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**Denotáty adjektiv částečně konvertovaných v substantiva**

**Denotation of adjectives partly converted into nouns**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The present thesis analyses adjectives partly converted into nouns and their different types of denotata. Due to the fact that conversion is a type of word-formation which raises various questions, one of the tasks of this thesis is to present the different approaches of scholars to this linguistic phenomenon. In the practical part the aim is to compare their findings with the excerpted examples of adjectives partly converted into nouns from the BNC. This empirical part is based on the analysis of 167 tokens out of which there are 100 different types of adjectives. The excerpted tokens are grouped into classes according to their denotata into Type (a) denoting groups of people or animals, Type (b) denoting nationalities, Type (c) denoting abstract concepts and Type (d) denoting individual people. Each of these groups is separately analysed from the morphological and then from the semantic perspective and a comparison among these four groups is made.

## **ABSTRAKT**

Tato bakalářská práce se zabývá částečnou konverzí adjektiv v substantiva a jejich denotáty. Jelikož je konverze tématem pojímaným v anglických gramatikách různým způsobem, je jedním z úkolů práce shrnout problematiku tohoto lingvistického fenoménu. Dalším cílem, který si práce klade, je porovnání skutečného užití částečně konvertovaných adjektiv v substantiva v BNC s jejich popisy v předních anglických gramatikách. Praktická část je založena na 167 příkladech, z nichž 100 představuje různé druhy adjektiv. Na základě druhu denotátu jsou excerpované příklady zařazeny do jedné z těchto čtyř následujících skupin: Typ (a) označující skupiny lidí a zvířat, Typ (b) denotující národnosti, Typ (c) odkazující na abstraktní pojmy a Typ (d) popisující jednotlivé osoby. Každá z těchto skupin je samostatně analyzována z morfologického a sémantického hlediska a následně jsou skupiny porovnávány mezi sebou.

## **Abbreviations:**

AC - partly converted adjectives denoting abstract concepts

Adj. - adjective

BNC – The British National Corpus

Ex. – example

Freq. - frequency

G - partly converted adjectives denoting groups of people or animals

IP - partly converted adjectives denoting individual people

N - partly converted adjectives denoting nationalities

No. – number

NP – noun phrase

OED – The Oxford English Dictionary

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# 1. Introduction

The present thesis studies partial conversion of adjectives into nouns and it specially focuses on the different classes of denotata of this type of adjectives. Its aim is to present the different approaches of scholars to this type of word-formation process and to compare their findings with the excerpted examples of adjectives partly converted into nouns from the BNC.

The theoretical part first introduces the process of conversion in general, concentrating on the various questions this type of word-formation raises. The argument whether conversion is a syntactic or a morphological mechanism is discussed as well as the issue of whether conversion is an independent word-formation process or only a type of derivation. The subsequent section of the theoretical part focuses on partial conversion of adjectives into nouns. It especially draws on *Mluvnice Současné Angličtiny na Pozadí Češtiny* (2006) by Dušková et al. and *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English* by Biber et al. (1999) to present the distinction between full and partial conversion of adjectives. Attention is also paid to the unusual treatments of partial conversion of adjectives into nouns presented by *Comprehensive Grammar of English Language* (1985) by Quirk et al., who do not consider this linguistic phenomenon a type of word-formation, and by *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* (2002) by Huddleston and Pullum, who group cases of adjectives partly converted into nouns together with elliptical phrases. The description and the classification of the different types of denotata of partly converted adjectives into nouns is based on Quirk et al.'s grammar (1985) while also presenting the semantic classification of Grygiel's (2003) article 'Back to basics: A cognitive analysis of conversion deadjectival nominalisation in English'.

The practical part is based on the analysis of 167 tokens out of which there are 100 different types of adjectives partly converted into nouns excerpted from the BNC. The analysis consists in grouping the examples into classes according to their denotata into Type (a) denoting groups of people or animals, Type (b) denoting nationalities, Type (c) denoting abstract concepts and Type (d) denoting individual people. These different classes are examined from the morphological and the semantic perspective and a comparison between these four groups is made. These findings are then compared with the information stated in the English grammars and other sources used in this thesis.

## 2. Theory

### 2.1. Definition and terminology of conversion

Conversion is generally regarded as one of the main word-formation mechanisms which contribute to the creation of new words in English. However, unlike for example affixation or compounding, conversion raises various problems and linguists tend to differ in their approaches to this type of word-formation process. This becomes apparent by looking up “conversion” in different English grammars - each of them presents a different definition, classification and terminology of this phenomenon. Other terms for this concept are “functional shift” (Farrell, 2001), “functional conversion”, “zero derivation” (Quirk et al., 1985: 1558), “zero-suffixation” or “transposition” (Plag, 2003: 12).

The definitions of conversion differ according to whether their author considers conversion to be a morphological or syntactic mechanism and also if he or she assumes conversion to be an independent word-formation process or only a subtype of derivation. On the other hand, all English grammars seem to agree that conversion occurs under two conditions: there has to be a change of word class or syntactic position and at the same time no change of form of the newly converted word.

The following definition and example from Quirk et al. (1985: 1558) can be used to demonstrate what conversion means in practice: “Conversion is the derivational process whereby an item is adapted or converted to a new word class without the addition of an affix.” To illustrate this, Quirk et al. take the example of the verb *release* (as in *They released him*) which corresponds to the noun *release* (as in *They ordered his release*). The relationship between these two words is that of conversion because the verb has been changed into a noun without undergoing any formal change.

Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 1640) also define conversion on the basis of comparison with affixation. According to them, the process of conversion creates “a pair of corresponding words belonging to different parts of speech, or primary categories.” Then they add that suffixation very often produces the same effect. They demonstrate this on the following examples:

#### CONVERSION

spy (V) → spy (N)  
arrest (V) → arrest (N)  
humble (Adj) → humble (V)

#### AFFIXATION

kill (V) + er → killer (N)  
manage (V) + ment → management (N)  
marginal (Adj) + ise → marginalise (V)

(Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 1640)

However, their grammar also identifies the main difference between these two types of word-formation. Even though the effect of conversion and affixation are the same, their means of achieving this are different: “A base formed by affixation is always a derivative. Whereas one formed by conversion is of the same type as the source: the noun *spy* is a simple base, the verb *blacklist* is a compound (like the corresponding noun) and the verb *package* is a derivative (again like the noun from which it is formed).” (Huddleston and Pullum, 2003: 1640- 1641). In other words, whereas affixation affects the morphological structure of the new word, conversion does not.

## 2.2. Conversion as a word-formation process in English

According to Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 1640), conversion is to be regarded as one of the word-formation processes because it creates new words: “The noun *attempt*, for example, is a different word from the verb *attempt*: it has different inflectional properties and enters into different inflectional paradigms.” This change and the acquisition of different inflectional properties takes place very frequently in the English lexicon and therefore conversion is “unusually prominent as a word-formation process” (Quirk et al., 1985: 1558). According to Dušková et al. (2006: 24), this is due to the fact that many English words have a neutral form without showing any distinct marking of a certain word class. Therefore, one word (one form) can function both as an adjective and a noun for example.

Bauer (1983: 226) agrees with these statements and considers conversion to be a very productive way of creating new words in English because there do not seem to be any morphological restrictions concerning the types of words which can undergo this process. Bauer suggests that any form (simple words, compounds, derivatives, blendings, acronyms etc.) or word class (noun, adjective, preposition etc.) can be converted and any open word class (i.e. noun, verb, adjective and adverb) can be the product of conversion. From this claim he

concludes that conversion is “a totally free process and any lexeme can undergo conversion into any of the open forms classes as the need arises.” (Bauer, 1983: 226).

Conversion is considered to be a word-formation process not only because a converted word acquires new grammatical or syntactical properties but also because the process of conversion changes its meaning. According to Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 1641), a word can gain a more specific meaning through the process of conversion. They illustrate this using the word *bottle* as follows: “The noun *bottle* is more basic than the verb since the verb means ‘put into a bottle’ rather than the noun meaning ‘container into which something is put when it is bottled’.” Plag (2003: 111) also suggests that converted words have a narrower meaning than the original word and due to the fact that “they cannot be used in as many contexts as their base words”, converted words appear less frequently.

### **2.3. Problematic issues regarding conversion**

This chapter will briefly present the views of different scholars on the two main disputable issues regarding the process of conversion. The first part will consider the question whether conversion shall be regarded as a syntactic or rather a morphological process. The subsequent section will present the opposing views of scholars on the issue whether it is justifiable to identify conversion as zero-derivation.

#### **2.3.1. Conversion: syntactic or morphological?**

So far conversion has been mostly defined and described using morphological terms like “suffix”, “derivation” or “base”. However, as it was already hinted at, some scholars consider conversion to be an entirely syntactic process. Plag (2003: 114-116) considers this issue first by giving arguments for why some grammars assume conversion to be a syntactic mechanism. He claims that scholars who hold such view understand conversion as “the use of a word with a given syntactic category in a syntactic position that it normally does not occupy. And if it appears in such a position, it takes on the properties of those items that usually occupy this position.” (Plag, 2003: 114). He then considers the following examples to illustrate this idea:

- (1) James *watered* the plants every day.
- (2) Jenny *wintered* in Spain.

Plag suggests that it could be argued that the verbs were not converted from nouns by a morphological process but by simply putting the nouns into the position in a sentence which is typically occupied by a verb. Such perspective really seems to make conversion look like a syntactic mechanism rather than a morphological one. Farrell, who is one of the linguists convinced about the syntactic nature of this word-formation process, constructs his argument for the syntactic nature of conversion on the idea that some words in English are “semantically underspecified” (2001: 109). He uses the examples of *kiss* and *hammer* to show that in some words the meaning does not reside only in the lexical items but in the syntactic structure as well. According to Farrell these examples are neither nouns nor verbs and it is the context which determines one of their potential meanings (2001: 113).

Plag (2003), however, argues that this syntactic approach has limitations and demonstrates that the assumption that a syntactic position changes the lexical category information of a word is problematic. He holds the view that, “in order to construct a well-formed English sentence we must know which word is an article, a noun, an auxiliary, a verb etc., so that we can place them in the right order.” (2003: 114). In other words, he stresses the necessity of having a clear category specification of words before they are used in a sentence. Then, in order to prove his point that conversion is a morphological process, Plag discusses the general characteristics of morphological rules which he considers to be idiosyncratic and exceptional as opposed to syntactic rules which are universal and without exceptions. The fact that converted verbs have idiosyncratic meaning and the restrictions that only certain nouns can be converted into verbs (e.g. *to winter* is possible but *to spring* is not used; in addition, nouns ending with suffix *-ness*, *-ity*, *-ation*, *-ment* cannot be converted to verbs) suggests a morphological nature of conversion (Plag, 2003: 115). On the other hand, he recognises that the partial conversion of adjectives into nouns is an exception: “However, the non-idiosyncratic behaviour of adjectives used to refer to collective entities (e.g. *the poor*, *the blind*) can be taken as evidence for the syntactic nature of this special type of conversion.” (Plag, 2003: 116). The syntactic view of conversion will be discussed in more detail later in the connection with partial conversion of adjectives into nouns in chapters 2.4. and 2.5.

### **2.3.2. Conversion as zero-derivation**

As it was already mentioned, some scholars refer to conversion as zero-derivation. Such term implies that the process of conversion involves adding a zero-affix, a morph which is present but is not visible on the surface. However, whether such term is appropriate is a

disputable issue. There are linguists who defend the zero-derivation hypothesis, whereas others doubt it. Kastovsky sums up the current situation as follows: “In linguistics,[...], zero has been regarded as suspicious or even objectionable by many scholars [...] whereas others [...], regard it as a useful technical device [...] for indicating a functional change of the base to which it is attached.” (Bauer and Valera, 2005: 31).

Don (2005) is one of the linguists who assume that conversion is zero-derivation. His article argues that there is not only a clear relationship between derivation and conversion, but between the products of these processes as well, i.e. affixed and converted words. Don demonstrates this on Dutch verbs. His examples show that the semantics of converted verbs are not different from the semantics of verbs derived by overt affixes. He also suggests that conversion is a word-forming process for the Germanic part of the Dutch lexicon, whereas Dutch words of Romance origin are derived using overt suffixes: “The suffix *-eer* and conversion are in complementary distribution and seem to fulfil the same function in different strata of the Dutch lexicon.” (Don, 2005: 9). Therefore, by assuming that overt suffixes have the same meaning and function as conversion and the only difference between them is that each of them is applied in a different part of the lexicon, Don concludes that conversion is a form of suffixation in which a zero-affix is added. Don also provides another reason for why he considers conversion to have a suffixational nature and this time he demonstrates it not only on Dutch but also on German and English. He claims that in all of these three languages, conversion is subject to morphological restrictions which can be explained by looking at conversion as zero-derivation. The morphological constraints lie in the fact that “conversion to verbs from affixed bases seems to be extremely rare.” (Don, 2005: 6). To explain this, Don uses the idea of Aronoff and Fuhrhop who formulated a rule called “Monosuffix Constraint” which states that “[s]uffixes that select Germanic bases select unsuffixed bases.” (Don, 2005: 14). To put it simply, this rule claims that stacking of affixes tends to be avoided. Therefore, if we assume that conversion involves affixation of a zero-affix to a base, affixed bases are not likely to be the input of the process of conversion because it would involve combining an overt affix with a zero-affix.

On the other hand, Plag (2003) is among the scholars who show objections to the zero-derivation hypothesis. Although, interestingly, in the introductory part of his book, Plag does not completely dismiss the idea of zero forms. In fact, according to him “under certain conditions meaningful elements can indeed be left unexpressed on the surface, although they

must still be somehow present at a certain level of analysis. Hence it is not entirely strange to posit morphemes which have no overt expression.” (2003: 13). However, in his discussion whether it is justifiable to assume zero-forms in the process of conversion, Plag argues against the idea of zero-derivation. He applies the “overt analogue criterion” and explores whether the so-called zero-affixes added to bases in conversion have the same meaning and function as overt affixes. According to him, in order to justify the idea of zero-derivation “for each type of conversion [...] we would have to find at least one affix that expresses exactly the same range of meanings as conversion.” (Plag, 2003: 112). In his analysis of the conversion of nouns to verbs Plag demonstrates that “the overt analogue criterion is not met” because verbs derived with overt suffixes express much more restricted ranges of meaning than converted verbs. For example, *to eel* can have more interpretations- it can either mean to “fish for eel” or “to move like an eel” (Plag, 2003: 113). In the discussion of the conversion of verbs to nouns, Plag points out that according to Cetnarowska there are at least two differences between converted nouns and suffixed nouns. The first one is that if the base word is a transitive verb (e.g. *to draw*), the derived noun with the affix *-ing* (e.g. *a drawing*) is related to all of the meanings of the base verb, but the semantics of the converted noun (i.e. *a draw*) is limited to only one meaning of the base (i.e. drawing of cards). The second difference lies in the fact that if a verb with both transitive and intransitive use is nominalised using an affix (e.g. *to beat* – *a beating*), the semantics of the resultant noun will be linked with the transitive use of the verb; on the other hand, the meaning of such verb derived by conversion will be related to the intransitive use of the base verb. The examples Plag gives to illustrate his point are: *the beatings of the prisoner* and *the beat of my heart* (2003: 113). Plag further demonstrates the idea that there is no basis for the assumption of zero-affix on the conversion of adjectives to nouns and adjectives to verbs by showing that also in these types of conversion the semantics of a suffixed word is not identical with a word derived by conversion. All of this supports the idea that instead of assuming that there is a zero-affix involved in conversion, it is more correct to believe that there is no affix at all. This also explains why Plag (2003) classifies conversion as non-affixational word-formation processes together with truncations, clippings or blends.

Huddleston and Pullum (2002) also prefer to assume that conversion does not involve addition of any suffix. For them, the main problem about the zero-derivation hypothesis is the question of how many zero-affixes there would be in the process of conversion if we consider it a type of derivation. If there was only one affix, then conversion does not have much in



common with overt affixation which shows a wide range of suffixes. If we assume that there is more than one, then it is problematic to say how many there are and how we can distinguish them from one another when they are not morphologically realised (Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 1641).

#### **2.4. Full conversion versus partial conversion of adjectives into nouns**

While the preceding chapters have discussed conversion in general, the following section will focus on one of the specific types of this word-formation process - the conversion of adjectives into nouns. This type of conversion is generally regarded as gradual and a distinction is made between full and partial conversion of adjectives into nouns. According to Valera, the distinction is based on “the degree of lexicalization and/or features of the new category adopted by the word in question as a new word-class.” (Valera, 2004: 20). Dušková et al.(2006) identify the morphological properties which the fully converted adjectives into nouns acquire and which are on the other hand absent in the instances of partial conversion. Their grammar uses the cases of *adult*, *criminal*, *empty*, *equal*, *female*, *male*, *native*, *radical*, *savage*, *superior* to illustrate full conversion of adjectives into nouns (2006: 26). These adjectives have adopted some of the morphological properties of noun, namely they can form plurals (e.g. *adults*), genitive cases (e.g. *male's*) and their noun status is not dependent on the presence of the definite article. On the other hand, according to Dušková et al.(2006: 27), partial conversion of adjectives is manifested only on syntactic level. A partially converted adjective acquires the status of a noun only thanks to its position in a sentence (which is characteristically occupied by a noun) and the presence of the definite article in front of it. The morphological characteristics of nouns are not present in this type of adjectives- they do not form plural or genitive case. To illustrate this type of conversion, Dušková et al. use the typical examples such as *the unemployed*, *the beautiful*, *the English* but also exceptional cases like *the accused*, *the deceased*, *the almighty*. The last three examples are different in that, unlike the central examples, they refer only to one person and in addition they form the genitive case- e.g. *the accused's guilt* (2006: 28-29).

In their grammar, Biber et al. come to very similar conclusions about the incomplete change of adjectives to nouns during the process of conversion. However, the only difference from Dušková et al. (2006) approach is their different terminology- instead of using the term partial conversion, they call this phenomenon “quasi-conversion” (Biber et al., 1999: 519). They sum up the differences between this type of conversion and full conversion as follows:

“This quasi-conversion from adjective to noun is not complete, in that the adjective head does not ordinarily take a plural *-s* inflection, even when it has plural reference. In addition, as with adjectives (but not nouns) these forms can be modified by adverbs.” (Biber et al., 1999: 519). They use the following example to illustrate this:

- (3) I think the contrast between the [very] rich and the [very] poor in this country is disgusting.  
(Biber et al. 1999: 520)

The ability to be modified by adverbs is again a feature of adjectives, not nouns (which are typically modified by adjectives). This point is again in favour of the idea that partly converted adjectives to nouns still keep their status of adjectives.

## 2.5. Different treatments of partial conversion of adjectives to nouns

Quirk et al. (1985) mention that some grammar books distinguish between full and partial conversion and they use an example to show the distinction. Actually, to some extent they sum up what Biber et al. (1999) or Dušková et al. (2006) claim in their work: “there is not a full conversion in such cases is demonstrated by the inability of *wealthy*, as it occurs in sentences like *The wealthy are always with us*, to behave inflectionally like a noun (that is, to vary in terms of number and case).” (Quirk et al. 1985: 1559). However, with this statement they only paraphrase this approach of other grammars and in fact they doubt if such use of adjectives can be classified as a process of word-formation at all. They give a number of reasons for rejecting it:

[N]ot only is there no inflectional evidence of the word’s status as a noun but there is inflectional evidence of its unchanged status as an adjective: *the wealthier*, *the poorest*, etc. Moreover, there does not appear to be any partial productivity or the distinction between actual and potential English words, that we have seen as one of the hall-marks of a word-formation process. Rather, we can claim that almost any adjective of a permitted word class (i.e. applicable to human beings or to abstractions) might be used in such a structure, with no constraints on productivity:

The { *wealthy*  
*kind*  
*well dressed*  
*foolish*  
*ill-behaved* } are always with us.  
etc.

Due to this assumption, the rest of Quirk's grammar treats all the cases of this use of adjectives as "adjectives functioning as head of noun phrase" rather than to postulate that conversion or the transfer of an item from one word class to another has taken place." (1985: 1559). Therefore, what is in some grammars called "partial conversion of adjectives to nouns" and is often included in a chapter on word-formation, is in the grammar of Quirk et al. (1985) described as "adjectives as head of noun phrases" and is to be found under a chapter called "Syntactic functions of adjectives". This treatment shows that Quirk et al. approach this phenomenon in a purely syntactic way.

Something similar to Quirk et al.'s (1985) approach to partial conversion of nouns to adjectives can be seen in Huddleston and Pullum (2002) in the way that they also avoid using the term "partial conversion". Although their grammar does provide a chapter on conversion from adjectives to nouns, it is only concerned with words like *comic*, *regular*, *empty*, *local*, i.e. words which would definitely belong to the category which Dušková et al. (2006) would refer to as "full conversion of adjective to noun". What they would call "partial conversion of adjective to noun" is discussed separately. Huddleston and Pullum treat full and partial conversion of adjectives to nouns as two completely different phenomena. They show this attitude in a small paragraph below the description of the so-called "fully converted adjectives to nouns": "Conversion of an adjective into a noun is to be distinguished from the use of an adjective as a fused modifier-head, as in *The tax will disadvantage the poor.* or *Is this the new version or the old?*" (2002: 1642). This view resembles the approach of Quirk et al. (1985) in the way that they treat the phenomenon of partial conversion of adjectives as a purely syntactic process in which adjectives function as head of noun phrases. What is different in Huddleston and Pullum's approach is that they claim that this happens when the head of the noun phrase is fused with an internal modifier. According to them, an internal modifier can be either a "determinative" (*few*, *many*); "superlatives and definite comparatives" (*the tallest*, *a bigger*); "ordinal adjectives" (*the last*, *the second*); "modifiers denoting colour, provenance, and composition" (*blue*, *nylon*, *blended*, *Polish*); "adjectives denoting basic physical properties" (*old*, *small*); and lastly "modifier-heads with special interpretations" (*the French*, *the rich*) (Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 415-417). It is this last group which corresponds with what is usually called "partially converted adjectives to nouns". The interesting fact about Huddleston and Pullum's treatment of phrases like *the rich* is that they group them with

phrases like *Henrietta likes red shirts, and I like blue*, or *This copy is defective but the other two are fine*. (2002: 416-417) which are clear examples of elliptical noun phrases.

## **2.6. Denotata of partly converted adjectives into nouns**

In contrast with the very different views of scholars on partial conversion and conversion in general, the approach to the classification of different denotata of partly converted adjectives to nouns is almost identical in all of the English grammars. The only difference lies in the number of different types of denotata that the grammars recognise. Whereas Quirk et al. (1985: 421) distinguish three classes of partly converted adjectives to nouns (or what they call “adjectives functioning as noun-phrase heads”), Dušková et al. (2006: 28-29), Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 417) and Grygiel’s (2003) article divide them into two groups. The latter classification does not distinguish between partly converted adjectives which denote groups of people who share a common characteristic (e.g. *the unemployed*) from partly converted adjectives which denote names of nations (e.g. *the French*), whereas Quirk et al. (1985) see them as two distinct types. This thesis will follow Quirk’s classification into three subtypes but it will also take into account and comment on the observations of the other grammars and Grygiel’s article.

### **2.6.1. Type (a): the innocent**

According to Quirk et al., the first type is represented by “*the innocent*” and the words of this group denote “classes, categories, or types of people” (1985: 421). Dušková et al. define it as a type which denotes groups of people who share a characteristic expressed by the adjective and point out that words of this class are animate collective nouns (2006: 28-29). For Huddleston and Pullum, this type denotes “categories of human being; these NPs are characteristically used generically.” (2002: 417). The exceptions, i.e. non-generic cases, as Dušková et al. (2006: 29) and Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 417) point out, are *the deceased*, *the accused*, *the Almighty*, *his betrothed*. The former of these grammars also states that these adjectives with non-generic reference have in particular the form of past participles. However, apart from these cases which can have singular reference, words belonging to this class have always generic reference, take plural concord and can never refer to one person (Quirk et al., 1985: 422). According to Huddleston and Pullum, members of this group can be paraphrased “by means of *those* + relative clause: *those who are rich / very poor*” (2002: 417) or it is also possible to “to add a general word for human beings such as *people* and retain the generic reference.” (Quirk et al., 1985: 422). The adjectives of this class can be pre-modified by

adverbs (*the extremely old*), post-modified (although this is very rare according to Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 418) and are gradable (*the wiser*) (Quirk et al, 1985: 421-422).

#### **2.6.1.1. Semantic classification of Type (a)**

Grigyl's article considers the different characteristics that can be shared by groups of people and which make them a compact and homogenous class. Grigyl says that the groups can share the same age (*the elderly, the aged*), social status (*the homeless, the famous*), physical state (*the blind, the dead, the disabled*) or features of character (*the brave, the meek*) (2003: 37). According to him, these are the most prototypical cases because "All of these refer to people having in common some distinguishing characteristics which single them out from the rest." (2003: 37). Quirk et al. agree with this point as they also claim that most often members of this subclass are adjectives which characterise "well-established classes" of people (1985: 423). On the other hand, both of these sources also agree that there is no restriction and theoretically any adjective can become a member of this group, i.e. a partly converted adjective to noun with generic reference denoting a group of people. Quirk et al. demonstrate it with the following example:

(4) *The alert will notice my irony, the sleepy may not.* (Quirk et al., 1985: 423).

Griygel also lists several characteristics that can be shared among the "less prototypical" groups of people: height (*the tall, the short*), physical aspect (*the fat, the pretty*), emotional state (*the happy, the scared*), intellectual capacities (*the clever, the sensible, the silly*). (2003: 37) He is convinced that these features are "too common as well as transitory (allowing for the possibility of being changed- e.g. somebody happy can become sad, or somebody fat can lose weight) to sufficiently separate their members from the rest." (2003: 37). However, still, as he and Quirk et al. (1985) demonstrate, such forms can be formed and used in certain contexts.

#### **2.6.2. Type (b): the Dutch**

For Quirk et al. (1985), the second type is represented by *the Dutch* and it denotes nationalities. As it was already mentioned, this subclass is viewed as separate only by Quirk et al., other grammars see nationality as a characteristic which is shared by a group of people and therefore they classify members of this class to Type (a). Quirk et al. see nationality as a different feature of a class of people from, for example, age or social status. According to them, the members of this class are restricted to adjectives ending in *-(i)sh, -ch, -ese* (e.g.

*Irish, Spanish, Welsh, French, Chinese, Portugese*) (1985: 423). Like the first type, they also take plural concord, are restricted to generic reference, can be post-modified (*the Irish in America*) but unlike the words from Type (a) they can be pre-modified only by adjectives, not by adverbs. (*the industrious Dutch*, but *the very English* is not possible) (Quirk et al, 1985: 423-424). Also, according to Quirk et al., words of this subclass “are sometimes used not to refer to the nation as a whole but to some part of it, for example, teams and troops representing their country.” (e.g. *The English lost against the Welsh in the final.* or *In 1796 the French invaded northern Italy.*) (1985: 424).

### 2.6.3. Type (c): the mystical

According to Grygiel, the third type of partly converted adjectives to nouns refers to “groups of abstract ideas or phenomena” (2003: 38). Huddleston and Pullum agree and claim that this class is characteristic for “an abstract rather than concrete interpretation” (2002: 418). They add that phrases such as *the immoral, the impossible* etc. can be paraphrased by means of *that* + relative clause (*that which is impossible*) or by what they call a “fused relative” (*what is immoral*) (Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 418). According to Quirk et al., this group includes in particular superlative forms of adjectives (e.g. *the latest*) and these can be paraphrased by adding *thing*, e.g. *the latest thing* (1985: 424). Grygiel stresses that, just like with Type (a), there is the requirement of sharing common “well-established” features (Grygiel: 38). Quirk et al. also hold this view because they consider this group to be restricted only to set expressions and therefore “*the supernatural, the exotic, the unreal* are more likely to occur than *the lovely, the foreign, the exciting*, with abstract, generic reference.” (1985: 424). They also point out that there are several fixed expressions in which members of this subclass (i.e. an adjective with abstract reference) is complement of a preposition, e.g. *in the extreme, above the normal, into the open* etc. Their grammar also adds that members of this group take singular concord and they can be pre-modified by adverbs (*the very best, the extremely sublime*) (Quirk et al, 1985: 424) .

Duškova et al. also point out that sometimes, it is possible that the semantics of some adjective allows for two possible interpretations- it can both denote a group of people or an abstract concept (e.g. *the cynical*). The ambiguity is resolved by the context (2006: 29).

### 3. Material and Method

The practical part of this thesis provides an analysis of 167 tokens of adjectives partly converted into nouns out of which there are 100 different types of adjectives. The examples were excerpted from the BNC using the following formula:

the (\_AJ0 | \_AJC | \_AJS) ((\_{ADV})? \_{VERB} | \_PUN | \_ADV | \_CONJ | \_PREP | \_PRON)

This formula was designed on the idea that all adjectives partly converted into nouns are distinguished by the definitive article *the* which cannot be omitted. The definite article is followed by an adjective - either in its basic, comparative or superlative form. On the grounds that adjectives partly converted into nouns function as heads of noun phrases (see 2.5.), they are most likely to syntactically represent the subject or object of a clause. Therefore if they function as a subject they are most likely to be followed by a verb or an adverb followed by a verb. If they represent the object they are most likely to occur at the end of the clause (i.e. followed by a punctuation mark or a conjunction), be followed by an adverb, preposition or a pronoun. The formula excludes clauses in which the definite article and the adjective are followed by a noun because in this case the adjectives would not function as heads of noun phrases but as modifiers of the noun that follows.

The formula was used to search the whole BNC – both written and spoken texts were included. 35745 hits were found which were then thinned with the method of random selection to 300 hits. From this list of 300 sentences, 100 different types of adjectives partly converted into nouns were manually selected in the following way:

- The first 100 types of adjectives partly converted into nouns were selected from the list
- All instances of adjectives partly converted into nouns in the list were recorded, not only those highlighted by the corpus. For example if the corpus returned the following sentence:

**The Classical** gives way to the savage and language grows hyperactive. /AC1/  
and highlighted only *the classical*, *the savage* was excerpted manually and recorded for the analysis as well.

- If the same type of an adjective partly converted into a noun occurred more than once, the sentence as well as its frequency were recorded.

- If the same type of an adjective partly converted into a noun occurred more than once in one sentence it was recorded only as one instance
- Comparative and superlative forms of adjectives partly converted into nouns were not considered as two different types of adjectives. Therefore, *the poor* and *the poorest* or *the better* and *the best* were respectively counted as one type of adjective.
- On the other hand, if there was an adjective which could be classified into more than one class, i.e. a partly converted adjective whose denotatum depends on the context, it was counted as a type in each of the classes. For example *the dead* represents one type in the group denoting abstract concept and one type in the class denoting groups of people.

After the excerption, all of the instances of adjectives partly converted into nouns were classified into groups according to what they denote. Although the theoretical part of this thesis was based on Quirk et al.'s classification (1985: 421), the categories of denotata in the practical part had to be adapted to accommodate for the corpus findings. A fourth group with adjectives partly converted into nouns referring to individual people was created. Also, the description of the first group which according to Quirk et al. (1985: 421), denotes groups of people (see 2.6.1.), was altered because the corpus results show that this group can denote groups of animals as well (*the young*).

The denotata were determined according to the context. If the sentence containing the example did not give enough information for this, the surrounding sentences provided by the BNC were analysed as well. However, still there were some ambiguous cases which can be classified into more than one category, depending on one's interpretation. These indeterminate cases were nevertheless put into one of the groups and will be discussed in the analytical part of this thesis.

The expanded context was also used in order to distinguish between cases of adjectives partly converted into nouns and other grammatical phenomena which are not the subject of this thesis such as elliptical phrases.

Due to the fact that one of the aims of this thesis is also to test Quirk et al.'s (1985) and Grygiel's (2003) presumption that adjectives of Type (a) especially refer to well-established classes of people and that adjectives of Type (c) are in particular well established phrases (see 2.6.1. and 2.6.3.), the practical part is also based on a research in the OED. It was assumed that for a well-established class of people there will be a well-established, i.e.



lexicalised, phrase for it. Therefore it was examined whether the partly converted adjectives of Type (a) excerpted from the corpus are lexicalised items in the OED with reference to classes of people. If the dictionary included under the given adjective also an entry mentioning its use as a noun with the definite article in front of it and denoting a group of people, the phrase was assumed to be lexicalised and therefore denoting a well-established class of people. The same investigation was done on members of Type (c) – if the dictionary mentioned the use of a given adjective as a noun referring to an abstract concept, it was regarded as a set phrase.

After the search results were classified into individual groups, each of the 167 tokens was supplied with an abbreviation for easy reference.<sup>1</sup> Each code consists of two parts: the capital letters indicate the group that the example belongs to:

- “G” stands for partly converted adjectives denoting groups of people or animals
- “N” indicates partly converted adjectives denoting nationalities
- “AC” refers to partly converted adjectives denoting abstract concepts
- “IP” represents partly converted adjectives denoting individual people.

The number at the end of the code represents the order of the given example in its respective group and allows for an easy finding in the appendix. Apart from a list of all the tokens with these codes, the appendix also contains the original codes under which the examples can be found in the BNC.

Moreover, each of the examples cited in the analytical part of this thesis have their reference number representing the order in which they are mentioned.<sup>2</sup>

### **3.1. Manually removed examples – clear cases**

There were a number of sentences that had to be removed manually from the analysis because they were not examples of adjectives partly converted into nouns. The following cases were removed:

- clauses with a noun modified by more adjectives in which the adjectives were separated by comas, e.g.:

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<sup>1</sup> Where there were more than one example of partial conversion of adjectives into nouns in one sentence, each of the instances was given its separate code.

<sup>2</sup> The manually removed sentences are given only the BNC Filename after their mentioning

And though many knew him, few could claim to be close to **the peaceful, white-haired** old man. /GUG 1577/

- superlative forms of adjectives at the end of the clause:

Not surprisingly, the unions or union branches of the most powerful workers (ie. those who have the greatest effect on capital) are in general **the strongest**. /A6V 1238/

- comparative or superlative forms of adverbs, e.g.:

I must go back on Sunday at **the latest**. /HA5 1453/

- cases of ellipsis, i.e. grammatical construction in which the missing element is uniquely recoverable from the immediately preceding context, e.g.:

Divide the raw cake mixture between the 250ml (½pint) and the 500ml (1pint) pudding basins and bake in a 170°C (325°F/Gas Mark 3) oven 50 minutes for the small bowl and 1 hour for **the large**. /J11 2060/

(the missing element – *bowl* – is recoverable from the preceding context)

- cases of full conversion of adjectives to nouns, e.g.

**The bistable** will set or reset — try it a few times<sup>3</sup>. /C91 632/

## 3.2. Manually removed examples – problematic cases

### 3.2.1. *The following*

*The following* was a very frequently occurring case (13 instances). It might be argued that this phrase might justifiably be placed into the class of adjectives denoting abstract concepts because it meets the requirement suggested by Huddleston and Pullum that members of this class can be paraphrased using *that* + relative clause: *the following* = *that which follows* (see 2.6.3.). Nevertheless, it was removed from the analysis. The main reason was that in all of the examples excerpted from corpus which contained *the following*, it was possible to add a suitable noun after it and retain the meaning of the sentence. For example in the following example it is possible to insert the element in the brackets:

Finally **the following [people]** were appointed to the executive committee: The Rev Fanshawe Bingham M A (Bristol) Robert Armour (Liverpool) H B Beale (Stroud) (deaf) C J Bromhead (Lincoln) (deaf) James Wallworth Dawson (Bradford) W P Harris (Belfast) Robert Semple (Paisley) (deaf) A M Sleight (Brighton) /FTX 253/

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<sup>3</sup> Note: In order to distinguish between cases of full and partial conversion, The BNC was searched for plural forms or genitive cases of the unclear instances.

Therefore it is possible to say that *the following* is an example of an elliptical phrase. The missing element is retrievable from the context. On the other hand, it is not possible to add any noun after the central cases of this class and retain a meaningful sentence.

### 3.2.2. *The above*

*The above* also had a relatively high number of occurrences in the corpus sample (4 instances). Similarly like *the following*, it can be paraphrased using *that* + relative clause: *the above* = *that which is above*. Therefore it would be justifiable to include it in the analysis and classify it with adjectives denoting abstract concepts which can be paraphrased like this (see 2.6.3.). However, this case was removed from the analysis for the same reasons like *the following*. *The above* also seems to behave like elliptical phrases. This can be illustrated on the following example from the corpus:

Back in 1988 though, none of **the above [information]** was known to this actress, who fancied herself as a serious artist who'd been through the portals of the National and the RSC, albeit coming quickly out the other side, and whose biggest ambition was a) to perfect a stage yawn, b) to trim her inner thighs, and c) to fry a perfect fishball. /H9Y 1767/

A missing noun, for example *information*, can be added after the phrase and the meaning of the clause is still retained. Like with other cases of ellipsis, the missing element is retrievable from the context.

It is interesting to note that Huddleston and Pullum mention the case of *the above* and describe its use as “a fused modifier-head” (2002: 1555), i.e. they group it with the central cases of what is in other grammars called partial conversion of adjectives to nouns. However, it must not be forgotten that Huddleston and Pullum include under the heading of fused modifier-heads also elliptical noun phrases (see 2.5.).

A different reason for excluding *the above* from the analysis can be that *above* is primarily a preposition (which belongs to the category of adjective by conversion) (Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 1555). Therefore even if we consider the phrase *the above* as an example of conversion, not ellipsis, it can be argued that it rather represents conversion from a preposition to a noun, rather than conversion from an adjective to a noun.

### 3.2.3. *The latter, the former*

The corpus findings also included one sentence which contained the phrases *the latter* and *the former*:

The politeness of the cultured towards the uncultured, the hurt defiance of **the latter** to **the former**, compound one another. /HGJ 565/

These phrases were excluded from the analysis because, just like with the cases of *the following* or *the above*, it was concluded that they are examples of elliptical noun phrases. In the example above it is possible to retrieve and insert the missing element (*group of people*) after the adjective. Huddleston and Pullum mention this use of *the latter* and *the former* and identify it as “fused modifier-head” (2002: 1556). By using this term, they classify the cases *the latter* and *the former* among central cases of partial conversion of adjectives into nouns as well as among elliptical noun phrases (see 2.5.). However, this thesis distinguishes between these two phenomena and does not analyse cases of ellipsis.

### **3.2.4. *In the clear, to the full and in the main***

A number of set expressions such as *in the clear* (2 occurrences), *to the full* (1 occurrence) and *in the main* (1 occurrence) were found in the corpus. Quirk et al.(1985) mention specifically the case *to the full* in their grammar and classify it, together with other set phrases in which the adjective is a complement of a preposition, among the class of adjectives which denote abstract concepts (see 2.6.3). However, in this thesis the above mentioned expressions were removed from the analysis. The main reason was that they are idiomatic expressions. From this follows the fact that they can neither be paraphrased using *that* + relative clause (Huddleston and Pullum’s (2002) requirement, see 2.6.3), nor is it possible to determine their denotata as easily with the other central cases. For example, according to the OED, *in the clear* is a colloquial phrase which means either “out of reach”, “free from trouble, danger, suspicion” or “having a clear profit”. *In the main* can be paraphrased as “mainly” or “in all essential points” and *to the full* as “fully”, “to the utmost extent” etc. (OED). These idiomatic phrases also differ from the central types of adjectives partly converted into nouns in that these have adverbial function, whereas the dominant types represent syntactically most often the subject or the object of the clause.

### **3.2.5. *The Majestic, the Metropolitan, the Imperial etc.***

The corpus findings also included cases in which the adjective denote names of cinemas, museums, hotels etc. These examples were manually removed. One of the arguments was that it is justifiable to see these cases as examples of elliptical phrases because it is possible to insert a missing element from the context. For example in the following sentence:

The exhibition moves to **the Metropolitan**, New York from 9 May to 12 July. /EBT 573/

the missing element *museum* can be retrieved from the context and can be inserted after the adjective.

Yet, a different argument is that the cases like *The Majestic*, *the Metropolitan*, *the Imperial* etc. represent examples of full conversion into nouns because the additional corpus findings show that they behave morphologically like nouns. For instance, the BNC found examples where the converted adjective was not dependant on the preceding definite article which is typical for fully converted adjectives (see 2.5), e.g.:

**Metropolitan** takes on new medievalists /EBV 750/

The corpus also found instances in which these adjectives form genitive cases, e.g.:

In the kitchens **the Imperial's** chefs were now preparing to serve a simple luncheon for the new arrivals, while preparations for the banquet continued apace. /H8A 123/

### **3.2.6 *The Arctic, the Mediterranean, the Caribbean***

The corpus results also included geographical names whose forms resemble the central cases of adjectives partly converted into nouns: *the Arctic* (2 occurrences), *the Mediterranean* (1 occurrence) and *the Caribbean* (1 occurrence). They can also be paraphrased similarly like the partly converted adjectives with abstract reference using *that* + relative clause (see 2.6.3) - e.g. *that which is Mediterranean* or *that which is in the Mediterranean region*. However, these geographical names were removed from the analysis because they differ from this class of adjectives in the following ways. Firstly, they do not have an abstract reference - they denote a specific geographical region. Secondly, they can be looked at as cases of elliptical phrases because it is possible to insert the missing element, *region / area*, after them. Thirdly, additional corpus findings have shown that all of the above adjectives form genitive case (e.g. *the Caribbean's hot spots*) which is a morphological feature of nouns. Overall, there were more arguments for their removal than for keeping them for the analysis.

### **3.2.7. *The signified***

The search results also included one interesting example, a linguistic term whose form resembles adjectives partly converted into nouns- *the signified*:

In other words the traditional concept of the sign as a vehicle or substitute for an idea or a thing can fairly easily be transposed to the structure of the sign itself, with the signifier being regarded as a substitute for **the signified**. /H8V 1317/

Not only its form but also its meaning suggests that it might be justifiable to include it in the analysis of partly converted adjectives - according to the OED it denotes “that which is indicated by a word or symbol”. Therefore in this way it meets Huddleston and Pullum’s (2002) requirement that partly converted adjectives with abstract reference can be paraphrased by *that* + relative clause (see 2.6.3.) - it is correct to paraphrase *the signified* as “that which is signified”. On the other hand, it differs from the members of this class of adjectives in that it has a non-generic singular reference.<sup>4</sup>

However, the main reason for why in the end *the signified* was manually removed from the analysis, was that further corpus findings showed that it readily makes –s plural (*the signifieds*), occurs without the definite article or even takes an indefinite article (*a signified*). This suggests that *the signified* is an example of full conversion of adjectives into nouns.

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<sup>4</sup> The OED defines it also as “the referent” -therefore *the signified* refers to one specific concept represented by the sign.

## 4. Analysis

The analytical part of the present thesis will be divided into five main sections. The first four of them will respectively discuss the four classes of adjectives partly converted into nouns – chapter 4.1. will comment on Type (a) denoting groups of people or animals, chapter 4.2. will analyse Type (b) denoting nationalities, chapter 4.3. will focus on Type (c) denoting abstract concepts and chapter 4.4. will discuss Type (d) denoting individual people. The adjectives will be analysed from the morphological perspective (i.e. an analysis of their morphological structure and behaviour) as well as from the point of view of semantics. However, due to a small number of members of Type (d), chapter 4.4. will be an exception and will analyse each of its adjectives separately. The fifth section of the analysis will present a comparison of the four classes of adjectives.

### 4.1. Type (a): Groups of people or animals

This group of adjectives partly converted into nouns denotes groups of people or animals. It corresponds to the category of Quirk et al. (1985: 421) which they call Type (a) (see 2.6.3). Nevertheless, the analysis has shown that apart from classes of people members of this type can denote groups of animals as well.

Out of the total of 100 different types of adjectives partly converted into nouns which are analysed in the present thesis, this group represents the greatest number of types of adjectives – 52 types (52%). In total there were 85 instances of this class of adjectives partly converted into nouns out of the total number of 167 tokens which represents 50.9%.

The overwhelming majority of this class was *the poor* (12 instances, 14.1% out of the total number of tokens of this type). It was followed by *the rich* and *the elderly* which both occurred six times (7.1%), by *the young* with five occurrences (5.9%) and *the homeless* with three instances of this case (3.5%). *The handicapped*, *the unemployed*, *the dead*, *the dispossessed*, *the helpless* and *the hungry* occurred each two times and each represents 2.4%. The remaining 41 types occurred each only once, each representing 1.2%. Table 1 summarises these findings.

**Table 1: The frequency of occurrence and the percentage of types of adjectives partly converted into nouns denoting groups of people or animals**

Type	No. of occurrences	%
<i>the poor</i>	12	14.1
<i>the rich</i>	6	7.1
<i>the elderly</i>	6	7.1
<i>the young</i>	5	5.9
<i>the homeless</i>	3	3.5
<i>the handicapped</i>	2	2.4
<i>the unemployed</i>	2	2.4
<i>the dispossessed</i>	2	2.4
<i>the dead</i>	2	2.4
<i>the helpless</i>	2	2.4
<i>the hungry</i>	2	2.4
<i>the mighty</i>	1	1.2
<i>the hard-up</i>	1	1.2
<i>the white-and-holy</i>	1	1.2
<i>the disruptive</i>	1	1.2
<i>the venerable</i>	1	1.2
<i>the injured</i>	1	1.2
<i>the suffering</i>	1	1.2
<i>the defeated</i>	1	1.2
<i>the overweight</i>	1	1.2
<i>the slim</i>	1	1.2
<i>the aged</i>	1	1.2
<i>the uninitiated</i>	1	1.2
<i>the mad</i>	1	1.2
<i>the unbalanced</i>	1	1.2
<i>he disaffected</i>	1	1.2
<i>the vindictive</i>	1	1.2
<i>the faint-hearted</i>	1	1.2
<i>the best</i>	1	1.2



<i>the blind</i>	1	1.2
<i>the unconverted</i>	1	1.2
<i>the weak</i>	1	1.2
<i>the violent</i>	1	1.2
<i>the competitive</i>	1	1.2
<i>the collaborative</i>	1	1.2
<i>the fittest</i>	1	1.2
<i>the unwashed</i>	1	1.2
<i>the converted</i>	1	1.2
<i>the vanquished</i>	1	1.2
<i>the cultured</i>	1	1.2
<i>the uncultured</i>	1	1.2
<i>the wealthy</i>	1	1.2
<i>the old</i>	1	1.2
<i>the widowed</i>	1	1.2
<i>the orphaned</i>	1	1.2
<i>the infirm</i>	1	1.2
<i>the underemployed</i>	1	1.2
<i>the unsuccessful</i>	1	1.2
<i>the incompetent</i>	1	1.2
<i>the illegitimate</i>	1	1.2
<i>the disabled</i>	1	1.2
<i>the self-employed</i>	1	1.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	85	100

#### 4.1.1. Morphology

##### 4.1.1.1. Morphological structure

The members of this class of partly converted adjectives into nouns excerpted from the corpus display various morphological forms. The most common form was the *-ed* suffix. 21 out of the analysed 52 types of adjectives of this class had such form (40.4%): *the aged, the handicapped, the unemployed, the dispossessed, the injured, the defeated, the uninitiated, the unbalanced, the disaffected, the unconverted, the unwashed, the converted, the vanquished,*

*the cultured, the uncultured, the widowed, the orphaned, the underemployed, the disabled, the self-employed, the faint-hearted.* It is generally known that the *-ed* ending can be either an inflectional suffix (i.e. marking the past participial form of verbs) or a derivational suffix which is especially used to derive adjectives from nouns (Quirk et al., 1985: 1553). However, for the purposes of the present thesis it was decided not to distinguish between these two functions of the suffix and all of the above mentioned cases are grouped together as adjectives formed with *-ed* suffix. The main reason for this was that it is sometimes difficult to determine the nature of this suffix. The reason for setting the *-ed* suffix aside from the other suffixes was that it was extremely common in this class of adjectives.

The second most frequently occurring form of adjectives in the analysed corpus sample were adjectives formed with derivational affixes, other than *-ed* – 15 types of adjectives of this class (i.e. 28.8%) displayed one of the eight following suffixes *-ive, -y, -less, -able, -ly, -full, -ent,* or *-ate* or the prefix *over-* in the case of *the overweight*. Out of those suffixes the most common was *-ive* which formed four types of adjectives of this class (7.7% out of the total number of types of adjectives of this class): *the disruptive, the vindictive, the competitive, the collaborative*. It was followed by the suffix *-y* which was present in three types (5.8%): *the mighty, the hungry, the wealthy*. The suffix *-less* occurred in two types (3.8%): *the homeless, the helpless*. The remaining five affixes (*-able, -ly, -ful, -ent* and *-ate*) occurred each only in one type of the adjectives of this class (1.9%): *the venerable, the elderly, the unsuccessful, the incompetent, the illegitimate*.

The third most common form of members of this class were non-derived adjectives - 13 types of adjectives had such form (25.0%): *the poor, the dead, the young, the slim, the rich, the mad, the best, the blind, the weak, the violent, the fittest, the old, the infirm*. The fourth most frequently occurring morphological form was compounds. There were three types of adjective with compound forms in this class (5.8%): *The hard-up* is a compound formed with an adjective and a particle, *the white-and-holy* is composed of two adjectives connected with a conjunction and *the faint-hearted*<sup>5</sup> is an adjective plus a noun with an *-ed* suffix. In the corpus there was also one instance (i.e. 1.9%) of present participial form of an adjective of this class- *the suffering*. Table 2 sums up these findings.

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<sup>5</sup> *The faint-hearted* was classified into two categories- it both displays an *-ed* suffix and it is also a compound.

**Table 2: The morphological form of partly converted adjectives denoting groups of people and animals**

Morphological form	Number of types	%
Adjectives formed with <i>-ed</i> suffix	21	40.4
Adjectives derived with affixes (other than <i>-ed</i> )	15	28.8
Non-derived adjectives	13	25.0
Compounds	3	5.8
Present participial form	1	1.9

It is also worth noting that a significant number of the types of adjectives of this class displayed prefixes - 17 out of the 52 types which represents 32.7%. It also should be pointed out that apart from three types of adjectives with a prefix (*the self-employed*, *the underemployed* and *the overweight*), the remaining 14 types had a negative prefix (i.e. 26.9% out of the total number of types of adjectives in this class). Among the negative prefixes *un-* was the most common - there were seven adjectives with this affix (13.5%): *the unsuccessful*, *the uncultured*, *the unwashed*, *the unconverted*, *the unbalanced*, *the uninitiated*, *the unemployed*. *Dis-* prefix occurred in four types of adjectives (7.7%): *the disruptive*, *the disabled*, *the disaffected*, *the dispossessed*. *In-* was displayed in two types (3.8%) - *the incompetent*, *the infirm-* and *il-* formed one of the types of adjectives of this class (1.9%): *the illegitimate*. There was one negative suffix as well (*-less*) which was present in two types (3.8%): *the helpless* and *the homeless*. Therefore overall, in this class 16 out of the 52 types of adjectives display a negative affix (30.8%).

#### 4.1.1.2. Gradation

When Quirk et al. (1985: 422, 1559) discuss the possible types of inflections of adjectives functioning as head of noun phrase they mention comparative inflection (see 2.6.1.) as well as superlative form of this type of adjectives (see 2.5). Interestingly, there were no comparative forms in this class of adjectives in the corpus sample. However, on the other hand, three cases of superlative forms were found – *the best*, *the poorest* and *the fittest*. This represents 3.5% out of the total number of tokens of this class of adjectives.

#### 4.1.1.3. Pre-modification

Both Quirk et al. (1985: 421-422) and Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 417-418) agree that adjectives partly converted into nouns can be pre-modified and that they take adverbs as modifiers (see 2.6.1.). Quirk et al. explain this by claiming that these types of adjectives tend to accept only restrictive modification and therefore avoid modification by adjectives which are normally non-restrictive (1985: 422). In the analysed corpus sample there was one example of an adjective partly converted into a noun denoting a class of people which was pre-modified by an adverb:

- (1) It rests also on the insight that income "transferred" by this means was not used only for the minimum relief of destitution, for the old, widowed, orphaned and infirm, but also for the purchase of some "decencies" , for the supplementation of the earnings of the underemployed as well as the relief of **the involuntarily unemployed**, and for the apprenticing of the children of the poor. /G19/

The adverb *involuntarily* restricts the class of unemployed people.

On the other hand, the corpus sample also included a case in which the partly converted adjective denoting a class of people is pre-modified by an adjective:

- (2) Now Mill seems to be very unsure what to do about this because he doesn't want to say that the poor should be disenfranchised, because after all everyone is entitled to their say in government, but he does seem to be worried that if the poor are given an equal say or **the uned-- uneducated poor** are given an equal say, then they will make a very bad decision, a decision which is against their own interests [pause] and this is one reason why he favours plural voting because he recognizes that the numerical majority might make a [pause] erm wrong decision, so we should make sure that the numerical majority don't have sway in a democratic process by giving another client more weight in it [pause] so he seems to [unclear] between wanting to disenfranchise them altogether which he seems to consider and just emasculating their vote by giving other people more votes. /G12/

As was already mentioned, pre-modification by adjectives is usually avoided with adjectives partly converted into nouns. According to Quirk et al. (1985: 422), pre-modification by adjectives is typical of nouns, not adjectives. Therefore it is possible to say that if a certain adjective partly converted into a noun is pre-modified by an adjective, like the above example from the corpus, its status moves closer to the category of nouns.

#### 4.1.1.4. Post-modification

Quirk et al. (1985: 421-422) discuss the possibility of adjectives partly converted into nouns to be post-modified (see 2.6.1.). They mention post-modification with a prepositional phrase or a relative clause. Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 418) claim that post-modification is possible with this type of adjectives, however it is very rare (see 2.6.1). In the analysed corpus

sample there were two cases when the adjectives of this class were post-modified. In one case there was post-modification by a relative clause:

- (3) Colour and caste were immaterial to them, but poverty they despised: not the real poverty of **the dispossessed, the homeless** and derelict, with whom, bizarrely, they tended to identify, but the poverty of those who were forced to work in uncongenial jobs. /G25/<sup>6</sup>

On the other hand, the second instance exemplified that the adjectives of this class can be post-modified by a participle constructions as well:

- (4) The concern about **the unbalanced** getting imageries for action from porn videos and television violence has not been matched by a concern that the popular newspapers may also be providing similar material. /G49/

This non-finite construction can be paraphrased using a relative clause: “the unbalanced who are getting imageries...”.

#### 4.1.2. Semantics

The following section will first analyse to what extent it is justifiable to claim that this class of adjectives typically denotes well-established classes of people (see 2.6.1.).<sup>7</sup> In the subsequent part of this section, Grigyel’s (2003: 37) semantic classification of this class of adjectives will be applied on the analysed corpus sample. Finally, this section will discuss the semantic relations between co-occurring instances of partly converted adjectives of this class and then comment on the case of *the young*.

##### 4.1.2.1. Adjectives partly converted into nouns of Type (a) as lexicalised items

Based on the findings from the OED, it was discovered that 19 out of the 52 analysed types of adjectives of this class are lexicalised items, denoting classes of people (36.5%). The OED recognizes the use of the following adjectives as having a collective reference to a group of people with a shared characteristic: *the aged, the poor, the mighty, the handicapped, the unemployed, the dead, the young, the overweight, the rich, the mad, the best, the blind, the weak, the homeless, the collaborative, the unwashed, the vanquished, the old, the disabled*. It was noticed that among these adjectives are the ones which occurred with the highest frequency – *the poor* (12 instances), *the rich* (six instances), *the young* (five instances), *the homeless* (three instances), *the handicapped, the unemployed, the dead* (two instances). Out of

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<sup>6</sup> *the homeless* - G66

<sup>7</sup> The chapter on method and material explains how this investigation was carried out.

the total number of 85 tokens of this class, 44 of them are well-established, lexicalised items (51.8%).

#### **4.1.2.2. Adjectives partly converted into nouns of Type (a) as not lexicalised items**

Out of the total number of 52 types of adjectives of this class, 33 of them were found not to be lexicalised items which would denote classes of people (63.5%). The following adjectives are not recognised by the OED as referring collectively to a group of people: *the hard-up, the white-and-holy, the disruptive, the dispossessed, the venerable, the injured, the suffering, the defeated, the slim, the helpless, the hungry, the uninitiated, the unbalanced, the disaffected, the vindictive, the faint-hearted, the elderly, the unconverted, the violent, the competitive, the fittest, the converted, the cultured, the uncultured, the wealthy, the widowed, the orphaned, the infirm, the underemployed, the unsuccessful, the incompetent, the illegitimate, the self-employed.*

With the exception of *the elderly, the hungry, the dispossessed* and *the helpless*, all of the above mentioned adjectives occurred only once in the corpus sample. Out of the total number of 85 tokens of this class, these adjectives with a less established use as nouns denoting classes of people represented 41 cases (48.2%).

Quirk et al. (1985: 423) and Grigyl (2003: 37) agree that this class of adjectives typically denotes well-established classes of people. On the other hand, they also recognize that this trend is not a rule and that theoretically any adjective can be a member of this class (see 2.6.1.). Our corpus findings seem to support this: looking at the percentages of the total number of tokens of this class, a slightly bigger half of the cases are adjectives whose use as nouns denoting classes of people is recognised by the OED. Conversely, the adjectives whose use as nouns denoting animate collectives is not listed in the dictionary represent a significant percentage as well and in this way it proves that there are no restrictions on what adjectives can become members of this class. Therefore even a compound formed ad hoc such as *the white-and-holy* can denote classes of people, if the speaker wishes to use it in this way.

#### **4.1.2.3. Grygiel's semantic classification of adjectives of Type (a)**

In his article, Grygiel (2003: 37) distinguishes between the different types of characteristics which the groups of people can share. He proposes that the most prototypical members of this class share one of the following distinguishing characteristics: age, social

status, physical state or features of character (see 2.6.1.). Applying this kind of classification on the analysed corpus sample it was discovered that 42 types of adjectives of this class (i.e. 80.8%) could fit one of the categories proposed by Grygiel. The greatest number of types could be classified into the category of people sharing the same social status (14 instances, 26.9%). The following adjectives were put into this group: *the poor, the mighty, the hard-up, the unemployed, the dispossessed, the venerable, the rich, the homeless, the unwashed, the wealthy, the widowed, the orphaned, the self-employed* and *the underemployed*. The second most commonly shared feature among the groups of people denoted by the adjectives of this class was physical state. The following 12 types of adjectives (23.1% out of the total number of types of this class) were classified into this category: *the handicapped, the dead, the injured, the suffering, the blind, the weak, the fittest, the infirm, the defeated, the vanquished, the hungry, the disabled*. The third most frequently shared characteristic was features of character- there were eight types in the analysed sample (15.4%): *the disruptive, the mad, the unbalanced, the vindictive, the faint-hearted, the violent, the competitive* and *the collaborative*. In the corpus sample there were four types of adjectives (7.7%) which denoted groups of people sharing the same age: *the aged, the young, the elderly, the old*.

Griguel (2003: 37) then lists a few examples of less prototypical groups whose members can share the same height, physical aspect, emotional state or intellectual capacities (see 2.6.1.). The analysed corpus sample contained only two examples (3.8%) which could be put into the group sharing the same physical aspects (*the overweight, the slim*) and two examples which could be classified as a group of people sharing the same emotional state (*the helpless, the disaffected*).

Grygiel's classification, however, could not accommodate for 10 types of adjectives of this class excerpted from the corpus (19.2%). The following cases did not fit any of his proposed categories: *the white-and-holy, the uninitiated, the best, the unconverted, the converted, the cultured, the uncultured, the unsuccessful, the incompetent* and *the illegitimate*. Based on these miscellaneous examples excerpted from the corpus it is possible to add to Grygiel's classification other features which the groups of people denoted by the partly converted adjective into nouns can share. The groups of people referred to as *the unconverted* and *the converted* share the same religious faith or opinion, in the cases of *the cultured* and *the uncultured* it is possible to identify the shared quality as a type of intellectual pursuit. The shared feature of *the unsuccessful, the incompetent* and *the illegitimate* can be described as failure or impropriety and *the uninitiated* share some knowledge or instructions. Regarding

the case of *the best* the shared quality is rather vague – it depends on the speaker what he or she meant that a group of people should be best at. Also, with the case of *the white-and-holy* it is problematic to identify the shared quality because again the meaning depends on the speaker. Table 3 summarise the above mentioned findings.

**Table 3: The application of Grygiel’s semantic classification on the partly converted adjectives denoting groups of people or animals from the corpus sample**

Feature shared by the group denoted by the adjective	No. of types of adjectives of this class	% of the total no. of types
Social state	14	26.9
Physical state	12	23.1
Feature of character	8	15.4
Age	4	7.7
Emotional state	2	3.8
Physical aspect	2	3.8
TOTAL	42	80.8
Other	10	19.2

#### 4.1.2.4. Semantic relations between co-occurring items of this of adjectives of Type (a)

It was discovered that it is extremely common for different types of partly converted adjectives into nouns denoting classes of people or animals to occur together in close proximity. Out of the 85 tokens of this class, 40 adjectives co-occurred with another type or more of this group (47.1%). In the analysed corpus sample, there were ten pairs of different types of adjectives occurring together in one sentence (*the poor – the mighty, the poor- the rich, the blind- the handicapped, the dispossessed- the homeless, the young- the elderly, the overweight- the slim, the helpless- the hungry, the disaffected- the vindictive, the elderly- the poor, the cultured- the uncultured*), three triples (*the injured- the suffering- the defeated, the competitive- the collaborative- the fittest, the unsuccessful- the incompetent- the illegitimate*) and even the following sentence with seven different types of this class of adjectives:

- (5) It rests also on the insight that income "transferred" by this means was not used only for the minimum relief of destitution, for **the old, widowed, orphaned and infirm**, but also for the purchase of some "decencies" , for the supplementation of the earnings of **the underemployed** as



well as the relief of **the** involuntarily **unemployed**, and for the apprenticing of the children of **the poor**. /G76/<sup>8</sup>

Out of those 40 co-occurring types of adjectives, 16 of them (i.e. 18.8% of the total number of tokens of this class) represented the co-occurrence of semantic opposites in one sentence. The following pairs of opposites were found in the corpus sample: *the poor – the mighty*, *the rich – the poor*, *the young – the elderly*, *the overweight – the slim*, *the competitive – the collaborative* and *the cultured – the uncultured*. The pairs *the rich – the poor* and *the young- the elderly* occurred in the corpus sample two times, the rest only once.

(Note: There were also 3 instances of a different type of opposition – between the verb and the partly converted adjective which functioned as an object for that verb: *help the helpless*, *feed the hungry*, *housing the homeless*.)

Apart from opposition, there were also pairs or chains of partly converted adjectives which were linked semantically in another way. For example the seven different types of partly converted adjectives from ex. 5 (*the old – the widowed – the orphaned – the infirm – the underemployed – the unemployed – the poor*) and two other co-occurring pairs (*the elderly – the poor* and *the dispossessed – the homeless*) are semantically related in the way that they all denote a type of socially disadvantaged groups of people. Therefore they can be identified as co-hyponyms of the socially-disadvantaged. Similarly, the members of the following pair and the triple are related by that they all denote physically defected people: *the blind – the handicapped*, *the injured – the suffering – the defeated*. In this way, they can be described as co-hyponyms of the physically-defected. The following triad of adjectives - *the unsuccessful – the incompetent – the illegitimate*- represents a string of adjectives with a negative prefix, denoting groups of people who failed the expectations of society in some way. In this way they can be identified as co-hyponyms of people described as “social failures”. In total there were 19 tokens which co-occurred with another token of this type and the semantic relation between them was that of co-hyponyms which represents 22.4% from the total number of 85 tokens of this class.

#### 4.1.2.5. *The young*

*The young* represented with its five occurrences in the corpus sample 5.9 % out of the total number tokens of this class of adjectives. It was thanks to this type of adjective that the

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<sup>8</sup> *the widowed-* G77, *the orphaned-* G78, *the infirm-* G79, *the underemployed-* G80, *the unemployed-* G19, *the poor-* G2

description of this class had to be extended to groups of animals as well. Whereas three instances of this adjective excerpted from the corpus denoted classes of young people (exx. 6, 7, and 8), the other two clearly refer to groups of young animals (exx. 9 and 10).

(6) Privatisation was particularly valued by **the young**, whether it be prisons, motorways, transport or care of the elderly. /G32/

(7) This, as you know, sir, is a situation that bedevils many areas of the public service but lack of continuity in care for **the young** can have particularly serious results,. /G33/

(8) **The young** and the elderly are to be catered for in a small land reclamation scheme in New Skelton. /G34/

(9) Once **the young** are born they may be cared for by both their parents for many days. /G30/

(10) Substrate spawning species have special brood care patterns, (usually in the parent responsible for care of **the young**, but often in both adults), which are used to communicate with the fry. /G31/

In exx. 9 and 10, apart from the context of the sentences, it is also the title of the publication from which these examples come from, which make it clear that *the young* refers in both cases to young animals, not people.<sup>9</sup>

## 4.2. Type (b): nationalities

This group of adjectives partly converted into nouns denotes nationalities and it absolutely corresponds with Quirk et al.'s category (1985: 423) of this type of adjectives which they call Type (b) (see 2.6.2).

Out of the total of 100 different types of adjectives partly converted into nouns which are analysed in this thesis, this group represented seven different types (7%). In total there were 26 instances of this class of adjectives partly converted into nouns out of the total of 167 tokens (15.6%). *The British* was the most frequently occurring member in this class (11 occurrences, 42.3 %), it was followed by *the French* (five occurrences, 19.2 %). *The Chinese* and *the Irish* appeared each three times (each representing 11.5%), *the Dutch* twice (7.7%) and *the Anglo-Irish*, and *the Japanese* occurred once, each representing 3.8 % of the total of this class. Table 4 shows the frequency of the different types of this group.

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<sup>9</sup> In ex. 9 the title of the book is *Animal watching: A field guide to animal behaviour*; ex. 10 comes from a publication called *Practical Fishkeeping*

**Table 4: The frequency of occurrence and the percentage of types of adjectives partly converted into nouns denoting nationalities**

Type	No. of occurrences	%
<i>the British</i>	11	42.3
<i>the French</i>	5	19.2
<i>the Chinese</i>	3	11.5
<i>the Irish</i>	3	11.5
<i>the Dutch</i>	2	7.7
<i>the Japanese</i>	1	3.8
<i>the Anglo-Irish</i>	1	3.8
<b>Total</b>	26	100

#### 4.2.1. Morphology

##### 4.2.1.1. Morphological structure

The corpus findings confirm Quirk et al.'s claim (1985: 423) that members of this class are restricted to adjectives ending in *-(i)sh*, *-ch* or *-ese*. (see 2.6.2):

- *-(i)sh* : *the British, the Anglo- Irish, the Irish*
- *-ch* , : *the Dutch, the French*
- *-ese* : *the Japanese, the Chinese*

Apart from *the Anglo- Irish*, all of the instances of this type of adjectives partly converted into nouns found in the corpus have one simple base. On the other hand, *the Anglo- Irish* is an example of a compound. These corpus findings serve as a proof for Bauer's statement (1983: 226) that there do not seem to be any morphological restriction regarding the types of words which can undergo conversion (see 2.2.).

All of the instances of this class found in the corpus sample also confirm the fact that members of this class take plural concord and are restricted to generic reference (see 2.6.2.)

##### 4.2.1.2. Pre-modification and post-modification

According to Quirk et al. (1985: 423-424), this class of adjectives partly converted into nouns can be post-modified (see 2.6.2.) which was proven with one of the instances found in the corpus:

- (11) These are the products of an age when the Dutch were the richest people in the world — **the Japanese of their time** — and they expressed their wealth by painting, not scenes of classical grandeur, but homes and streets, faces and families. /N3/

On the other hand, no instance of this class of adjectives which would be pre-modified by an adjective (which is also possible with this type according to Quirk et al., 1985: 423, see 2.6.2) were found in the sample taken from the corpus.

#### 4.2.2. Semantics

According to Quirk et al. (1985: 424) members of this class may not only refer to the nation as a whole but can refer only to some part of it (see 2.6.2). In the corpus findings there were two examples which clearly referred not to the whole nation but only to the troops representing the country:

- (12) **The French** attacked there at sunset, but were checked by Saxe-Weimar's men. /N17/
- (13) Despite all these measures taken by **the British**, as sitreps on the days after 15 May record, many Croats, both military and civilians, did manage to penetrate the British lines. /N9/

It is also worth noting that findings based on a research in the OED show that all of the types of adjectives of this class are recognised by the OED as nouns referring collectively to people of the corresponding nationalities, therefore all of them can be considered as established and lexicalised items.

### 4.3. Type (c): Abstract concepts

This group of adjectives partly converted into nouns denotes abstract ideas or phenomena and it corresponds with Quirk et al.'s (1985: 424) category of this type of adjectives which they call Type (c) (see 2.6.3).

Out of the total of 100 different types of adjectives partly converted into nouns which are analysed in this thesis, this group represented 37 different types (37%). In total there were 48 instances of this class of adjectives partly converted into nouns out of the total number of 167 analysed tokens (28.7%).

The most frequently occurring type of this class was *the like*. In the analysed corpus sample there were five instances which represents 10.4% of the total number of tokens in this class. The case of *the like* is slightly different from the other, central examples and therefore it will be analysed separately in section 4.3.2.5. which will discuss the ways in which it is different from the central cases as well as the reasons for why it was nevertheless included in this group. The cases of *the best* and *the better* were counted as one type of adjective because the two are just inflections of the same adjective. There were two instances of *the best* and one example of *the better* in the search results, therefore this one type of adjective (marked as *the best/ the better* in the tables and the appendix) occurred all together three times in the sample which represents 6.2 %. *The obvious the inevitable, the sublime, the banal and the physical* occurred twice and each represented 4.2 % out of the total of this class. The remaining 30 types occurred once and each represented 2.1 %. Table 5 sums up these observations.

**Table 5: The frequency of occurrence and the percentage of types of adjectives partly converted into nouns denoting abstract concepts**

Type	No. of occurrences	%
<i>the like</i>	5	10.4
<i>the best / the better</i>	3	6.2
<i>the obvious</i>	2	4.2
<i>the inevitable</i>	2	4.2
<i>the sublime</i>	2	4.2
<i>the banal</i>	2	4.2
<i>the physical</i>	2	4.2
<i>the classical</i>	1	2.1
<i>the savage</i>	1	2.1
<i>the political</i>	1	2.1
<i>the anarchic</i>	1	2.1
<i>the unusual</i>	1	2.1
<i>the personal</i>	1	2.1
<i>the mystical</i>	1	2.1
<i>the new</i>	1	2.1
<i>the unacceptable</i>	1	2.1

<i>the highest</i>	1	2.1
<i>the lowest</i>	1	2.1
<i>the worst</i>	1	2.1
<i>the intentional</i>	1	2.1
<i>the unexpected</i>	1	2.1
<i>the unknown</i>	1	2.1
<i>the ridiculous</i>	1	2.1
<i>the brash</i>	1	2.1
<i>he ugly</i>	1	2.1
<i>the dead</i>	1	2.1
<i>the everyday</i>	1	2.1
<i>the private</i>	1	2.1
<i>the public</i>	1	2.1
<i>the unsaleable</i>	1	2.1
<i>the abnormal</i>	1	2.1
<i>the metaphorical</i>	1	2.1
<i>the spiritual</i>	1	2.1
<i>the literary</i>	1	2.1
<i>the worthwhile</i>	1	2.1
<i>the worthless</i>	1	2.1
<i>the emotional</i>	1	2.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	48	100

### 4.3.1. Morphology

#### 4.3.1.1. Morphological structure

The members of this class of adjectives found in the corpus are of various forms. Adjectives formed with derivational suffixes (other than *-ed*<sup>10</sup>) significantly dominate the group – 23 types out 37 (62.2 %) have an adjectival suffix *-al*, *-ic*, *-ous*, *-able*, *-ly*, *-ate*, *-ary* or *-less*. Among the members formed with these adjectival suffixes, the overwhelmingly most frequently occurring suffix is *-al* which was present in 12 types of adjectives of this class

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<sup>10</sup> The affix *-ed* was set aside from the other affixes, like in Type (a) to allow for an easier comparison between these two in section 4.5.

(32.4 %): *the classical, the political, the unusual, the personal, the mystical, the intentional, the banal, the abnormal, the metaphorical, the physical, the spiritual, the emotional*.<sup>11</sup> The second most frequently occurring adjectival suffix was *-able* (three types of adjectives, 8.1%): *the unacceptable, the inevitable, the unsaleable*. The suffixes *-ic* and *-ous* each formed two types of adjectives: *the public, the anarchic* and *the ridiculous, the obvious*. The suffixes *-ly, -ate, -ary* and *-less* occurred each in one type of adjective of this class: *the ugly, the private, the literary, the worthless*.

The second most dominant form of members of this class were non-derived adjectives – *the like, the new, the sublime, the brash, the dead, the savage, the better/ the best, the highest, the lowest* and *the worst* i.e. ten types (27.0% out of the total number of types of this class). Then there were two examples of adjectives consisting of two bases – *the everyday* and *the worthwhile* (5.4%), one example of an adjective with an *-ed* suffix (*the unexpected*) and one case of an adjectives with a past participial form of an irregular verb- *the unknown* (2.7%). The following table summarises these observations.

**Table 6. The morphological form of partly converted adjectives denoting abstract concepts**

Morphological form	No. of types	%
Adjectives derived with affixes (other than <i>-ed</i> )	23	62.2
Non-derived adjectives	10	27.0
Compounds	2	5.4
Adjectives formed with <i>-ed</i> suffix	1	2.7
Adjectives with past participial form of an irregular verb	1	2.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>11</sup> These results correspond with Biber et al.'s (1999: 531) findings who found out in their study that derived adjectives are the most common form of adjectives and that the suffix *-al* is “overwhelmingly more common than with any other derivational suffix” (Biber et al., 1999: 531).

Interestingly, like in the class of adjectives denoting groups of people or animals (see 4.1.1.1.), negative affixes were extremely common in this class of adjectives converted into nouns. There were eight types which had such an affix. This represents 21.6 % out of the total number of types of adjectives of this group. The most common was the negative prefix *un-* – there were five types with this prefix: *the unusual*, *the unacceptable*, *the unknown*, *the unsaleable* and *the unexpected*. Then there were two other negative prefixes: *in-* and *ab-* in *the inevitable* and *the abnormal* and one instance of a negative suffix – *the worthless*.

#### 4.3.1.2. Gradation

According to Quirk et al. (1985: 424), this group includes “in particular” superlative forms of adjectives (see 2.6.3). In the corpus sample there were five instances of superlative forms of adjectives which represents 10.4% of the total number of cases of this class. *The best* had two occurrences and *the highest*, *the lowest* and *the worst* occurred once. Even though, such percentages represent a considerable amount, it is not as high as one might expect from Quirk et al.’s statement.

According to Quirk et al. (1985: 424), these superlative forms can sometimes be paraphrased by adding *thing* (see 2.6.3.). This holds true for our corpus findings, e.g.:

(14) We did not know what to think last night and we had to fear **the worst** [thing]. /AC22/

Apart from superlative forms, one case of a comparative form of an adjective partly converted into a noun was found in the analysed corpus as well:

(15) Nevertheless, those people who want to develop Labour politics in the province and to change things for **the better** should at least be given the chance to try. /AC6/

*The better* is a complement of a preposition and together they form a fixed expression. Quirk et al. (1985: 424) mention such use of adjectives with abstract reference in set expressions (see 2.6.3. and 4.3.2.1.)

#### 4.3.1.3. Pre-modification

According to Quirk et al. (1985: 424) this class of adjectives partly converted into nouns can be pre-modified by adverbs (see 2.6.3.). However, no examples of pre-modification were found in the corpus.



### 4.3.2. Semantics

According to Quirk et al. (1985: 424), members of this class of adjectives with abstract reference are restricted in particular to set expressions (see 2.6.3.). The first part of this section will discuss the extent to which this claim is justifiable.<sup>12</sup> In the subsequent part of this section the excerpted adjectives whose semantics allow for more than one interpretation will be discussed. Next subchapter of this section will comment on the semantic relation between co-occurring adjectives of this class.

#### 4.3.2.1. Adjectives partly converted into nouns of Type (c) as lexicalised items

The findings based on the OED show that 19 out of the 37 types of adjectives of this class (51.4%) make set expressions denoting abstract concepts when they undergo partial conversion. Out of the total number of tokens of this class the adjectives used as set phrases represented 29 instances which is 60.4 %. The following partly converted adjectives were found in the OED as nouns denoting an abstract concept, i.e. can be considered as lexicalised items: *the classical, the political, the best/ the better, the personal, the like, the obvious, the new, the highest, the lowest, the worst, the inevitable, the unknown, the sublime, the ridiculous, the dead, the abnormal, the physical, the worthwhile and the emotional*. Interestingly, all of the adjectives which had more than one occurrence (with the exception of *the banal*) were found in the OED as lexicalised items.

The corpus sample also included three cases in which the adjective is the complement of a preposition and together they make a set expression. Quirk et al. (1985: 424) mention such use of adjectives with abstract reference (see 2.6.3.). The following cases were found in the corpus:

- (16) Nevertheless, those people who want to develop Labour politics in the province and to change things **for the better** should at least be given the chance to try. /AC6/
- (17) Maurin interjected that he had done it **for the best**, that he suspected she would spread silly gossip and it was sensible to keep her away from the English journalist. /AC8/
- (18) It was the Lord Ba'al's love for the virgin Anat that brought him back **from the dead**, in response to her tears. /AC35/

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<sup>12</sup> The chapter on method and material explains how this investigation was carried out.

Further, in the corpus sample there was an example of a set, lexicalised, phrase which contained two instances of adjectives partly converted into nouns:

(19) From **the sublime to the ridiculous**. /AC28/<sup>13</sup>

According to the OED, the phrase refers to the transition between one extreme to the other. Also note that the co-occurring partly converted adjectives in this phrase are in semantic opposition to one another. This is an extremely common habit of partly converted adjectives with abstract reference to occur together, especially when they are opposites of one another, which is discussed in the forthcoming section 4.3.2.4.

#### **4.3.2.2. Adjectives partly converted into nouns of Type (c) as not lexicalised items**

Using the OED it was discovered that 18 types of adjectives of this class are not well established phrases. This represents 48.6 % out of the total number of types of this class. Out of the total number of tokens the partly converted adjectives into nouns with abstract reference which are not lexicalised phrases occurred 19 times which represents 39.6% out of the total number of tokens of this type. The following adjectives with abstract reference were not found to be lexicalised: *the savage*, *the anarchic*, *the unusual*, *the mystical*, *the unacceptable*, *the intentional*, *the unexpected*, *the banal*, *the brash*, *the ugly*, *the everyday*, *the private*, *the public*, *the unsaleable*, *the metaphorical*, *the spiritual*, *the literary* and *the worthless*.

Although it was discovered that there is less of partly converted adjectives which are lexicalised in this class and more of the well-established ones, 39.6 % is still a relatively high percentage. Therefore it is possible to say that the corpus findings are at variance with Quirk et al.'s claim about that this class of adjectives is in particular restricted to fixed expressions (1985: 424). Although, they form a majority, the other group of less established phrases occur with ease as well.

#### **4.3.2.3. Ambiguous cases**

The analysed corpus sample also included adjectives whose semantics allow for more than one interpretation. The cases of *the dead*, *the best*, *the private* and *the public* were found

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<sup>13</sup> *the ridiculous*- AC30

to be classifiable into more than one class of adjectives according to their denotata and will be individually discussed in this section.

*The dead* is one of the two cases whose numerous occurrences in the corpus sample have shown that it can belong to more than one class of the four classes of adjectives, depending on the context. Two instances of this case found in the corpus sample were classified as denoting a group of people, i.e. “the dead people” (see 4.1.). However, the following sentences from the corpus sample shows that *the dead* can denote an abstract concept as well:

- (20) It was the Lord Ba'al's love for the virgin Anat that brought him back **from the dead**, in response to her tears. /AC35/

It was assumed that *the dead* in the case does not denote “the dead people”, he was not brought back from a group of people who are dead. Rather, it is more appropriate to interpret it that he was brought back from the world of the dead people. Interpreting *the dead* as the underworld, it then justifiable to say that in this case this partly converted adjective belongs to the class of adjectives denoting an abstract concept. The OED recognizes *from the dead* as a fixed expression and supports our claim in that it explains the meaning of this phrase as “from among those that are dead; hence nearly = from death”. In this way it shows that it is possible to interpret it as “from death”, i.e. an abstract concept.

*The best* is the second of the two cases whose numerous occurrences in the corpus show that it can be classified into than more one class of the four classes of adjectives, depending on the context. *The best* already occurred in section 4.1. because it denoted “a group of people who are the best”. However the exx. 21 and 22 show that it can have an abstract reference as well:

- (21) Before the new holes were commissioned **the best** had to be made of the shortened course, such as the 2nd also playing as the 17th. (AC7)
- (22) Maurin interjected that he had done it for **the best**, that he suspected she would spread silly gossip and it was sensible to keep her away from the English journalist. (AC8)

In both of the cases it is possible to paraphrase *the best* as “that which is best” or “what is best”, like all the other partly converted adjectives into nouns with abstract reference (see 2.7.3.).

Unlike the case of *the dead* and *the best*, the cases of *the public* and *the private* did not have numerous occurrences in the sample and were not placed into more than one class of

adjectives classified according to their denotata. On the other hand, there was only one instance of each of the cases in the corpus and these allowed for two possible interpretations because the context did not help to resolve their ambiguity:

- (23) By stressing superiority of the competitive as opposed to the collaborative, the individual as against the collective, **the private** as compared to **the public** and by elevating profitability to at times the sole criterion of success, they have created an economic framework where the survival of the fittest has in many cases come to mean the survival of those who are best at avoiding controls on their activities without being caught. /AC37/<sup>14</sup>

*The public* and *the private* can justifiably be identified as denoting groups of people. In this case this interpretation would correspond with the two preceding instances of partly converted adjectives *the competitive* and *the collaborative* which were classified into the class of adjectives denoting groups of people who share the same characteristics – a group of people who are competitive and a group of people who are collaborative (see 4.1.). Moreover, the OED recognises the use of *the public* and *the private* as nouns denoting a class of people (“the private: people who hold no public office, as a class. Opposed to *the public*.”) However, still these two cases were identified as denoting an abstract concept (i.e. “that which is private / public”) because the OED describes the use of *the public* and *the private* as referring to classes of people as obsolete. Generally, it is possible to say that these two cases allow for two equally valid interpretations.

The case of *the dead*, *the best*, *the public* and *the private* show that the semantics of an adjective can allow for two possible interpretations and can therefore belong to more than one class of adjectives grouped according to their denotata. In this sense, the corpus findings support Dušková et al.’s (2006: 28-29) claim that there are such ambiguous adjectives which can have different denotata depending on the context (see 2.6.3.). However, whereas the ambiguity was resolved by the context in the cases of *the dead*, *the best*, it was not in cases of *the public* and *the private*.

#### **4.3.2.4. Semantic opposition between partly converted adjectives into nouns Type (c)**

It was noticed that it is extremely common for adjectives partly converted into nouns with abstract reference to occur together in close proximity. Out of the 48 instances of this class, 22 of them (45.8%) co-occurred with another instance or two of this class of adjectives. Out of those 22 cases, 19 of them (i.e. 39.6% out of the total number of tokens of this group)

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<sup>14</sup> *the public*- AC38

represented the co-occurrence of semantic opposites in one sentence. The following pairs (and one triple) of opposites were found in the corpus: *the classical – the savage, the political – the anarchic, the highest – the lowest, the sublime – the ridiculous, the everyday – the sublime, the private – the public, the metaphorical – the physical – the spiritual, the physical – the emotional, the worthless – the worthwhile*. The members of each pair (and the triple) were always in a direct opposition, being connected by prepositions (*to, from, with* or *between*) or commas and conjunctions.

Interestingly, apart from the semantic opposition between two partly converted adjectives co-occurring in one sentence, there were also two cases of a different kind of opposition:

- (24) It differs in that it lacks the double characteristic of agape — **the acceptance of the unacceptable**, or the movement from the highest to the lowest, and, at the same time, the will to transform individual as well as social structures. /AC19/
- (25) ‘Publishers should no longer see the sale as a way of trying to **sell the unsaleable**,’ said BML. /AC39/

In ex. 24 there is a semantic opposition between the partly converted adjective and the noun which the adjective post-modifies. In ex. 25, the verb is in a semantic opposition with the adjective which functions as a direct object of the verb.

#### 4.3.2.5. *The like*

Interestingly, this marginal case was the most frequently occurring member of this class - with its five occurrences it represented 10.4 % out of the total number of tokens of this class. Such high frequency suggests that *the like* is a fixed, lexicalised phrase. This claim can be supported by the OED which recognises the expression *and the like* it as “a formula used to avoid further enumeration of an indicated class; = ‘and so forth’”.

All of the five examples excerpted from the corpus show that *the like* is always placed at the end of the clause and it is always preceded by the conjunction *and*. In four of the examples from the search results *the like* follows after a list of items or persons and in one of the cases it stands after one item. In this way, *the like* denotes things or people which are similar or like the preceding list or the preceding item. For example in ex. 26 *the like* denotes things like “champagne and smoked sandwiches”:

- (26) ‘Comfortably ensconced in front of the TV set, with a handy line to the bookmaker, we would have a pleasant afternoon with champagne, smoked sandwiches and **the like**.’ /AC11/.

Whereas in ex. 27 *the like* denotes things like “support”:

- (27) If you are encouraging them all the time to consider propositions or arguments and then what evidence has been marshalled in support and **the like**, then you want them to come out like that ...  
/AC13/

In this way *the like* differs from the central cases of this group because what it denotes always depends on the preceding list or the preceding item. It can therefore denote abstract concepts such as “support” but also more concrete objects like “smoked sandwiches”.

Despite this fact, *the like* was included in the class of adjectives denoting abstract concepts. Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 1160) mention such use of *like* and describe it as “a noun functioning as head of a noun phrase” which can be understood as “things like that”. Therefore in this way *the like* can be easily paraphrased like the other, central examples using *that* + relative clause – *that which is like that / these*. Moreover, it can be argued that just like the central cases of this group, *the like* also has “an abstract rather than concrete interpretation” (Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 417, see 2.6.3.) because this phrase does not refer to any specific concept and it is up to the recipient/ addressee what he visualises. Actually, Biber et al. classify the use of “things like that” as “speaker’s tendency toward vagueness.” (Biber et al., 1999: 1045). Therefore it is possible to say that referent of *the like* is not concrete but rather abstract, just like the referent of the central cases of this group like *the inevitable* or *the unknown* – it depends on the context as well as on the addressees what they imagine under the given phrase.

#### **4.4. Type (d): Individual people**

This category was created on the basis of the corpus findings to accommodate for the examples which do not fit any of the three classes designed by Quirk et al. (1985: 421, see 2.6.), but still were considered to be cases of adjectives partly converted into nouns. It constitutes adjectives partly converted into nouns which denote individual persons. Therefore what differentiates members of this group from those of the three above analysed classes is their non-generic reference.

Out of the total of 100 different types of adjectives partly converted into nouns which are analysed in this thesis, this group represented four different types (4%). In total there were eight instances of this class of adjectives partly converted into nouns out of the total of 167

tokens (4.8%). The case of *the accused* was the most frequently occurring in this class (five occurrences, 62.5%). The other types of adjectives from this group had one occurrence and each represented 12.5%. Table 7 below shows the frequency of the different types of this class.

**Table 7: The frequency of occurrence and the percentage of types of adjectives partly converted into nouns denoting individual people**

Type	No. of occurrences	%
<i>the accused</i>	5	62.5
<i>the already-victorious</i>	1	12.5
<i>the Pious</i>	1	12.5
<i>the Drunken</i>	1	12.5
<b>Total</b>	8	100

#### 4.4.1. *The accused*

The corpus sample analysed in this thesis contained the most typical example of adjectives partly converted into nouns with singular reference – *the accused*, whose five occurrences represent 62.5% of total number of tokens of this class:

- (28) **The accused** drew by cheque card on a bank balance which had insufficient funds to meet the sum.  
/IP4/

Both Dušková et al. (2006: 29) and Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 417) mention this case and both grammars refer to this non-generic case as an exception to the group of adjectives partly converted into nouns which denote groups of people and have a generic reference. Huddleston and Pullum's (2002: 417) grammar mentions one more example - *the deceased*. Dušková et al. (2006: 29) add to these *the Almighty* and *his betrothed*. However, at the same time their grammar adds that it is in particular adjectives with past participle forms which can refer to a single person (see 2.6.1.).

It is possible to conclude that these corpus findings, regarding the case of *the accused*, correspond with the descriptions of the grammars. Firstly, *the accused*, being their most typical example illustrating the possibility that partly converted adjectives can have singular reference, shows a high number of occurrences in the corpus (five instances out of the total

number of 167 tokens analysed in this thesis, i.e. 3.0%). Secondly, the corpus results show that *the accused* has a non-generic reference and refers to one person. This can be inferred from the fact that they take a singular concord or from the context. Thirdly, *the accused* has a past participle form, i.e. according to Dušková et al. (2006: 29) the most typical form of adjectives partly converted into nouns with singular reference (see 2.6.1).

It is also worth noting that *the accused* was found in the OED as an item referring to an accused person. It is the only type of adjectives of this class which was found to be a lexicalised item referring to an individual person.

#### 4.4.2. *The already-victorious*

However, apart from *the accused*, the corpus findings contained a different and a very atypical case of adjectives partly converted into nouns with singular reference – *the already-victorious*:

(29) She almost offered herself for the fight, the surrogate, **the already-victorious**. /IP1/

No such case (or even a similar one) is mentioned in any of the English grammars. It is atypical because it is formed ad-hoc - it is a compound composed of an adverb and an adjective. Thus, the results are at variance with Dušková et al.'s assumption (2006: 29) that this type of adjectives with singular reference have most typically past participle form. On the other hand, this example supports Bauer's statement (1983: 226) that even compounds can undergo conversion (see 2.2.).

#### 4.4.3. *The Pious, the Drunken*

Two examples in which adjectives partly converted into nouns denote proper names were found in the corpus sample:

(30) In mid-August, 838, with Louis the German now in disgrace, Louis **the Pious** summoned his summer assembly to Quierzy on the River Oise. /IP7/

(31) Duncan **the Drunken** ran a small lock-up garage off Longbridge Road in Barking and he and the wife, Doreen, lived in a two-up-two-down round the corner. /IP8/

The cases *the Pious* and *the Drunken* can be identified as cognomens. According to the OED, cognomen is “a distinguishing name or epithet given to a person or assumed by himself; a nickname.” *The Pious* and *the Drunken*, appended after the first name, are descriptive nicknames which distinguish and characterise the named persons.



Such use of adjectives in the proper names is only very briefly mentioned by Huddleston and Pullum: “Note also the fused head restrictive modifier in proper names like Ivan [the Terrible]” (Huddleston and Pullum, 2002: 417), whereas other English grammars used in this thesis do not discuss these cases under partial conversion of adjectives to nouns at all. Nevertheless the two above mentioned examples were included in the analysis for the following reasons:

- It is possible to regard the adjectives *the Pious* and *the Drunken* as converted into nouns because they occur in syntactic positions characteristically occupied by a noun. *The Pious* and *the Drunken* are part of the proper name.
- Orthographically, their status as nouns, or more specifically, as proper nouns, is manifested by their capitalization.
- Morphologically, they behave like nouns in that they, according to additional findings in the BNC, form genitive case.
- On the other hand, their conversion into nouns is only partial because these adjectives acquire some of the characteristics of nouns only thanks their syntactic position: Like other cases of adjectives partly converted into noun, they are dependent on the presence of the definite article in front of them (see 2.4.). Plus these adjectives also seem dependant on the first name (*Louis, Duncan*) which must precede them – they do not occur separately nor do they can swap their positions (*the Pious Louis*)
- It is possible to see parallels with the example *the accused* which can also have singular reference and can form genitive case (see 2.4.).

The corpus results contained also one similar example which was nevertheless manually removed:

- (32) Sir Richard, **the eldest**, was probably the ‘master Tunstall’ who was one of the duke's councillors and William was one of Gloucester's feoffees. / HWK 361/

The reason for its removal was that it differs from the above mentioned examples in several ways. Firstly, the adjective does not start with a capital letter which indicates that it is not part of the proper name. Secondly, the adjective and the definite article preceding it are enclosed with comas which suggests that they are only inserted there optionally and do not have a restrictive or distinguishing function. In fact, by looking at the context of this sentence, *the eldest* is an elliptical form in which the missing element *brother* can be retrieved from the preceding sentence (*His two brothers, Richard and William, followed him into Gloucester's service.*).

## 4.5. Comparison between the four classes of adjectives partly converted into nouns

### 4.5.1. The number of different types and the number of tokens of adjectives partly converted into nouns

The significantly greatest number of tokens as well as types of adjectives analysed in this thesis belongs to the Type (a) denoting groups of people or animals. This type represented slightly above one half of all the analysed tokens and types of adjectives. From the total number of 100 different types of adjectives partly converted into nouns there were 52 types of this class (52%) and out of the total number of 167 analysed tokens, there were 85 tokens denoting groups of people or animals (50.9%). The second most frequently occurring class were adjectives denoting abstract concepts – Type (c). There were 37 different types of adjectives of this type excerpted from the corpus (37%) and in total there were 48 tokens of this class (28.7%). The third biggest class of adjectives partly converted into nouns was Type (b) denoting nationalities – there were seven different types of adjectives of this class (7%) and in total 26 tokens (15.6%). Members of Type (d) denoting individual people had the smallest representation in the analysed corpus sample – there were four different types of this class of adjectives (4%) and 8 tokens (4.8%). The table below summarizes these numbers.

**Table 8: Number of types of adjectives and the number of tokens in each of the four classes of adjectives partly converted into nouns**

Type	No. of types	%	No. of tokens	%
(a) Groups of people or animals	52	52	85	50.9
(b) Nationalities	7	7	26	15.6
(c) Abstract concepts	37	37	48	28.7
(d) Individual people	4	4	8	4.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>100</b>

It might be interesting to point out that whereas the percentages showing the proportion of number of different types out of the 100 analysed types of adjectives and the percentages showing the proportion of the number of tokens from the total of 167 tokens do not significantly differ in Type (a) and Type (d) (52% and 50.9%, 4.0% and 4.8% respectively), these two percentages noticeably vary in Type (b) and Type (c). While Type (b) denoting abstract concepts makes 37% different types of adjectives, its number of tokens represents only 28.7% from the total of 167 analysed adjectives. These numbers show that there was a great number of different types of adjectives of this class which tended to occur only once in the sample - out of the 37 different types only seven of them had more than one occurrence (18.9%), whereas 30 occurred only once (81.1%). On the other hand, the number showing the percentage of the total number of tokens belonging to Type (c) denoting nationalities (15.6%) is significantly higher than the percentage showing the representation of the different number of types of this class of adjectives in the corpus (7%). The difference between these two percentages is due to the fact that although there was a small number of different types of adjectives of this class, they tended to have numerous occurrences - out of the seven different types only two of them occurred only once (28.6%) whereas five of them had more than one occurrence (71.4%)

#### **4.5.2. The most frequently occurring types of adjectives partly converted into nouns**

This section will focus on the types partly converted adjectives into nouns which occurred in the analysed corpus sample at least three times. There were two types of adjectives which had a significantly higher occurrence than all the other types- *the poor* from Type (a) which appeared 12 times (which represents 7.2% out of the total number of the 167 analysed tokens) and *the British* from Type (b) with 11 occurrences (6.6%). Type (a) also included the following members with a high rate of occurrence: *the rich* and *the elderly* (six instances of each, i.e. 3.6%) and *the young* (five occurrences, i.e. 3.0%). There were also five occurrences of *the French* from Type (b), *the like* from Type (c) and *the accused* from Type (d) (each representing 3% from the total number of analysed tokens). Three occurrences (i.e. 1.8%) were seen in *the homeless* from Type (a), in two types from Type (b) – *the Chinese* and *the Irish* – and *the best / the better* of Type (c). Table 9 below summarises these findings.

**Table 9: List of the adjectives partly converted into nouns with the highest rate of occurrence from the four classes**

Adjective	Class	No. of occurrences	% from the total no. of tokens
<i>the poor</i>	Type (a)	12	7.2
<i>the British</i>	Type (b)	11	6.6
<i>the rich</i>	Type (a)	6	3.6
<i>the elderly</i>	Type (a)	6	3.6
<i>the young</i>	Type (a)	5	3.0
<i>the French</i>	Type (b)	5	3.0
<i>the like</i>	Type (c)	5	3.0
<i>the accused</i>	Type (d)	5	3.0
<i>the homeless</i>	Type (a)	3	1.8
<i>the Chinese</i>	Type (b)	3	1.8
<i>the Irish</i>	Type (b)	3	1.8
<i>the best / the better</i>	Type (c)	3	1.8

#### 4.5.3. Comparison of the morphological structure among the members of the four different classes

The analysis has shown that there are significant differences in the morphological structure among the members of different classes of adjectives partly converted into nouns. This section will especially focus on the two largest classes of partly converted adjectives-Type (a) and Type (c) because the analysis discovered some interesting differences between the morphological structure of their members. The morphological structure of Type (b) and Type (d) can be briefly summarised as follows: all of the members of the Type (b) are adjectives ending in *-ish*, *-ch*, or *-ese* and in this way the corpus findings confirm what Quirk et. al say about the morphological structure of this class (1985: 423). Adjectives belonging to Type (d) can be classified as having either past participial form (*the accused*, *the Drunken*<sup>15</sup>) or ending with an adjectival suffix *-ous* (*the-already-victorious*, *the Pious*).

<sup>15</sup> Dušková et al. mentions the case of *drunken* under adjectives with past participial form but they add that adjectives derived from irregular verbs can be formally different from the corresponding past participial form which is the case of *drunken*, *shrunk* or *shaven* (2006: 148)

Now, regarding the differences and similarities between the morphological structure of adjectives of Type (a) and Type (c), it was discovered that whereas the overwhelming majority of adjectives belonging to Type (a) display an *-ed* suffix (40.4% of types), there was only one adjective in Type (c) with such morphological structure (2.7%). Conversely, whereas adjectival suffixes, other than *-ed*, are extremely common among the members of Type (c) (62.2%), in Type (a) there is a significantly smaller proportion of adjectives with this form-28.8%. Regarding the types of adjectival suffix, there were also significant differences between the members of Type (a) and Type (c). Whereas among the members of Type (a) the most frequently occurring suffixes were *-ive* and *-y* (7.7% and 5.8%), none of these endings was present in adjectives belonging to Type (c). Conversely, whereas the most common suffix of members of Type (c) were *-al* (32.4%) and *-able* (8.1%), in Type (a) there were only one instance of an adjective ending in *-able* and no example with the suffix *-al*.

Another difference between members of Type (a) and Type (c) was that the latter class of adjectives contained no instances of present participial form, whereas in Type (a) there was one instance of such structure. Conversely, in Type (c) there was one case of an adjective with past participial form of an irregular verb, whereas there was no instance of such form in Type (a). On the other hand, the proportion of non-derived adjectives and compounds among the members of Type (a) and Type (c) was almost identical. The table below summarises these observations.

**Table 10: The Morphological structure of adjectives partly converted into nouns of Type (a) and Type (c)**

Morphological structure	Type (a)		Type (c)	
	No. of Types	%	No. of types	%
<b>Adjectives formed with <i>-ed</i> suffix</b>	21	40.4	1	2.7
<b>Adjectives derived with affixes, other than <i>-ed</i></b>	15	28.8	23	62.2
<b>Non-derived adjective</b>	13	25.0	10	27.0
<b>Compounds</b>	3	5.8	2	5.4
<b>Present participial form</b>	1	1.9	0	0
<b>Adjectives with past participial form of an irregular verb</b>	0	0	1	2.7

Moreover, it might be interesting to point out that there was at least one example of a compound form of an adjective in each of the classes (Type (a): *the white-and-holy, the hard-up, the faint-hearted*; Type (b): *the Anglo-Irish*; Type (c): *the worthwhile, the everyday*; Type (d): *the already-victorious*).

#### **4.5.3.1. Negative affixes in Type (a) and Type (c)**

The analysis has shown that negative affixes are extremely common in adjectives partly converted into nouns of Type (a) and Type (c). It was discovered that 30.8% types of adjectives of Type (a) and 21.6% types of adjectives of Type (c) display negative affixes. It was also found out that negative prefixes are much more common than suffixes. Whereas there were only two types of adjectives in Type (a) with the negative suffix *-less* and one type with the same ending in Type (c), prefixes were much more abundant among members of both classes of adjectives. There were 14 types of adjectives in Type (a) with a negative prefix (26.9%) and seven types in Type (c) (18.9%). Interestingly, in both of the classes of adjectives *un-* was the most extremely common negative affix. .

#### **4.5.4. Gradation of adjectives partly converted into nouns of Type (a) and Type (c)**

The analysis has discovered that gradation is possible among the members of Type (a) and Type (c). In Type (a) there were three instances of superlative forms (3.5% out of the total number of tokens of this class) and no examples of comparative form. On the other hand, in Type (c) gradation was more common among its members - there were five instances of superlative forms and one example of a comparative form which makes 12.5% out of the total number of tokens.

#### **4.5.5. Post-modification and pre-modification of adjectives of Type (a) and Type (b)**

The analysis has shown that partly converted adjectives of Type (a) can be pre-modified by an adverb or an adjective and post-modified by a relative clause or a participial construction. On the other hand, it was discovered that adjectives belonging to Type (b) can be post-modified by a prepositional phrase. No instances of pre-modification were found among the members of this type. Likewise, no pre-modification and post-modification was found in members of Type (c) and Type (d).

#### 4.5.6. Adjectives partly converted into nouns of the four classes as lexicalised items

It was discovered that all members of Type (b) are recognized by the OED as nouns referring collectively to people of the corresponding nationalities. On the other hand, in Type (d), only the case of *the accused* was found to be a lexicalised item which refers to an individual person. In the two classes of adjectives partly converted into nouns with the largest number of tokens, i.e. in Type (a) and Type (c), the following conclusions were reached: In Type (a), 36% of types of adjectives were found to be lexicalised items and out of the total number of tokens of this class the percentage was even higher - 51.8% of the analysed tokens were discovered to be lexicalised. The differences between these two percentages is due to the fact that lexicalised items tended to have more than one occurrence, whereas adjectives which were not found to be lexicalised items tended to occur only once. In Type (c), the percentage of types which were found to be established items in the OED was even higher than in Type (a). 51.4% of types of Type (c) were found to be lexicalised items and even a larger percentage of the total number of analysed tokens of this class were discovered to be lexicalised- 60.4 % tokens. This increase in number is again due to the fact that there was a higher rate of occurrence of the items which were found to be lexicalised. The table below sums up these findings.

**Table 11: The number of types and tokens of adjectives partly converted into nouns of the four classes which are recognized as lexicalised items**

	No. of lexicalised types	%	No. of lexicalised tokens	%
Type (a)	19	36.5	44	51.8
Type (b)	7	100	26	100
Type (c)	19	51.4	29	60.4
Type (d)	1	25	5	62.5

#### 4.5.7. Semantic relations between co-occurring types of adjectives of Type (a) and Type (c)

The analysis has shown that it is very common for partly converted adjectives of Type (a) and Type (c) to co-occur with one another (to be more specific, it is a co-occurrence of adjectives of the same class). In Type (a) there were 40 instances when a partly converted

adjective co-occurs with one or more partly converted adjectives of this class- this represents 47.1% out of the total number of 85 tokens of Type (a). A very similar percentage of co-occurring adjectives appeared in Type (c) –there were 22 tokens which appeared together with one or more adjectives partly converted into nouns of this class which represents 45.8 % out of the total number of 48 tokens of Type (c). In both Type (a) and Type (c), the semantic relation between these co-occurring adjectives was very frequently opposition. However, in Type (c) it was the overwhelming majority – out of the 22 co-occurring adjectives, between 19 of them there was a relation of semantic opposition (39.6%). In Type (a) semantic opposition was also described among a great number of tokens (16 instances, 18.8%), however the majority of tokens of this class were discovered to be in the semantic relation of co-hyponyms (19 tokens, 22.4%).

#### **4.5.8. Ambiguous cases**

As it was shown in chapter 4.3.2.3., the analysis has discovered that certain types of adjectives partly converted into nouns can be classified into more than one class. The cases of *the best* and *the dead* each appeared in the corpus sample in different context and were according to it classified to adjectives of Type (a) as well as Type (c). The cases of *the private* and *the public* appeared each in the corpus sample once and offered two equally valid interpretations – they either could be interpreted as adjectives belonging to Type (a) denoting classes of people or to Type (c) denoting an abstract concept.



## 5. Conclusion

The present thesis focuses on adjectives partly converted into nouns and their different types of denotata. The aim was to research what the English grammars and other sources state about partial conversion of adjectives into nouns and then consequently compare their claims with the examples of this type of adjectives excerpted from the BNC.

As it was stated in the theoretical part of this thesis, the process of conversion in general is understood and approached differently by different scholars and the partial conversion of adjectives into nouns is no exception. Therefore, for the purpose of the present thesis it was essential to adopt one systematic approach to this linguistic phenomenon in order to distinguish it from other grammatical structures and in order to be able to classify individual adjectives into groups according to their denotata. The first time when it was necessary to adopt a stance on the issue what cases are examples of partial conversion of adjectives into nouns and what cases should be removed from the analysis, was during the excerption from the corpus. For example, Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 1555-6) include cases such as *the above* or *the latter* and *the former* into the category of adjectives partly converted into nouns. However, this thesis strictly distinguishes between cases of partial conversion of adjectives into nouns and elliptical phrases and therefore did not include the above mentioned examples. Also, for the purposes of this thesis it was also decided to exclude idiomatic phrases such as *to the full* or *in the main* which nevertheless Quirk et al. describe in their grammar as adjectives partly converted into nouns with abstract reference (1985: 424). Moreover, a special attention was paid not to include cases of full conversion of adjectives into nouns. On the other hand, apart from manually removing such problematic cases from the analysis, some marginal cases of adjectives partly converted into nouns were included. The status of cases of *the like* and *the Pious* and *the Drunken* as adjectives partially converted into nouns might be questionable but nevertheless sections 4.3.2.5. and 4.4.3. try to justify that indeed these items can be seen as examples of partial conversion.

The practical part is based on the analysis of 167 tokens out of which there are 100 different types of adjectives partly converted into nouns excerpted from the BNC. The following formula was used to excerpt the examples:

the (\_AJ0 | \_AJC | \_AJS) ((\_ {ADV})? \_ {VERB} | \_PUN | \_ADV | \_CONJ | \_PREP | \_PRON)

The analysis consists in grouping the examples into classes according to their denotata. These different classes are examined from the morphological and the semantic perspective and a comparison between these four groups is made. These findings are then compared with the information stated in the English grammars and other sources used in this thesis.

For the purpose of grouping the excerpted adjectives partly converted into nouns into different classes according to their denotata, this thesis made the greatest use of Quirk et al.'s classification of this type of adjectives (1985: 421). Nevertheless it was necessary to make changes in their classification in order to accommodate for the corpus findings. A fourth class of adjectives partly converted into nouns denoting individual people was added. Though Dušková et. al. (2006: 29) and Huddleston and Pullum (2002: 417) mention the use of partly converted adjectives into nouns to refer to individual people, these grammars recognise it only as an exception to the class of this type of adjectives with collective reference to groups of people. However, other cases of partly converted adjectives which refer to individual people appeared in the corpus sample and therefore it was considered appropriate to put them into a separate group. Another alteration of Quirk et al.'s classification of adjectives partly converted into nouns was necessary when the analysis has shown that Type (a) can not only denote groups of people but groups of animals as well. Thanks to the occurrence of *the young* in the corpus sample which clearly denoted a group of animals, the description of Type (a) was changed.

The analytical part of this thesis tested the statements of the English grammars and other sources about adjectives partially converted into nouns. The corpus findings for example showed that this type of adjectives (more specifically, Type (a) and Type (c)) are gradable (e.g. *the poorest, the better*) In one way these results support the findings of Quirk et al. who recognise gradation among adjectives of partly converted into nouns of Type (a) (1985: 421-2). However, on the other hand the corpus results seem to be at variance with Quirk et al.'s statement that the adjectives of Type (c) are particularly restricted to superlative forms (1985: 42), because there were only 10.4% tokens of this class with such form. Regarding pre-modification of adjectives partly converted into nouns of Type (a), both the grammar of Huddleston and Pullum (2002) and Quirk et al. (1985: 421-2) state that this kind of adjectives take adverbs as pre-modifiers and that adjectives are avoided in this respect. However, apart from one instance of an adjective partly converted into a noun with an adverb as a pre-modifier, the corpus sample also included one instance in which an adjective was the pre-

modifier (*the uneducated poor*). On the other hand, the corpus findings confirmed Quirk et al.'s (1985: 421-2) statement that adjectives of Type (a) can be post-modified by a relative clause (plus the corpus results discovered that participle constructions can function as post-modifiers of adjectives of Type (a) as well) and that adjectives of Type (b) can also be post-modified. Considering partly converted adjectives of Type (b) it should be pointed out that the corpus findings absolutely correspond with Quirk et al.'s (1985: 423) findings that its members are adjectives ending in *-(i)sh*, *-ch* or *-ese* and that this class of adjectives does not always refer to the whole nation but only to some part such as the troops.

This thesis also tried to answer the question to what extent the instances of partial conversion of adjectives into nouns are established or set phrases. According to Grygiel (2003: 37) and Quirk et al. (1985: 423), members of Type (a) tend to refer to established groups of people, however they recognize that this is not a rule and that theoretically any adjective can become partly converted adjective into a noun denoting a group of people when there is need. The corpus findings seem to support this claim in the way that a slightly greater half of instances of this class of adjectives excerpted from the corpus (51.8%) were found to be lexicalised items in the OED referring to groups of people or animals but at the same time the analysis has shown that partly converted adjectives formed ad-hoc such as *the white-and-holy* are possible as well. Also, when Grygiel's (2003: 37) classification was applied on the corpus sample, a great majority (80.8%) of the instances of Type (a) fitted his classification, whereas 19.2% could not be classified into any of his categories. Regarding Type (c), research based on OED has shown there was an even higher number of lexicalised items than in Type (a) - 60.4% of the tokens were found to be lexicalised. Although this represents a high percentage, it does not seem to correspond with Quirk et al.'s (1985: 424) claim that adjectives of Type (c) are particularly restricted to established phrases. Moreover, it should be pointed out that the presence of compounds and other morphological forms in the corpus sample support Bauer's (1983) claim that there are no restrictions on the form of the word which can undergo the process of conversion. The corpus results also support the claim of Dušková et al. (2006) that there are certain adjectives whose semantics allows them to belong to different classes of adjectives grouped according to what they denote. The cases of *the best* and *the dead* show that there can be ambiguous adjectives which can have different denotata depending on the context. On the other hand, the analysis has also shown that in some cases the ambiguity is not resolved even by the context and some partly converted adjectives can allow for two equally feasible interpretations (*the private*, *the public*).

However, the present thesis did not only compare the corpus results with the literary resources - the analysis has also brought several interesting findings. One of them was that there are significant differences in the morphological structure among different classes of adjectives partly converted into nouns. It was discovered that a great majority of adjectives belonging to Type (a) end with an *-ed* suffix (40.4% of tokens), e.g. *the unemployed, the widowed*. On the other hand, in Type (c) there was only one adjectives with such form - *the unexpected* (2.7%). The adjectives of Type (c) were most commonly formed with adjectival endings, other than *-ed* (62.2% of tokens), whereas in Type (a) it was 28.9% of tokens. The overwhelmingly most frequently occurring suffix of Type (c) (which was completely absent in members of Type (a)) was *-al* (32.4%), e.g. *the political, the classical*.

Another interesting discovery was made in seeing that both the members of Type (a) and Type (c) very frequently displayed negative affixes (e.g. *the uncultured, the unusual*). It was found out that 30.8% types of adjectives of Type (a) and 21.6% types of adjectives of Type (c) have negative affixes. It was also discovered that negative prefixes were much more abundant than suffixes among members of both classes of adjectives. There were 14 types of adjectives in Type (a) with a negative prefix (26.9%) and seven types in Type (c) (18.9%).

Interestingly, it has turned out that it is extremely common for partly converted adjectives of Type (a) and Type (c) to co-occur with other instances of adjectives of the same class. In Type (a) 47.1% tokens co-occurred with one or more partly converted adjectives of this class and in Type (c) it was 45.8 % of its tokens. It was also discovered that among the members of Type (c), the overwhelmingly most frequent semantic relation between the co-occurring adjectives was semantic opposition (39.6% of its tokens), e.g. *the worthwhile - the worthless*. On the other hand, whereas semantic opposition was also frequent between the co-occurring adjectives of Type (a) (18.8% of its tokens), even a greater proportion of tokens of this class were discovered to be in the semantic relation of co-hyponyms (22.4%), e.g. *the elderly - the poor* which can be regarded as co-hyponyms of the socially disadvantaged.

We hope to have provided a systematic description of adjectives partly converted into nouns with a specific focus on their different classes of denotata

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## 7. Resumé

Tato bakalářská práce se zabývá částečnou konverzí adjektiv v substantiva a jejich denotáty. Jelikož je konverze tématem pojímaným v anglických gramatikách různým způsobem, je jedním z úkolů práce shrnout problematiku tohoto prostředku obohacování slovní zásoby v angličtině. Dalším cílem, který si práce klade, je porovnání skutečného užití částečně konvertovaných adjektiv v substantiva v BNC s jejich popisy v předních anglických gramatikách. Práce je rozdělena do několika hlavních kapitol. V krátkém úvodu je představen cíl práce, metodologie, materiál a základní literatura. Dále následuje teoretická část, která představuje souhrn přístupů k problematice konverze nejprve obecně a poté se soustředí na částečné konverze adjektiv v substantiva. Poté následuje empirická část práce, která představuje metodologii a materiál, které byly použity pro excerpci příkladů. Na ni následně navazuje samotná analýza, která představuje popis a prezentaci výsledků. Práce je zakončena závěrem, který shrnuje nejen získané výsledky, ale celou práci.

Teoretická kapitola začíná představením procesu konverze jako gramatického jevu, pro který mají anglické gramatiky velké množství termínů: „functional conversion”, „functional shift”, „zero derivation” (Quirk et al., 1985: 1558), „zero-suffixation” či „transposition” (Plag 2003: 12). Konverze je dále charakterizována jako slovotvorný proces, který v angličtině významně přispívá k obohacení slovní zásoby. Podle Duškové et al. je tento fakt dán zejména tím, že mnoho slov v angličtině nemá distinktivní tvar, který by signalizoval příslušnost k určitému slovnímu druhu a proto může dané slovo snadno fungovat ve funkcích různých slovních druhů (2006: 24). Bauer (1983: 226) k tomuto tvrzení přidává, že slovo jakékoliv morfologické struktury či slovního druhu může být volně konvertováno. V další podkapitole se teoretická část soustředí na problematiku otázky, zda je konverze proces syntaktický či morfologický. Farrell, který tvrdí, že slova jako je například *kiss* či *hammer*, jsou sémanticky málo specifická a k jejich významu přispívá až syntaktická struktura, je přesvědčen o syntaktické povaze konverze. (2001: 109) Oproti tomu Plag (2003: 114-5) je toho názoru, že mluvčí musí mít vždy jasno o slovnědruhové kategorii slova ještě před tím, než jej použije ve větě a je proto zastáncem morfologického pohledu na konverzi. Na druhou stranu však uznává, že částečná konverze adjektiv v substantiva je výjimka a v tomto případě jde o syntaktický proces. Další problematiku, kterou se tato část práce zabývá, je otázka, zda je oprávněné nazývat konverzi nulovou derivací. Don (2005) je toho názoru, že konverze představuje připojení nulového afixu, který však nijak neovlivní morfologickou strukturu slova. Jeden z jeho argumentů je založený na představě, že angličtina a další germánské

jazyky se obecně vyhýbají přidávání afixů na slova, která již afix obsahují a dále na faktu, že slova, která mají afix, budou pouze s malou pravděpodobností konvertovaná. Oproti tomuto tvrzení stojí přesvědčení Plaga (2003), který použití nulových afixů v konverzi zavrhuje. Zastává totiž názor, že pokud by konverze skutečně zahrnovala připojování nulových afixů, musel by každý takový afix mít stejnou funkci a význam jako „zjevný“ afix (*overt affix*). Jak ale Plag demonstruje na svých příkladech, sémantické rozdíly mezi slovy, která jsou konvertovaná a těch, která mají afix (například *a beat, a beating*), poukazují na rozdílné funkce těchto dvou druhů afixů.

Teoretická část se dále soustředí na částečnou konverzi adjektiv v substantiva a odlišuje je od plné konverze toho slovního druhu. Zatímco plně konvertovaná adjektiva (např. *adult, criminal*) získávají morfologické vlastnosti substantiv (tvoří –s plurál a 's genitiv) a nevyžadují přítomnost určitého členu, částečně konvertovaná adjektiva určitý člen vyžadují a netvoří –s plurál ani 's genitiv. Až na výjimky typu *the accused* nebo *the deceased*, mají generickou referenci (Dušková et al., 2006: 26-29). Oproti Duškové et al. (2006) a Biberovi et al. (1999), kteří takto rozlišují mezi částečnou a plnou konverzí, stojí přístup gramatik Quirka et al. (1985) a Huddlestona a Pulluma (2002). První ze zmíněných gramatik nepovažuje tento druh konverze jako slovotvorný, ale čistě syntaktický proces. Nazývá totiž případy jako např. *the poor* adjektivy ve funkci řídicích členů fráze („adjectives as heads of noun phrases“) a tvrdí, že téměř každé adjektivum může mít takovou funkci (Quirk et al., 1985: 1559). Na rozdíl od toho přístup Huddleston je netradiční v tom, že řadí případy částečně konvertovaných adjektiv mezi eliptické fráze (2002: 416-7).

Další podkapitola teoretické části se zabývá druhy denotátů částečně konvertovaných adjektiv. Tato sekce se zejména opírala o klasifikaci Quirka et al. (1985), který na rozdíl od Duškové et al. (2006) či Huddlestona a Pulluma (2002) nerozeznává pouze dvě, ale tři kategorie denotátů tohoto druhu adjektiv. První typ je označován jako „Type (a)“ který zahrnuje adjektiva označující skupiny lidí, kteří sdílí nějakou společnou vlastnost. Grygiel (2003) tvrdí, že nejčastěji jde o lidi ve stejné věkové skupině (*the elderly*), se stejným sociálním statutem (*the poor*) nebo tělesným stavem (*the disabled*). Quirk et al. dále tvrdí, že tato adjektiva lze stupňovat, pre-modifikovat adverbii a také post-modifikovat. Druhý typ, nazvaný „Type (b)“, označuje národnosti (např. *the French*) či určitou část národu (např. sportovní tým či vojsko), může být post-modifikovaný či pre-modifikovaný adjektivy (Quirk et al., 1985: 423-4). Třetí typ, „Type (c)“, označuje abstraktní pojmy a podle Quirka et al. (1985) jde především o ustanovené fráze (např. *the impossible*). Tyto typy adjektiv mohou být

pre-modifikované adverbii a stupňované. Dušková et al.(2006: 28-29) zmiňují adjektiva, která nabízí víc interpretací a mohou tedy patřit do více než jedné ze zmíněných skupin (např. *the cynical*).

Po teoretické části následuje kapitola popisující metodologii a použitý materiál pro empirickou část této práce, která je založena na analýze stovky různých typů částečně konvertovaných adjektiv v substantiva. Příklady byly excerpovány z BNC pomocí následujícího vzorečku:

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the (_AJ0 | _AJC | _AJS) ((_ADV)? _{VERB} | _PUN | _ADV | _CONJ | _PREP | _PRON)
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Ze seznamu vět vygenerovaných korpusem bylo vybráno prvních 100 různých typů částečně konvertovaných adjektiv v substantiva. Pokud se stejné adjektivum objevilo vícekrát (nebo jeho komparativní či superlativní forma), byl jeho výskyt také zaznamenán. Dohromady tato práce zahrnuje analýzu 167 příkladů. Kapitola popisující metodologii dále popisuje typy příkladů, které museli být z analýzy vyřazeny, protože se nejednalo o částečnou konverzi adjektiv v substantiva (např. superlativní formy adverbii a adjektiv či případy úplné konverze) a dále popis problematických případů s důvody pro jejich vyřazení (např. *the following*, *the Majestic*, *the signified*).

Analytická část této bakalářské práce je rozdělena na pět částí. První čtyři části se zabývají jednotlivými skupinami adjektiv, která jsou nejprve analyzována z morfologického a poté ze sémantického hlediska. Poslední část je věnovaná porovnání mezi těmito čtyřmi skupinami. Výsledky analýzy jsou (spolu se souhrnem celé práce) následně prezentovány v poslední kapitole. Závěr práce poukazuje na to, že i když byla teoretická část stavěna na klasifikaci částečně konvertovaných adjektiv podle Quirka et al. (1985), analýza na základě excerpovaných příkladů ukázala, že je potřeba toto dělení upravit. Za prvé se ukázalo, že je třeba zavést čtvrtou kategorii adjektiv, která mají singulární referenci a označují jednotlivé osoby. Kromě případu *the accused*, který Dušková et al. (2006) či Huddleston a Pullum (2002) označují pouze jako výjimku první skupiny adjektiv, se v analýze vyskytly případy jako *the already-victorious* či *Louis the Pious* a *Duncan the Drunken*, které jsou v analýze taktéž považovány za částečně konvertovaná adjektiva denotující jednotlivé osoby. Další změnou v klasifikaci gramatiky Quirka et al. (1985) bylo upřesnění popisu první skupiny adjektiv („Type (a)“). V korpusu se totiž objevily případy adjektiva *the young*, která jasně označují skupinu mláďat. Adjektiva této kategorie tedy mohou označovat jak skupiny osob, tak i zvířat.



Závěr práce dále shrnuje poznatky analýzy týkající se porovnání informací uvedených v anglických gramatikách o částečné konverzi adjektiv v substantiva a poznatků získaných analýzou excerpovaných příkladů. Výsledky například potvrdily, že tento druh může být stupňován, jak uvádí Quirk et al. (1985). Zároveň však ukázaly, že tvrzení Quirka et al. (1985) týkající se toho, že „Type (c)“ zahrnuje především superlativní formy adjektiv, není zcela přesný, protože v korpusu se v této skupině vyskytlo pouze 10.4% příkladů s touto formou. Co se týká pre-modifikace prvního typu adjektiv, gramatiky Huddlestona a Pulluma (2002) a Quirka et al. (1985: 421-2) tvrdí, že tato skupina bývá pre-modifikovaná adverbii a pre-modifikaci adjektivy se vyhýbá. Analýza však objevila i jeden takový neočekávaný příklad: *the uneducated poor*. Na druhou stranu však empirická část potvrdila, že adjektiva první skupiny mohou být post-modifikovaná vztahnou větou (Quirk et al.'s 1985: 421-2) a navíc bylo zjištěno, že i participiální konstrukce mohou tento typ adjektiv post-modifikovat. U adjektiv patřící do druhé skupiny označující národnosti bylo potvrzeno, že mohou být také post-modifikována, že jde o adjektiva končící na *-(i)sh*, *-ch* nebo *-ese* a dále že adjektiva tohoto typu nemusí označovat celý národ ale pouze jeho část. (Quirk et al., 1985: 423)

Tato práce se dále snažila odpovědět na otázku, do jaké míry jsou částečně konvertovaná adjektiva ustálené fráze. Podle Grygiela (2003: 37) a Quirka et al. (1985: 423), skupina označovaná jako Type (a) denotuje ustavené skupiny lidí. Na druhou stranu však oba zdroje uznávají, že teoreticky se jakékoliv adjektivum může stát členem této skupiny. Analýza excerpovaných příkladů (založená na OED) toto potvrzuje zjištěním, že lehce větší polovina (51.8%) příkladů této skupiny jsou lexikalizovaná spojení označující skupiny osob. Zároveň analýza ukázala, že i kompozita jako *the white-and-holy* mohou být předmětem konverze. Zajímavé také je, že velké většina (80.8%) příkladů této skupiny mohla být klasifikovaná podle kategorií dle Grygiela (2003: 37). Pokud jde o skupiny adjektiv označenou jako Type (c), ukázalo se, počet případů adjektiv, která lze považovat za lexikalizované fráze označující abstraktní pojmy, je dokonce ještě vyšší - 60.4%. I když je toto procento velké, příliš neodpovídá tvrzení Quirka et al. (1985), kteří považují tento typ adjektiv za skupinu, která zejména obsahuje ustálené fráze. Dále stojí za zmínku fakt, že přítomnost kompozit a dalších morfologických forem ve všech čtyřech skupinách adjektiv potvrzuje tvrzení Bauera (1983), který zastává názor, že neexistují omezení týkající se tvaru slov, která mohou být konvertována. Výsledky analýzy dále potvrdily tvrzení Duškové et al. (2006), kteří uvádí, že existují adjektiva, jež umožňují víc než jednu interpretaci, která záleží na kontextu. (příklady

*the best a the dead*). Na druhou stranu příklady *the private, the public* ukázaly, že i přesto, že kontext věty je známý, zůstávají stále dvě možné interpretace.

Kromě tohoto porovnání literatury s excerpovanými příklady přinesla analýza několik zajímavých zjištění. Empirická část práce například objevila významné rozdíly mezi morfológickou strukturou mezi jednotlivými skupinami adjektiv. Bylo zjištěno, že velká většina příkladů z první skupiny denotující skupiny osob či zvířat končí na *-ed* sufix (40.4%), např. *the unemployed, the widowed*. Na druhou stranu ve třetí skupině označující abstraktní pojmy se objevil pouze jeden příklad s takovou koncovkou *the unexpected* (2.7%). Zatímco adjektiva této skupiny nejčastěji končila na sufixy jiné než *-ed* (62.2%), ve skupině první to bylo 28.9% příkladů. Nejčastěji se vyskytující sufix třetí skupiny byl *-al* (32.4%), např. *the political, the classical*. Naopak ve skupině první se tento sufix neobjevil ani jednou.

Dalším zajímavým zjištěním byl také fakt, že v první a třetí skupině se velice často objevovaly negativní afixy (např. *the uncultured, the unusual*). V první skupině tuto formu mělo 30.8% typů adjektiv, ve skupině třetí 21.6% typů. Rovněž bylo zjištěno, že negativní prefixy jsou významně častější fenomén než sufixy – v první skupině se objevilo 14 typů adjektiv (26.9%) a ve třetí sedm typů adjektiv s negativním prefixem (18.9%).

Dále se v analýze ukázalo, že adjektiva z první a třetí skupiny se velmi často vyskytují s dalším takovým adjektivem ze stejné kategorie. V první skupině byl zjištěn výskyt dvou či více adjektiv v jedné větě ve 47.1% případech, ve třetí skupině tomu tak bylo u 45.8 % instancí. Dále bylo zjištěno, že u třetí skupiny jsou tato spolu se vyskytující slova nejčastěji v sémantické opozici- např. *the worthwhile - the worthless* (39.6%). Na druhou stranu, i když byla sémantická opozice také častým jevem u skupiny první (18.8%), ještě častěji šlo tato spolu se vyskytující se adjektiva označit jako kohyponyma, např. *the elderly-the poor* (22.4%).

Tato práce byla pokusem poskytnout ucelený popis částečně konvertovaných adjektiv a typů jejich denotátů. Práce se snažila předložit systematický popis jednotlivých skupin adjektiv rozdělených na základě denotátů jak z hlediska morfológického tak sémantického.

## 8. Appendix

The appendix contains all of the 167 tokens used for the analysis in this thesis. The following tables show the frequency of each type of adjective, the sentences in which they occurred, the codes under which the examples are referred to in the text as well as the original code from the BNC are shown. Note that they are not in the order in which they were excerpted from the BNC but they are classified according to the four different classes of denotata of the partly converted adjectives – Type (a), (b), (c) and (d).

### Type (a): Groups of people or animals

Partly Converted Adj.	Freq.	Examples	Code	Filename in BNC
the aged	1	Initial sponsorship was provided by World in Need, a charity which also helped launch Action Aid and Help <b>the Aged</b> .	G1	A01 219
the poor	12	No longer the prop of an unjust social order, the God of the Magnificat was to be found on the side of <b>the poor</b> while the mighty trembled at the prospect of being toppled from their insecure thrones.	G2	A4Y 50
		Because the elite, through their superior wealth, are better able to live up to the so-called modern values, which are all the more costly to support because of their external source, they are further differentiated from <b>the poor</b> .	G3	AN3 465
		My father, the one scholar in a large family, had caught the eye of the village schoolmaster and been coached by oil-lamp in the evening for an examination offering access to that rare privilege for the children of <b>the poor</b> , a secondary-school education.	G4	ARC 12
		So how are <b>the poor</b> trying to meet the energy crunch?	G5	B77 1400
		For Rio has indeed been cleaned up; not only through the grisly environmental ‘improvements’ — the murder of its street-children — but by constant clearances of <b>the poor</b> , exiled to vast cities on the periphery: down the long, dangerous ten-lane concrete canyon of the Avenida do Brasil.	G6	CAH 490
		Meanwhile, however, the rich followed their king's dictum ‘Après moi, le déluge’, and gave themselves up to	G7	CEW 382

		pleasure — balls, the opera (where new works by Gluck, Grétry and Piccinni were finally displacing the heroic works of Lully and Rameau, beloved of the Ancien Régime), gambling and hunting; the chattering middle classes were busy discussing politics and aesthetics; writers such as Voltaire and Diderot were chipping away at the foundations of society with their radical ideas of universal fraternity in this ‘Age of Enlightenment’; and <b>the poor</b> were being told to ‘eat cake’, if they had no bread.		
		As life expectancy has increased and earlier retirement has become more widespread in the twentieth century, so the elderly have come to comprise an ever larger section of <b>the poor</b> .	G8	EDH 1171
		An efficient NHS providing basic health care to <b>the poor</b> is, however, necessary for community development.	G9	FBH 533
		The opposition supported the bill because in principle it narrowed the gap between the rich and <b>the poor</b> , but many members of the ruling DJP opposed it, and speculation in land and securities was extremely common in South Korea.	G10	HKR 2583
		It rests also on the insight that income "transferred" by this means was not used only for the minimum relief of destitution, for the old, widowed, orphaned and infirm, but also for the purchase of some "decencies" , for the supplementation of the earnings of the underemployed as well as the relief of the involuntarily unemployed, and for the apprenticing of the children of <b>the poor</b> .	G11	HR0 1597
		Now Mill seems to be very unsure what to do about this because he doesn't want to say that the poor should be disenfranchised, because after all everyone is entitled to their say in government, but he does seem to be worried that if the poor are given an equal say or <b>the uned-- uneducated poor</b> are given an equal say, then they will make a very bad decision, a	G12	HUF 178

		decision which is against their own interests [pause] and this is one reason why he favours plural voting because he recognizes that the numerical majority might make a [pause] erm wrong decision, so we should make sure that the numerical majority don't have sway in a democratic process by giving another client more weight in it [pause] so he seems to [unclear] between wanting to disenfranchise them altogether which he seems to consider and just emasculating their vote by giving other people more votes.		
		The combined effect of federal, state and local taxes in the United States in 1985 fell heavily on <b>the poorest</b> .	G13	G1C 1248
the mighty	1	No longer the prop of an unjust social order, the God of the Magnificat was to be found on the side of the poor while <b>the mighty</b> trembled at the prospect of being toppled from their insecure thrones.	G14	A4Y 50
the handicapped	2	<b>The handicapped.</b>	G15	A7H 1290
		For the first time the Federal government took responsibility for providing, with the co-operation of the states, old age pensions, unemployment benefits and help for such groups as the blind and <b>the handicapped</b> .	G16	EWG 562
the hard-up	1	ASTAGGERING number of <b>the hard-up</b> are failing to claim benefit under the Family Credit Scheme — despite a recent change in government calculations.	G17	A9D 374
the unemployed	2	The second option will be to forget about the skills revolution for a while and concentrate on helping <b>the unemployed</b> .	G18	ABD 1732
		It rests also on the insight that income "transferred" by this means was not used only for the minimum relief of destitution, for the old, widowed, orphaned and infirm, but also for the purchase of some "decencies" , for the supplementation of the earnings of the underemployed as well as the relief of <b>the involuntarily unemployed</b> , and for the apprenticing of the children of the	G19	HR0 1597

		poor.		
the white-and-holy	1	But <b>the white-and-holy</b> showed them off like prized exhibits, for they liked to make the most of their scanty history.	G20	ABW 451
the dead	2	She sleeps like <b>the dead.</b> '	G21	ACB 2524
		It's his land but if I were you both, I wouldn't disturb <b>the dead</b> , very dangerous!'	G22	CE9 957
the disruptive	1	there is an effective strategy for managing (or expelling) <b>the disruptive</b> ;	G23	AND 48
the dispossessed	2	So now the children of <b>the dispossessed</b> were attacking the children of those who had brought such misery to their Palestinian parents.	G24	ANU 909
		Colour and caste were immaterial to them, but poverty they despised: not the real poverty of <b>the dispossessed</b> , the homeless and derelict, with whom, bizarrely, they tended to identify, but the poverty of those who were forced to work in uncongenial jobs.	G25	G1D 79
the venerable	1	<b>The venerable</b> are not therefore always the definitive word on matters of etiquette, but there was always royalty.	G26	B1J 1123
the injured	1	L'autobus includes all sorts of riders: champions, people who go well in the flat, <b>the injured</b> , the suffering, the defeated.	G27	B35 412
the suffering	1	L'autobus includes all sorts of riders: champions, people who go well in the flat, the injured, <b>the suffering</b> , the defeated.	G28	B35 412
the defeated	1	L'autobus includes all sorts of riders: champions, people who go well in the flat, the injured, the suffering, <b>the defeated.</b>	G29	B35 412
the young	5	Once <b>the young</b> are born they may be cared for by both their parents for many days.	G30	BLX 282
		Substrate spawning species have special brood care patterns, (usually in the parent responsible for care of <b>the young</b> , but often in both adults), which are used to communicate with the fry.	G31	CLT 1170
		Privatisation was particularly valued by <b>the young</b> , whether it be prisons, motorways, transport or care of the elderly.	G32	G1J 774
		This, as you know, sir, is a situation	G33	H9G 91

		that bedevils many areas of the public service but lack of continuity in care for <b>the young</b> can have particularly serious results.		
		<b>The young</b> and the elderly are to be catered for in a small land reclamation scheme in New Skelton.	G34	K4W 496
the overweight	1	However, the vast majority of people have inbuilt controls and these seem to differ only in their degree of effectiveness between <b>the overweight</b> and the slim.	G35	C94 354
the slim	1	However, the vast majority of people have inbuilt controls and these seem to differ only in their degree of effectiveness between the overweight and <b>the slim</b> .	G36	C94 354
the helpless	2	To help <b>the helpless</b> and feed the hungry is to see God.	G37	C9B 259
		There is no evidence that the Ministry of Works spent more on the public sewers than on <b>the helpless</b> , but they can scarcely have expended less money or effort on them.	G38	CCK 1469
the hungry	2	To help the helpless and feed <b>the hungry</b> is to see God.	G39	C9B 259
		Tomorrow the journey continues; as the aircraft unloads hope for <b>the hungry</b> .	G40	K1U 2665
the uninitiated	1	For <b>the uninitiated</b> , they met 18 months ago, enjoying a common outlook on music and deciding to take it from there.	G41	CAD 1931
the rich	6	Meanwhile, however, <b>the rich</b> followed their king's dictum 'Après moi, le déluge', and gave themselves up to pleasure — balls, the opera (where new works by Gluck, Grétry and Puccini were finally displacing the heroic works of Lully and Rameau, beloved of the Ancien Régime), gambling and hunting; the chattering middle classes were busy discussing politics and aesthetics; writers such as Voltaire and Diderot were chipping away at the foundations of society with their radical ideas of universal fraternity in this 'Age of Enlightenment'; and the poor were being told to 'eat cake', if they had no bread.	G42	CEW 382

		Viewed this way, culture is seen as a possession of the elite and a pursuit of <b>the rich</b> .	G43	FPJ 266
		She'd enjoyed a wide circle of friends, a coterie of the bored wives of <b>the rich</b> , except that when together their collective boredom was no longer ennui but just time-wasting.	G44	H9N 56
		The hon. Member for Garscadden says that banding protects the rich and the hon. Member for Dagenham says that the Government are clobbering <b>the rich</b> , and still we do not know.	G45	HHW 3809
		The opposition supported the bill because in principle it narrowed the gap between <b>the rich</b> and the poor, but many members of the ruling DJP opposed it, and speculation in land and securities was extremely common in South Korea.	G46	HKR 2583
		<b>The rich</b> have greater incentive to oppose redistributive policies in that they have much more to lose, and there are arguments that suggest that risk-averse individuals are keener to defend against a loss than to secure a gain (see Jones and Cullis 1986).	G47	HWH 541
the mad	1	Reactive attitudes of this sort are contrasted with so-called 'objective' ones, which we adopt towards agents who are not regarded as morally responsible: thus we often try not to resent injuries done to us by small children or <b>the mad</b> , because we recognise that, in some sense, they do not know what they are doing.	G48	CMN 173
the unbalanced	1	The concern about <b>the unbalanced</b> getting imageries for action from porn videos and television violence has not been matched by a concern that the popular newspapers may also be providing similar material.	G49	CS1 751
the disaffected	1	This possibility became an actuality when <b>the disaffected</b> , or simply vindictive, wished to achieve their ends.	G50	EBP 944
the vindictive	1	This possibility became an actuality when <b>the disaffected</b> , or simply <b>vindictive</b> , wished to achieve their ends.	G51	EBP 944



the faint-hearted	1	In true Spencer style — it is certainly not a family for <b>the faint-hearted</b> — there were angry words and exchanges of letters between the interested parties.	G52	ECM 907
the elderly	6	<b>The elderly</b> are particularly vulnerable to poverty.	G53	EDH 1170
		As life expectancy has increased and earlier retirement has become more widespread in the twentieth century, so <b>the elderly</b> have come to comprise an ever larger section of the poor.	G54	EDH 1171
		He would need to be continually finding opportunities to put himself on display to the populace: walkabouts, tours of business premises and factories and farms, appearances in pubs and clubs, visits to colleges and hospitals and homes for <b>the elderly</b> , attendances at all sorts of social functions and ceremonies — the list could be endless.	G55	EW4 551
		It seems doubtful that any strong moral reaction can now set in although some backlash is already evident; a dissident minority and a good many of <b>the elderly</b> will continue for a long time to object to what they see as moral decay.	G56	EW8 158
		Privatisation was particularly valued by the young, whether it be prisons, motorways, transport or care of <b>the elderly</b> .	G57	G1J 774
		The young and <b>the elderly are to be</b> catered for in a small land reclamation scheme in New Skelton.	G58	K4W 496
the best	1	Literally, this meant the rule of power of <b>the best</b> , but the meaning it has since acquired is not at all accidental.	G59	EVP 168
the blind	1	For the first time the Federal government took responsibility for providing, with the co-operation of the states, old age pensions, unemployment benefits and help for such groups as <b>the blind</b> and the handicapped.	G60	EWG 562
the unconverted	1	But if the objective of the advertising for such a brand is, in fact, to talk to newcomers to the market (and there are always newcomers to any market), or to <b>the unconverted</b> , or to disloyal users of other brands, there is, obviously, a very clear, specific case for ads which carry quite a lot of information,	G61	F9D 280

		presented in a suitably attractive way.		
the weak	1	But the idea that the ethical state had an obligation to protect <b>the weak</b> , to promote actively moral conduct and encourage human evolution was specific to the late nineteenth century.	G62	G0D 815
the violent	1	Then you come across this, where <b>the violent</b> have the power.	G63	G0L 2578
the homeless	3	If you have spent a twelve hour day coping with the daily realities of road accidents, the elderly incontinent, housing <b>the homeless</b> — usually with inadequate resources — I promise you that you rarely want to go home and read about it.	G64	G0W 3248
		Three major charities, Christian Aid, SCIAF and Shelter Scottish Campaign for <b>the Homeless</b> , have joined together for form Home & Away.	G65	HPH 27
		Colour and caste were immaterial to them, but poverty they despised: not the real poverty of the dispossessed, <b>the homeless</b> and derelict, with whom, bizarrely, they tended to identify, but the poverty of those who were forced to work in uncongenial jobs.	G66	G1D 79
the competitive	1	By stressing superiority of <b>the competitive</b> as opposed to the collaborative, the individual as against the collective, the private as compared to the public and by elevating profitability to at times the sole criterion of success, they have created an economic framework where the survival of the fittest has in many cases come to mean the survival of those who are best at avoiding controls on their activities without being caught	G67	G1J 795
the collaborative	1	By stressing superiority of the competitive as opposed to <b>the collaborative</b> , the individual as against the collective, the private as compared to the public and by elevating profitability to at times the sole criterion of success, they have created an economic framework where the survival of the fittest has in many cases come to mean the survival of those who are best at avoiding controls on their activities without being caught	G68	G1J 795

the fittest	1	By stressing superiority of the competitive as opposed to the collaborative, the individual as against the collective, the private as compared to the public and by elevating profitability to at times the sole criterion of success, they have created an economic framework where the survival of <b>the fittest</b> has in many cases come to mean the survival of those who are best at avoiding controls on their activities without being caught	G69	G1J 795
the unwashed	1	The tails of <b>the unwashed</b> vanish as the heads of the exclusives appear.	G70	G2Y 583
the converted	1	Where he is addressing <b>the converted</b> , so to speak, he can say that his intention may have been to reinforce or confirm views already held rather than to stir up hatred.	G71	GVR 1063
the vanquished	1	Political conflicts normally took the form of struggles between parties or individuals for influence over the ruler, struggles in which the victor secured the all-important privilege of easy access to him and in which <b>the vanquished</b> were dismissed, disgraced or exiled.	G72	H8C 5
the cultured	1	The politeness of <b>the cultured</b> towards the uncultured, the hurt defiance of the latter to the former, compound one another.	G73	HGJ 565
the uncultured	1	The politeness of the cultured towards <b>the uncultured</b> , the hurt defiance of the latter to the former, compound one another.	G74	HGJ 565
the wealthy	1	For all those reasons — administrative costs will be high, collection levels will be low and average bills will have to compensate for the special help given to <b>the wealthy</b> — the council tax bills will be higher than fair rates bills would have been.	G75	HHW 2913
the old	1	It rests also on the insight that income "transferred" by this means was not used only for the minimum relief of destitution, for <b>the old</b> , widowed, orphaned and infirm, but also for the purchase of some "decencies" , for the supplementation of the earnings of the underemployed as well as the relief of	G76	HR0 1597

		the involuntarily unemployed, and for the apprenticing of the children of the poor.		
the widowed	1	It rests also on the insight that income "transferred" by this means was not used only for the minimum relief of destitution, for <b>the</b> old, <b>widowed</b> , orphaned and infirm, but also for the purchase of some "decencies" , for the supplementation of the earnings of the underemployed as well as the relief of the involuntarily unemployed, and for the apprenticing of the children of the poor.	G77	HR0 1597
the orphaned	1	It rests also on the insight that income "transferred" by this means was not used only for the minimum relief of destitution, for <b>the</b> old, widowed, <b>orphaned</b> and infirm, but also for the purchase of some "decencies" , for the supplementation of the earnings of the underemployed as well as the relief of the involuntarily unemployed, and for the apprenticing of the children of the poor.	G78	HR0 1597
the infirm	1	It rests also on the insight that income "transferred" by this means was not used only for the minimum relief of destitution, for <b>the</b> old, widowed, orphaned and <b>infirm</b> , but also for the purchase of some "decencies" , for the supplementation of the earnings of the underemployed as well as the relief of the involuntarily unemployed, and for the apprenticing of the children of the poor.	G79	HR0 1597
the underemployed	1	It rests also on the insight that income "transferred" by this means was not used only for the minimum relief of destitution, for the old, widowed, orphaned and infirm, but also for the purchase of some "decencies" , for the supplementation of the earnings of <b>the underemployed</b> as well as the relief of the involuntarily unemployed, and for the apprenticing of the children of the poor.	G80	HR0 1597
the unsuccessful	1	But Crabbe knew the local almshouses and the hospital and the prison, and the sort of people who drift into them; he	G81	J55 218

		read, in the parish registers, the deaths of <b>the unsuccessful</b> , the marriages of the incompetent, and the births of the illegitimate		
the incompetent	1	But Crabbe knew the local almshouses and the hospital and the prison, and the sort of people who drift into them; he read, in the parish registers, the deaths of the unsuccessful, the marriages of <b>the incompetent</b> , and the births of the illegitimate	G82	J55 218
the illegitimate	1	But Crabbe knew the local almshouses and the hospital and the prison, and the sort of people who drift into them; he read, in the parish registers, the deaths of the unsuccessful, the marriages of <b>the incompetent</b> , and the births of the illegitimate	G83	J55 218
the disabled	1	They say that although many shops THINK they're providing for <b>the disabled</b> , the facilities are often inadequate.	G84	K27 2832
the self-employed	1	THE complex system of taxing <b>the self-employed is to</b> be simplified — but not until 1996/97 at the earliest.	G85	K5H 1901

**Type (b): nationalities**

Partly Converted Adj.	Fre q.	Examples	Cod e	Filename in BNC
the Dutch	2	These are the products of an age when <b>the Dutch</b> were the richest people in the world — the Japanese of their time — and they expressed their wealth by painting, not scenes of classical grandeur, but homes and streets, faces and families.	N1	A5X 57
		Whereas the Chinese would take only clear amber and <b>the Dutch</b> had a preference for it, the Russians went for cloudy amber.	N2	FBA 394
the Japanese	1	These are the products of an age when the Dutch were the richest people in the world — <b>the Japanese</b> of their time — and they expressed their wealth by painting, not scenes of classical grandeur, but homes and streets, faces and families.	N3	A5X 57
the British	11	The international order <b>the British</b> presided over had no proper place for Germany, but that which the United States brought into being after 1945 has given the Federal Republic a privileged if somewhat constrained position.	N4	A88 228
		Even in the heart of supposedly the most advanced power, Britain, the issue of Irish national liberation re-emerged in the Easter Rising of 1916; for <b>the British</b> , this was as shocking in act of disloyalty in the midst of war as was the Bolshevik revolution for the Russian establishment.	N5	ANT 1102
		If people sing really badly <b>the British</b> merely take them to their hearts.	N6	CAS 1025
		The southern end of the Passchendaele Ridge, upon which German security there depended, had been taken, although <b>the British were</b> not yet in striking distance of the northern part.	N7	CLX 1540
		This might suggest that France won the War of the Spanish Succession but nobody in Britain and not many people in France saw the result this way; it was regarded more as a struggle in which <b>the British</b> asserted themselves militarily on the continent of Europe and began to show signs of a policy of taking over the smaller colonies of other European powers by conquest.	N8	CS5 741
		Despite all these measures taken by <b>the British</b> , as sitreps on the days after 15 May record, many Croats, both military and civilians, did manage to penetrate the British lines.	N9	FE5 625
		<b>The British</b> already had substantial intelligence "assets" in Teheran.	N10	G3R 964
		If they had worked on me enough, I'd have blown the whistle on myself for the Lindbergh kidnapping, the	N11	GVE <sup>86</sup> 1758

		bombing of Pearl Harbor, the Cleveland Torso slayings, betraying West Point to <b>the British</b> , fixing the 1919 World Series and souring all the milk in Salem, Massachusetts.		
		<b>The British</b> do not like that.	N12	HSF 1101
		The argument was heard that even if, in the 1930s, there were other and perhaps more dangerous aggressors in the world, the latest imperialists had been inspired and encouraged by the deplorable yet seductive empire-building example set by <b>the British</b> .	N13	HY8 39
		<b>The British</b> should adjust to the newly emerging regional political forces and interest groups.	N14	HY8 887
the Anglo- Irish	1	Like most of <b>the Anglo-Irish</b> , the O'Neills were Church of Ireland rather than Presbyterian and moderate in their religion.	N15	AD2 83
the French	5	<b>The French</b> gave Bismarck the opportunity for this.	N16	CM6 1542
		<b>The French</b> attacked there at sunset, but were checked by Saxe-Weimar's men.	N17	CMP 2106
		'But that is because <b>the French</b> still insist on having a top and bottom to society.	N18	HGS 1196
		<b>The French are</b> just laughing at us as we stumble around in a fog.'	N19	HH5 2806
		David Robertson: high time <b>the French</b> took responsibility.	N20	K5D 12074
the Chinese	3	Whereas <b>the Chinese</b> would take only clear amber and the Dutch had a preference for it, the Russians went for cloudy amber.	N21	FBA 394
		The bikes mechanical parts actually originate in Japan — but <b>the Chinese</b> negotiated a special deal for them, and then designed their own heavy duty frames to cope with their terrible roads:	N22	K1R 1930
		<b>The Chinese</b> tended to make their kites in the outlined shapes of either fish such as the blue or red card or as birds such as the stuffed owls and vultures shown here.	N23	K4P 134
the Irish	3	<b>The Irish</b> maintain that there exists, somewhere upon the planet, a treasure trove of Croesusian magnitude, where these gold and silver fellows hobnob with single earrings beyond number and a million gemstones from engagement rings.	N24	HWN 4000
		Hudson has concluded that Cnut received the submission of the Scots in 1031 in Strathclyde, during a naval expedition into the Irish Sea, and whether or not Echmarcach did rule in Galloway and the Isle of Man at this time (see above), his presence at the meeting could be relevant to Cnut's relations with <b>the Irish</b> .	N25	HXX 1081
		THE draw for the last sixteen of the FA Trophy yesterday threw up a battle of <b>the Irish</b> .	N26	K52 244

### Type (c): Abstract concepts

Party Converted Adj.	Freq.	Examples	Code	Filename in BNC
the classical	1	<b>The Classical</b> gives way to the savage and language grows hyperactive.	AC1	A6B 52
the savage	1	The Classical gives way to <b>the savage</b> and language grows hyperactive.	AC2	A6B 52
the political	1	It is just this which allows subversive potential to parodic repetition but which also means that the parody will typically be inflected with the ambivalence I have described and, partly because of that ambivalence, oscillate between <b>the political</b> and the anarchic.	AC3	A6D 1393
the anarchic	1	It is just this which allows subversive potential to parodic repetition but which also means that the parody will typically be inflected with the ambivalence I have described and, partly because of that ambivalence, oscillate between the political and <b>the anarchic</b> .	AC4	A6D 1393
the unusual	1	His clients are mostly dealers and decorators so he specialises in <b>the unusual</b> .	AC5	A7D 916
the better/ the best	3	Nevertheless, those people who want to develop Labour politics in the province and to change things for <b>the better</b> should at least be given the chance to try.	AC6	AC0 152
		Before the new holes were commissioned <b>the best</b> had to be made of the shortened course, such as the 2nd also playing as the 17th.	AC7	AMY 663
		Maurin interjected that he had done it for <b>the best</b> , that he suspected she would spread silly gossip and it was sensible to keep her away from the English journalist.	AC8	GV2 3250
the personal	1	Yet I suspect Kinnock's problems transcended <b>the personal</b> .	AC9	AK2 1218
the mystical	1	The Hinayana (the little vehicle) is more to do with discipline and method while the Mahayana (the great vehicle) is to do with <b>the mystical</b> .	AC10	B1F 533
the like	5	'Comfortably ensconced in front of the TV set, with a handy line to the bookmaker, we would have a pleasant afternoon with champagne, smoked sandwiches and <b>the like</b> .'	AC11	B1L 277
		The sharper the boundaries, the more likely the dynamic between them will be articulated through more of less formal, institutionalised modes of mediation: patrons, brokers, interpreters, committees, councils and <b>the like</b> .	AC12	BMP 672
		If you are encouraging them all the time to consider propositions or arguments and then what evidence	AC13	FA6 1412



		has been marshalled in support and <b>the like</b> , then you want them to come out like that . . . .		
		The cases are commonly concerned with the interpretation and application of terms such as boat, resources, employee, successor in title, furnished tenancy, structural alteration, and <b>the like</b> .	AC14	GU6 947
		Amongst the matters to be considered are the nature of the disease; the degree and persistence of its infectivity; the date when the sufferer resided in the house; the steps taken to prevent risk of infection and <b>the like</b> .	AC15	HXW 1364
the obvious	2	(Who are these strange people, Peter and Susan, who labour at <b>the obvious</b> ?)	AC16	BML 903
		Furthermore, research findings can sometimes seem like a glimpse of <b>the obvious</b> , no more than what an intelligent person would have arrived at anyway.	AC17	EVF 287
the new	1	We are afraid of <b>the new</b> , of anything that might make us grow or change.’	AC18	C8E 806
the unacceptable	1	‘It differs in that it lacks the double characteristic of agape — the acceptance of <b>the unacceptable</b> , or the movement from the highest to the lowest, and, at the same time, the will to transform individual as well as social structures.’	AC19	C9B 890
the highest	1	‘It differs in that it lacks the double characteristic of agape — the acceptance of the unacceptable, or the movement from <b>the highest</b> to the lowest, and, at the same time, the will to transform individual as well as social structures.’	AC20	C9B 890
the lowest	1	‘It differs in that it lacks the double characteristic of agape — the acceptance of the unacceptable, or the movement from the highest to <b>the lowest</b> , and, at the same time, the will to transform individual as well as social structures.’	AC21	C9B 890
the worst	1	We did not know what to think last night and we had to fear <b>the worst</b> .	AC22	CBF 12794
the inevitable	2	Then started the discussion about where to store it until <b>the inevitable</b> happened, during the course of which the doorbell rang and an elderly neighbour was revealed who had kindly called to introduce himself and to ask if there was anything he could do to help me, as he had heard my husband was ill in hospital.	AC23	CES 1134
		Might it not be better to bow to <b>the inevitable</b> , as Tocqueville had suggested long before, and accept democracy in its limited representative forms as a framework within which as much as possible of the traditional structure of power and values should be preserved?	AC24	EVP 673
the intentional	1	It is because motives, intentions and historical events lack the kind of clear robust reality displayed	AC25	CM2 150

		by electrons, fields and quarks that Quine spurns <b>the intentional</b> ; the indeterminacy of translation shows up, not a special character of a distinctive form of discourse, but the extent to which the realm of the intentional fails to meet standards of reality set by physics and physical objects.		
the unexpected	1	Where in his character-drawing O'Brian touches the reader's imagination by <b>the unexpected</b> , Forester satisfied his readers by helping them to a complete acquaintance with his officers and men.	AC26	EC8 488
the unknown	1	Many new school volunteers were apprehensive about visiting the hospital, anxieties fed by their fear of <b>the unknown</b> .	AC27	ECM 513
the sublime	2	From <b>the sublime</b> to the ridiculous: John Barton's What Is The Bible?	AC28	ED4 662
		A modernist moment, too: this is the sort of exchange, in which the everyday tampers with <b>the sublime</b> , that we like to think of proprietorially as typical of our own wry and unfoolable age.	AC29	G1A 394
the ridiculous	1	From the sublime to <b>the ridiculous</b> : John Barton's What Is The Bible?	AC30	ED4 662
the banal	2	Soon after he had taken me under his ample wing he had remarked, 'Think of me as the Brahmin of <b>the Banal!</b>	AC31	FR3 285
		The new scale of architecture has since posed insuperable problems; and the earlier view that town planning could provide a protective shield of refinement over new development and so avoid the brash, <b>the banal</b> and the ugly, was not to be.	AC32	G05 1486
the brash	1	The new scale of architecture has since posed insuperable problems; and the earlier view that town planning could provide a protective shield of refinement over new development and so avoid <b>the brash</b> , the banal and the ugly, was not to be.	AC33	G05 1486
the ugly	1	The new scale of architecture has since posed insuperable problems; and the earlier view that town planning could provide a protective shield of refinement over new development and so avoid the brash, the banal and <b>the ugly</b> , was not to be.	AC34	G05 1486
the dead	1	It was the Lord Ba'al's love for the virgin Anat that brought him back from <b>the dead</b> , in response to her tears.	AC35	G0T 1486
the everyday	1	A modernist moment, too: this is the sort of exchange, in which <b>the everyday</b> tampers with the sublime, that we like to think of proprietorially as typical of our own wry and unfoolable age.	AC36	G1A 394
the private	1	By stressing superiority of the competitive as opposed to the collaborative, the individual as against the collective, <b>the private</b> as compared to the public and by elevating profitability to at times	AC37	G1J 795

		the sole criterion of success, they have created an economic framework where the survival of the fittest has in many cases come to mean the survival of those who are best at avoiding controls on their activities without being caught		
the public	1	By stressing superiority of the competitive as opposed to the collaborative, the individual as against the collective, the private as compared to <b>the public</b> and by elevating profitability to at times the sole criterion of success, they have created an economic framework where the survival of the fittest has in many cases come to mean the survival of those who are best at avoiding controls on their activities without being caught	AC38	G1J 795
the unsaleable	1	'Publishers should no longer see the sale as a way of trying to sell <b>the unsaleable</b> ,' said BML.	AC39	GWK 37
the abnormal	1	If we move from the material world of technology and physical experience to the metaphysical world of moral ideas and the imagination we find that there is enormous discrepancy about what may be considered abnormal in different circumstances, but attitudes to <b>the abnormal</b> are always ambivalent.	AC40	H10 669
the metaphorical	1	The making of these kinds of perceptual and schematic connections is illustrated by Neumann's (1959) response to a Henry Moore sculpture in which stone and landscape, holes and breasts merge to form a complex Mother Earth, a total fusion of <b>the metaphorical</b> , physical and spiritual.	AC41	H83 1520
the physical	2	The making of these kinds of perceptual and schematic connections is illustrated by Neumann's (1959) response to a Henry Moore sculpture in which stone and landscape, holes and breasts merge to form a complex Mother Earth, a total fusion of <b>the metaphorical</b> , <b>physical</b> and spiritual.	AC42	H83 1520
		The Nakedness of the bodies, in these particular photographs become codicils to the real event, which, of course is the unveiling of family structures, the strange collisions between <b>the physical</b> and the emotional, positioned within the highly charged arena of family life.	AC43	J1K 683
the spiritual	1	The making of these kinds of perceptual and schematic connections is illustrated by Neumann's (1959) response to a Henry Moore sculpture in which stone and landscape, holes and breasts merge to form a complex Mother Earth, a total fusion of <b>the metaphorical</b> , physical and <b>spiritual</b> .	AC44	H83 1520
the literary	1	As to its shortcomings, these derive, in the main, from its exclusive concern with <b>the literary</b> .	AC45	H8V 318
the worthwhile	1	It seems likely that librarians, bibliographers, and the scientists themselves, will have to live with	AC46	HPN 1961

		increased quantities of publications for the foreseeable future, and should instead develop their critical faculties and use other techniques for evaluating <b>the worthwhile</b> , and rejecting the worthless.		
the worthless	1	It seems likely that librarians, bibliographers, and the scientists themselves, will have to live with increased quantities of publications for the foreseeable future, and should instead develop their critical faculties and use other techniques for evaluating the worthwhile, and rejecting <b>the worthless.</b>	AC47	HPN 1961
the emotional	1	The Nakedness of the bodies, in these particular photographs become codicils to the real event, which, of course is the unveiling of family structures, the strange collisions between the physical and <b>the emotional</b> , positioned within the highly charged arena of family life.	AC48	J1K 683

### Type (d): Individual people

Partly Converted Adj.	Freq.	Examples	Code	Filename in BNC
the already-victorious	1	She almost offered herself for the fight, the surrogate, <b>the already-victorious</b> .	IP1	A6J 1278
the accused	5	Over in the dock <b>the accused</b> , a gangling boy of about nineteen, was smirking.	IP2	G03 308
		Moreover, there is fraud on the shopkeeper: <b>the accused</b> has concealed his dishonesty.) (d) The accused was not guilty if he switched labels "with some perverted sense of humour" .	IP3	HXE 287
		<b>The accused</b> drew by cheque card on a bank balance which had insufficient funds to meet the sum.	IP4	HXE 456
		d) If the victim is not deceived, <b>the accused</b> has not obtained by deception.	IP5	HXE 1043
		Certainly in Light (1857) [1843 – 60] All ER Rep 934, <b>the accused</b> was guilty of an assault when he said: "Were it not for the bloody policeman outside, I would split your head open. "	IP6	HXE 2022
the Pious	1	In mid-August, 838, with Louis the German now in disgrace, Louis <b>the Pious</b> summoned his summer assembly to Quierzy on the River Oise	IP7	HPT 1253
the Drunken	1	Duncan <b>the Drunken</b> ran a small lock-up garage off Longbridge Road in Barking and he and the wife, Doreen, lived in a two-up-two-down round the corner.	IP8	HW8 82