9L 2277	Rumour has it that The High had all been living separate musical lives — Andy in particular having just split with the Stone Roses — when they met in Manchester's Hacienda club, and decided to put a new band together ...
C9M 1980	In other words, a bit of a mess, and rumour has it that the thing was virtually unplayable.
C9N 493	Yes, it's pricey, but it is still a fairly exclusive instrument (though rumour has it that the Japanese will be issuing their '51 Reissue some time in the future).
CA5 1601	Assure it that you now have other ways of handling life, or new beliefs, that it can now help you in some other way.
CA7 269	Legend has it that it was once fired on by a warship because it failed to reply to a signal!
CA7 1728	Somewhere in the middle of the fifteenth century, legend has it that a little girl was tending sheep here when a young lady came to play with her.
CA9 1127	His 'Caesar' hair-cut was brilliantined into kiss-curls framing a face that had nasty carved all over it, and rumour had it that people who crossed him were never seen again.
CAC 694	Country folklore has it that dobies were actually the sad little GHOSTS of unwanted or plain women, who would fumble around the house trying to be useful until their spirits had been exorcised.
CAC 875	Legend has it that ZEUS granted the boy immortality on condition that he remain forever slumbering.
CAC 993	Tradition has it that the first fenoderee was actually a handsome prince from the proud fairy tribe of the Ferrishyn.

CAC 1416	Local lore has it that the hands belong to a convicted highwayman who would hold up carriage-travellers in the early nineteenth century.
CAC 1576	Tradition has it that he was one of King Henry VIII's forest wardens.
CAC 1871	Another tradition has it that the knockers are afraid of the sign of the cross, an idea which probably stems from the legend which says that knockers are the GHOSTS of the Jews who took part in the crucifixion of Jesus and were punished by being sent to work in the mines.
CAC 2002	Some accounts have it that the Leviathan was actually the mate of the land beast BEHEMOTH.
CAU 1204	Flying over Spirit Bay near there, where the Tasman Sea meets the Pacific Ocean, and where Maori tradition has it that the spirits of the dead depart New Zealand for their Polynesian resting place, was a haunting experience.
CAU 1226	Maori tradition has it that these words were spoken by chief Ngatoroirangi when he first arrived in New Zealand from Polynesia in the great Arawa canoe: I arrive where unknown earth is under my feet; I arrive where a new sky is above me .
CB2 1555	Western Province are in the same boat, and rumour has it that the little general, Dawie Snyman, will replace Hannie Bekker this season.
CB3 1064	But rumour has it that a sevens tournament is going to be organised in Moscow in September to decide who takes over the Soviet place: Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Latvia or Kazakhstan.
CB5 2262	'But see to it that you don't go too far, and try always to be in the house when you think you might be needed.'
CB9 232	Legend has it that the 'eyes' or 'spectacles' on the rear of the Cobra's hood were given to it by Guatama the Buddha as protection against the attacks of Garuda the Eagle, arch enemy of the Cobras.
CBN 327	Rumour has it that he contracted a venereal disease at some point and sought medical treatment.
CBT 864	Legend has it that Nigel Rudd was watching Magic Roundabout with his four year old son when he finally decided that the recession was too good an opportunity to miss.
CBT 1043	Legend has it that Nigel Rudd was watching Magic Roundabout with his four year old son when he finally decided that the recession was too good an opportunity to miss
CCB 1256	Report has it that they have now virtually committed racial suicide, declining to accept the deplorable standards of modern literature and paper.
CCK 266	Many of the grisliest stories about Nicu's alleged brutal debauchery were attached to the gymnast, Nadia Comanecj, whom rumour had it that he claimed was 'state property' and that he even ripped out her nails for refusing his attentions.
CCK 623	Unfortunately, the students of Paris saw to it that the French President had to beat an undignified and premature retreat from Bucharest.
CCR 553	Let them see to it that their power is used effectively in the coming elections for the establishment of a bona-fide working-class party, and above all let them beware of the intriguing politics and hypocritical

	middle class friends of Germany.
CCR 1245	The Municipal Alliance does not believe in doles, and if their candidates were returned they would do their best to stop this out-going of public funds and try to see to it that schemes of relief were brought forward under the plans which the Minister of Labour had outlined.
CD2 873	I told her ladyship and she saw to it that he was got rid of.
CD2 1231	'Please see to it that Miss Asshe receives my note,' he told the man, who sniffed.
CDE 534	Surely it must be something else, something basic, inherent in a person's character or, rather, most people's characters, which saw to it that the world went round.
CDG 1721	After only a week of filming his third American film, Kidnapped , in 1937, he was fired by Darryl F Zanuck after an argument, and Zanuck saw to it that Preminger was virtually blacklisted.
CDM 1878	'I'll see to it that Polly don't get into any debt again, don't you worry.'
CDR 1931	One acne theory has it that an enzyme deficiency permits testosterone (the male sex hormone present in both men and women) to run riot, allowing it to be converted within the skin into a by-product called dihydrotestosterone (DHT) which over-stimulates the sebaceous glands.
CDS 1186	Exasperated with all this pussy-footing, and knowing of Mountbatten's wishes that what he had said should be known, I saw to it that a transcript of the Suez programme reached my friend Bernard Levin at The Times , and he published the core of it in two long articles.
CDU 510	Certain governments established their own papers and then saw to it that any opposition papers were starved of the advertising they needed in order to stay in business.
CE6 248	Rumour has it that episodes of Coronation St. are to be shown in Russia ...
CE7 568	Let us lay down our terms, make our own proclamations, establish our own diplomacy, see to it that we have our own international meetings.
CEC 3180	I take it that you have not yet received a demand?'
CEE 165	Popular mythology among mothers has it that the first child is always the most 'difficult', and it is easy to see why this should be so.
CEF 739	Try 'I'm pleased that the office manning problem is on next week's agenda — I'm worried that it needs more urgent attention' or 'I love it that you've asked me to go away — it's bothering me that I've got to do this report by Monday.'
CEF 764	(a) 'I love it that you've asked me — it's bothering me that I've got to do this report by Monday.'
CFY 29	He looked upwards now at the bunting stretched across the girders of the platform, then said, 'With a little imagination you know I could dismiss the Coronation and take it that this show of affection was all for my being twenty-one today.
CGB 577	Groan — rumour has it that the stars of art porn slick The Lover (Tony Leung Jane March) 'weren't faking it' in their love scenes (yeah, yeah).

CGF 480	Since people's self-assessments tend to reflect the way they wish they spoke, Trudgill took it that women wished to identify themselves with a higher social class, and thus that their status aspirations were higher than men's (with male informants he found the opposite tendency, which will be discussed later on).
CH4 2300	I shall personally see to it that you are put away in a place where not even the crows can land their droppings on you!
CH9 492	And every night, before Swan arrived, he saw to it that the curtains were drawn back and the window was open wide so that the great white bird could come gliding right into the room and land on the floor beside his bed.
CHC 966	In tentatively proposing such a theory I take it that any acceptable political or moral theory must be capable of satisfying the following demands.
CHK 1719	Legend has it that a real giant terrorised the locals.
CJF 1626	I take it that Barbara was your mistress when you first introduced her to Hugo and that she remained your mistress after Hugo was killed and she married Paul.'
CK2 804	One theory has it that the island was long ago to the west of its present position and that its north-south axis then lay in a more north-easterly direction.
CK2 1520	Natural selection saw to it that these were the ones to survive so that in time the orang became substantially smaller.
CK5 594	Rumour has it that 'Cope', brilliant as it is, might not end up on the Aunts' album, such is the 'glut' of material available.
CK9 510	And that morning's takings had trebled and brought her new custom, for he had always seen to it that he was shod well and had good small clothes and shirts.
CK9 848	But when you keep the big names supplied with a particular kind of amusement you can always depend on it that the police are found to be in the wrong, or that they are framing an innocent man, or that the children in question are his nieces.
CKC 961	'I take it that you, sir, are Mr Andropulos, the owner.'
CKC 1110	'I make it that he knows something that we don't.'
CKC 1846	Incidentally, mythology has it that there was an even bigger eruption about 2500 BC.
CKF 1135	Unless, of course, they had not wanted him to know, and had seen to it that he had no address for them.
CKF 1424	'So I take it that you're just here for a holiday, on your own, Miss Fenemore?'
CKF 1837	Do I take it that I'm invited, Mistress Fenemore?'
CKW 898	One version has it that this Byzantine princess caused a collection of manuscripts to be brought to Moscow that was so splendid as to leave sixteenth-century eyewitnesses dumbfounded.

CL2 821	He took two steps which brought him into contact with me: he joined the ATC Squadron, and he saw to it that he did Fire-Watch duty on my nights.
CL2 849	I promised that his further education would be no burden to them, and that after the war, I would see to it that he received a free college education, which should not be denied him, but all I got was 'You take 'im, Mr Burton, you take 'im.'
CLD 1374	But the Colonel had seen to it that his name did not go forward for promotion.
CLX 1339	Legend has it that the flowers turned red, with the shape of a cross in the centre, when they sprang up after a battle.
CM1 757	Indeed, legend has it that she was one of its founding members and was its High Priestess.
CMA 518	One popular hypothesis has it that variations in rates of sea-floor spreading are the controlling factor (Hays & Pitman, 1973).
CME 697	Legend has it that the green of the water comes from the fairies washing their clothes in the lochan!
CMK 469	Conventional wisdom has it that any significant expenditure on your home is best undertaken several years prior to retirement.
CR9 2554	LEGEND has it that when Benito Mussolini took control of Italy's savings banks by decree in 1938, it was to settle a dispute with a local fascist leader over who should be the boss of Cassa di Risparmio di Venezia.
CRC 2896	Rumour has it that most of them are unhedged at these levels: they did not expect the currency to rise this far.
CRK 208	Theory now has it that Councils are convoked by popes: the early ones certainly were not.
CRK 1034	Having found your precious pearl, see to it that your soul is clad in a new personality (Notizario , 12, pp. 99–100).
CS2 159	(Let us take it that he is right in this.)
CSX 123	Word has it that an unlikely combination of forces have come together in a bid to establish a new standard for installing Unix software from graphical user interfaces and will be showing their stuff next month's Uniforum show in San Francisco.
CT8 228	Gossip has it that NT has slipped from summer to winter 1992 and now again to sometime in the first half of 1993.
CTC 251	Speculation has it that Auspex has its eyes on its current distributor, Thame Microsystems, as the basis of its UK operation, although Thame's owner Memec is still likely to retain a stake.
CTC 384	Stateside gossip has it that Hitachi Ltd will announce a 'Unix mainframe' within the next 30 days: possibilities are either OSF/1 on its existing M-series mainframes, or the first fruits of its efforts with Hewlett-Packard Co's Precision Architecture RISC, which is said to be a RISC-based Unix co-processor for the IBM-compatible mainframes.
CTL 328	Although stateside gossip recently had it that Hitachi Ltd would soon be ready with Unix on its mainframes (UX No 384), latest rumours suggest that BASF's Comparex Informationssysteme GmbH — a European OEM for Hitachi Data Systems' IBM-compatible mainframes — is tired of waiting, and may be close to signing a deal with IBM for its already proven AIX/ESA

	2.1 mainframe version of Unix, which is an implementation of OSF/1.
CU1 1709	Had the man who wrote the foreword been at No. 10 in those days he would doubtless have seen to it that this cricketer who displayed such honourable patriotism and high personal standards was given some decoration or other.
E9V 132	Later sources had it that the king was murdered: Geoffrey le Baker, writing thirty years after the event, provides the vivid details of the brutal and degrading way in which he is supposed to have met his death, but Dr Cuttino and Dr Lyman have recently suggested that the story of his escape to Ireland and then via France to Cologne where he ended up as a hermit may not be wholly imaginary.
E9V 949	Rumour had it that Gaunt had poisoned his sister-in-law in order to gain possession of the whole of the inheritance.
EA5 2448	Rumour 'as it that Maitland only went ter the fights ter get all the evidence 'e could.
EB6 326	But beware — the Black Night's ghoulish cohorts are everywhere, and rumour has it that they've been dabbling in the dark arts ...
EBE 40	Rumour had it that this was carried out by national security forces 'in the interests of public peace and harmony'.
EBR 280	Popular idiom has it that the four themes are very imperfectly combined in the family: 'children ruin a marriage', 'sex and family life simply don't go together', and so forth.
EBS 235	One account has it that Rothenstein laid out Cooper accidentally with his head as he straightened up; the other, that Rothenstein actually slogged him back.
EBV 714	Tretyakov Director Yuriy Korolev confirmed the idea of construction with him, and now Yeltsin has effectively seen to it that the project is carried out.
ECF 631	The attentive owners, the Cinque family, see to it that their visitors never foresake modern comforts.
ECF 2349	Originally a Roman colony, legend has it that it takes its name from the first lord of its castle Rufus, Marquis of Obertenghi, who had thick red hair, or, perhaps more romantically, that it is named after the sunset hues which turn the mountain here from a gentle rose to red each evening.
ECF 5245	Legend has it that the lake was formed by the tears of a love torn nymph, and at the end of a luminous day, when the sun turns everything to delicate hues, even the sceptical are ready to admit they have seen the Trasimeno nymph — adding to the water level with a few tears more.
ECT 532	So when Esquire ask for their 2,000 words next month about the connection between the Croatian Winter Olympics team uniform and Public Enemy, or the brutal point of Michael Barrymore, I can somehow contrive it that I end up writing about how it feels waiting for Maddy's first smile, about the wonder of her 35th day, about her growing up and me growing up.

ED9 2338	A sinister rumour from Japan has it that the yakuza, the indigenous mafia, have joined the game, lending money at usurious rates to art speculators and taking the painting as collateral.
EDU 539	Orientalising wisdom has it that the rural masses know nothing about politics and are satisfied with the new commodity economy generated by the privatisation of land.
EEC 242	Provided a Minister can maintain an effective performance in the House, the Whips see to it that he will get his way.
EEW 913	Immediately there was a loud laugh of relief from the guests, who at once took it that the child had come to terms with her charges' ultimate fate.
EF1 235	If anything happens to him then I'll see to it that you're held personally responsible.'
EF4 80	We may take it that the utilitarian in him could accept with Ricardo's labour theory of value his hostility to landlords, who might be regarded as unproductive and bone-idle, and share with him a reluctance to extend that hostility to master-manufacturers.
EFU 1816	The housewives and small restaurateurs who rely upon the professional skill of charcutiers and pâtissiers for a part of their supplies see to it that the pâtés and sausages, the little salads for hors-d'oeuvre, the galantines and terrines and fish quenelles, the hams and tongues and pies, pastries and fruit flans, the petits fours and the croissants maintain high standards of freshness and excellence, and that any popular regional speciality of the district continues to be cooked with the right and proper traditional ingredients, even if the methods have been speeded up by the introduction of modern machinery.
EGO 856	Legend has it that the "great unwashed" don't put coal in the bath any more, they burn the doors and gates for fuel.
EVX 256	What do we believe if on a certain occasion we have taken it that there exist conditions of exactly the ten types, including a flipping, but the wipers do not start?
EVX 308	We regularly take it that a causal circumstance is linked by way of a causal chain or sequence to its effect.
EVX 595	Finally, we take it that effects depend on the causal items, and that the latter do not in this way depend on the former.
EVX 599	We do indeed have it that a causal circumstance necessitated its effect.
EVX 601	We also have it that effects do no more than dependently necessitate their causal circumstances.
EVX 1524	(Quinton, 1973, pp. 46–53) More precisely, with respect to the spatiality, since we wish to exclude points, lines, and two-dimensional surfaces, we shall take it that the physical occupies a continuous three-dimensional region of space-that it is voluminous or geometrically solid.
EWB 587	Legend has it that Oliver Cromwell on his way to lay siege to Middleton Hall during the Civil War found the old packhorse bridge too narrow for his cannons and wagons and so had the bridge widened.

Appendix 2: Distribution of verb types occurring with anticipatory *it*

verb type	no. of occurrences per pattern		
	<i>it that</i>	<i>it when</i>	<i>it if/whether</i>
<i>admire</i>		1	
<i>admit</i>		3	
<i>allow for</i>	1		
<i>appreciate</i>		2	23
<i>arrange</i>		1	
<i>assume</i>	1		
<i>assure</i>	1		
<i>bear</i>	4	7	15
<i>believe</i>	1	29	2
<i>calculate</i>	1		
<i>contrive</i>	1		
<i>covet</i>	1		
<i>credit</i>		1	
<i>deem</i>	1		
<i>depend on</i>	1		
<i>dislike</i>		2	
<i>doubt</i>			2
<i>enjoy</i>		4	
<i>face</i>			1
<i>fancy</i>			1
<i>forbid</i>			1
<i>get</i>	1		
<i>get over</i>	1		
<i>handle</i>			1
<i>hate</i>		57	11
<i>have</i>	163		
<i>help</i>			21
<i>imagine</i>			1
<i>know</i>	1		1
<i>leave</i>	3		
<i>like</i>		77	38
<i>loathe</i>		1	
<i>look on</i>	1		
<i>love</i>	3	28	6
<i>make</i>	6		
<i>mean</i>		15	
<i>mind</i>			1
<i>miss</i>		1	

<i>object to</i>	1		
<i>overstate</i>		1	
<i>play</i>	1		
<i>plug</i>	1		
<i>prefer</i>			26
<i>read</i>	2		
<i>recognise</i>	1		2
<i>record</i>		1	
<i>reflect upon</i>	1		
<i>regret</i>			9
<i>resent</i>		2	
<i>say</i>	1		
<i>see</i>	1	2	
<i>see to</i>	1		
<i>stand</i>		4	4
<i>take</i>	100	3	2
<i>tape</i>		1	
<i>think</i>	3		
<i>think of</i>	1		
<i>understand</i>	1	1	2
<i>vouch for</i>	1		
<i>will</i>	1		
<i>word</i>	1		