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Worksheet 3 : Complex noun phrases: postmodification (I)

WORKSHEET 3

COMPLEX NOUN PHRASES: POSTMODIFICATION (I)

Study the part Overview (pp. 574–587) of complex noun phrases. Afterwards, move to subchapter Major structural types of postmodification (p. 604).

1) Describe the major structural types of postmodification (pp. 604–605) and give examples from both LGSWE and LEFNAC.

2) Prepositional phrases are said to be by far the most common type of postmodification. Present their occurrence in relation to other postmodifiers as shown by LGSWE (p. 606) and by at least two register types in LEFNAC.

3) Describe the ratios of occurrence of non-prepositional postmodifier types across the registers in LGSWE and in at least two registers in LEFNAC. Provide examples for each non-prepositional type.

4) Present LGSWE's characteristics on the use of relativizer choices in finite relative clauses (p. 608–611). Compile similar frequency statistics for relativizers in LEFNAC texts.
Can the texts in LEFNAC support the tendency for a relative clause with human head to use *who* rather than *which* or *that* (p. 613)? Compare the frequency of occurrence of relativizers *whose* and *of which* in the academic text. Does it follow the same pattern as shown in figure 8.18 on page 618?

5) Explain the notion of "gap" in regard to the relative clauses. Compare the frequency of subject and non-subject gaps in LEFNAC with registers in LGSWE (p. 621).

Texts: F3, N3x, N3y, A3

Find definitions of the following terms, use example sentences whenever possible:

base form

canonical

clause

clause type

cleft construction

command