

Abstract

This bachelor thesis deals with the issue of adjectives complemented by an infinitive. Its aim is to analyse the workings of the attributive construction *être-Adj-Prép-VInf* in contemporary French and it attempts to create a typology of adjectives able to create the construction.

The first part of this thesis is a description of different approaches, that are used to study this type of construction. The first is a syntactic approach that pays attention mainly to the functions of different constituents and the so called tough-constructions. After that some terms introduced by generative grammar are briefly mentioned. The part dealing with the semantic approach to construction describes a less traditional method of sorting adjectives and later introduces the concept of metonymical compatibility.

The second part is an analysis of concrete examples. It describes the methods of searching for this construction in the corpus InterCorp and from its data a representative sample of the construction is created. Based on that data, the most frequent adjectives appearing in the construction *être-Adj-Prép-VInf* are identified.

The final part of this thesis combines the principles gathered in the previous parts and attempts to create a typology of the adjectives capable of entering the construction. Their features are then described with reference to the theoretical approaches mentioned before.

Key words

syntax, adjectives, infinitive, parallel corpus, InterCorp, generative grammar, complements, empty categories, tough-constructions