
PAMIES BERTRÁN, ANTONIO; PAZOS BRETANA, JOSÉ MANUEL; LUQUE NADAL, LUCÍA (EDS.): *Phraseology and discourse: cross-cultural and corpus-based approaches*. Baltmannsweiler: Schneider Verlag. 2012 [ISBN 978-3-8340-0947-0].

Fixed multi-word units can be focused from different perspectives, which can be roughly classified into quantitative or qualitative approaches, though the reality of text corpora shows that things are far from being so clear-cut. Specialists from different countries and languages explain and debate their views and research on phraseology, according to the results of modern empirical studies on real spoken and written language. All these contributions help us to build a more updated panorama of current research on phraseology, a field which, far from being a closed list of non productive items, is becoming more and more complex because of its dynamic nature: moving from syntax to lexicon and from speech to language, over almost all kinds of metalinguistic borderlines.

In Jean-Pierre Colson's *Phraséologie contrastive et linguistique de corpus: outils récents et perspectives*, many examples of a given set phrase, especially a phraseme, can be retrieved only from very large corpora. While corpora of medium size can provide a general picture of some grammatical or cultural aspects of contrastive phraseology, it is necessary to use Web-driven corpora in order to access the full palette of set phrases in context. Recent developments, especially the WaCky project, open up new possibilities of checking the traditional hypotheses of contrastive phraseology against hard evidence. At the same time, huge linguistic corpora may shed a new light on the pivotal role of contrastive phraseology in language learning and translation studies.

Salah Mejri's *Les pragmatèmes, entre théorie et description: le cas du dusa*, on the basis of Mel'cuk's typology of phrasemes, tries to validate the extreme diversity of the phraseological facts covered by the concept of *pragmateme*: utterances of any kind such as certain greetings or indications specific to certain writings, sequences like *no smoking* that whilst being transparent do not have identical sequences in the other languages, etc. After having specified the characteristics of pragmatemes, the author

provides a first typology that takes into account the shared universal dimension of this phenomenon in the characterization and in the conditions of usage, and the idiomatic dimension of their linguistic realization in each language. In order to illustrate this last dimension, a particular type of pragmateme called “*dusa*” has been chosen. The author describes its formal and semantic characteristics while providing a typology to be used as a reference in a systematic description of this phenomenon, and also considers the problems that these phrasemes pose in translation. Their strong idiomatic anchoring blocks their transfer from one language to another.

According to Jorge Baptista & Dolors Català -*What glues idioms together may not be just statistics after all? The case for compound adverbs in Portuguese and Spanish*- the construction of lexicon resources seems to be still an unavoidable bottleneck for the integration of multiword expressions in natural language processing systems, because of the costly and time-consuming task of identifying and formalizing them into computational lexicons. The problem becomes more difficult to tackle if one intends to build (semi-automatically) a lexicon directly from large-sized corpora. This contribution aims at investigating the distributional constraints between verbs and idiomatic, compound adverbs. Instead of looking for multiword idioms in texts, the opposite approach is taken, based on extensive lists of Portuguese and Spanish adverbs, the efficiency of several statistical measures is determined and applied on large-sized corpora.

The contribution of Maria Conca and Josep Guia, *Propuestas teóricas y metodológicas para el estudio de las unidades frásicas en contexto*, introduces and redefines some phraseological concepts, and describes the method of *phrasic concordance*. It proposes a system to develop rigorously phrasic corpus drawn from literary works and conduct proper phraseological analysis.

Mirella Conenna's *Expressions de médiation* shows the first results of an ongoing research project aimed at identifying the discourse(s) of mediation, the description of language used by mediators, and the creation of a French-Italian specialised dictionary. The study involves the analysis and comparison of two specialised corpora in the corresponding languages. The French corpus is composed of the *Rapports du Médiateur de la République française*, while the Italian corpus is composed of the *Relazioni del Difensore civico*. As a sample of the methodology, a detailed analysis of

the expression “le médiateur de la république” is presented, taking into account its pattern of occurrence, and its behaviour as viewed through relevant sets of concordances. Some aspects of the analysis of the Italian corpus are also presented. The findings thus obtained may be exploited for translation purposes as well as for teaching purposes, and in particular for training mediators.

František Čermak's chapter, *Animal phraseology: the case of dog and cat (a corpus-based study)*, investigates the fact that most languages use animal names to build their idioms on, especially those of dog and cat. An attempt will be made to inspect and compare their existence in the similes of four languages, namely Czech, English, French and German. Since a rather exhaustive coverage and description of these items is available in a dictionary form in Czech, this was made a starting point for the comparison. The main goal has been to inspect meaning of these similes, using a semantic framework used in the dictionary for all four languages. Hence, 63 broad semantic categories have been established and the four languages compared on this basis. It is interesting to note that despite the same extralinguistic basis quite a few differences are to be observed, due to different linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

The chapter by Moufida Ghariani Baccouche, *La phraséologie, un mode de dénominations multiples*, starts from some examples of unilexical and multiword denominations which either coexist or alternate in a perfect complementarity in natural languages (ex. Arabic/ French/English) and which are motivated by their morphology or their semantics. This contribution intends to show that multiword denominations are productive in the creation of new denominations but are in some cases replaced by alphanumeric ones which are rather scientific and neutral. The aim is to establish a certain typology of contexts motivating this or that choice.

The purpose of Kazumi Koike's work, *Colocaciones complejas metafóricas*, is to point out the existence of a special type of Spanish *complex collocations* which, used with metaphorical meaning, establish other links with their respective complements (*metaphorical complex collocations*). The base of a metaphorical complex collocation is not a noun, but a metaphORIZED compound (*cortina de humo* in *lanzar una cortina de humo sobre el escándalo*, or *balón de oxígeno* in *dar un balón de oxígeno al régimen de La Habana*). The existence of metaphorical complex

collocations causes a borderline problem between collocations and verbal idioms, precisely because of their idiomatic meaning.

According to Márton Náray-Szabó (*Verbes supports et prédicats illocutoires*), light verb constructions have been a field of interest in many linguistic frameworks for the last three decades. Their structure and behaviour depends mainly on the semantic type of the predicative noun they contain. The author provides a description of a group of important nouns: the illocutionary predicates. After having delimited this class of phraseological units, their distributional properties are compared in two languages, French and Hungarian. The latter has traditionally been considered by linguists as one resisting to that kind of structure in general, but a thorough analysis can reveal a more complex image.

André Valli; Alberto Bramati & Françoise Nin (*Comprendre les métaphores ontologiques dans l'espace roman*) are interested in idioms including a verb and a noun referring to body parts, for instance, *avoir du nez* [*to have nose], which are organised in a network of ontological metaphors (Lakoff and Johnson, 1980). In the first part, they deal with the problems raised by these idioms, as far as linguistics theories are concerned. In the second, they analyze the relationships between these idioms and their equivalents in Spanish and Italian.

Zvonimir Novoselec's & Jelena Parizoska's chapter, *A corpus-based study of similes and cognate adjectival forms in English, Swedish and Croatian*, deals with the relationship between conventionalized similes with the structure [(*as*) + Adj. + *as* + NP] in English, Swedish and Croatian [e.g. eng. (*as*) *clear as crystal*, sw. *tung som bly* (*heavy as lead), cr. *hladan kao led* (*cold as ice)] and cognate adjectival forms, more specifically Noun-Adjective compounds such as eng. *crystal-clear* and sw. *blytung* (*lead heavy) and Adverb + Adjective collocations such as cr. *ledeno hladan* (lit. *icily cold). Using corpus data, the authors examine the frequencies, collocational range and meaning of similes and adjectival forms in order to determine the degree of conventionality of each type of item and to identify the mechanisms underlying the process of creation of adjectival forms in the three languages. The aim is to show that similes and adjectival forms should be viewed on a scale of conventionality and grammaticalization. The frequencies of the two types of items as well as their semantic and syntactic differences raise the theoretical issue of the status of adjectival forms as

idiomatic expressions, and the practical problem of items which are listed in dictionaries as canonical forms

Berit Balzer's work, "*Wenn du mich fragst...*": *hypotaktische Phraseotexteme deutsch und spanisch*, deals with subordinate clauses in German and Spanish which form a distinct group within the routine formulae, as they belong to pre-patterned speech and are invariable in their sequence. Sometimes they depend on a special verb in the main clause, but most often they can be uttered as separate adverbials. After presenting a variety of hypotactic clauses introduced by *wenn*, *wo*, and *wie*, as well as their possible Spanish counterparts, the point will be made that these clauses deserve to be treated as a subgroup within the syntactically heterogeneous type of formulaic discourse.

M^a Josefa Marcos García's contribution, *Los complementos del verbo en las locuciones verbales fijas*, is centered on the verbal fixed phrases in French and Spanish. A verbal fixed construction is constituted by several elements, of which the most important is a verb. The above mentioned verb, with his complements, forms a working unit that has its own meaning. In this study the author tries to establish a classification of the type of complements for every verb in the bilingual corpus.

Ramón Martí Solano's chapter, *The current world economic crisis: phraseological equivalents and variants in English, Spanish and French*, analyzes how the 2007 world economic crisis has given rise to a specific phraseology which is common to several European languages and which functions at different syntactic and pragmatic levels, depending on the language. Solely specifically designed corpora for each multi-word unit can yield empirical results for contrastive phraseology. This paper explores total and partial phraseological equivalents in English, Spanish and French and mainly focuses on the string the *bubble bursts*, its variants and its loan translations. The main hypothesis is that it is a high degree of lexicalisation of the nominal constituent of some predicate phraseological units that allows the wide-ranging scope of lexical-syntactical variation of the canonical forms.

In Attila Cserép's work, *Idiom analyzability: an intuition-based study*, native speakers' assumptions about the meaningfulness of idiom components have been examined in two online surveys. Participants tended to assign meaning to words, mostly relying on metaphorical conceptual-

lizations, sometimes using substitute words based on common collocations or simply dividing the paraphrase and assigning meaning to the appropriate part of speech. When respondents were asked to formulate the paraphrases in their own words, they often provided holistic explanations. The results partially support conceptual metaphor theory.

Ai Inoue's contribution, *Functional differentiation between hesitation fillers: the case of "you know what" and "let's say"*, presents the multifunction and polysemy of some frequently used phraseological units in line with different contexts. The items *you know what* and *let's say* serve the same function of hesitation fillers, although the actual words that constitute these phraseological units are completely different. Through the syntactic and lexical characteristics of *you know what* and *let's say* functioning as hesitation fillers, the lexical meanings of each component of these phraseological units seem to have been retained, which means that the core function of *you know what* and *let's say* survive. In addition, *you know what* and *let's say* do not function as synonymous hesitation fillers.

The main purpose of Krisztina Geröly's chapter, *Satzwertige und satzübergreifende (textwertige) Phraseologismen in Texten der deutschen Gegenwartsliteratur*, is to analyse sentence-worthed and sentence-overlapping (text-worthed) phraseologisms in the prose of German minority authors in the 80's and 90's of the 20th century from an intercultural perspective. There were 374 sentence-worthed and sentence-overlapping phraseological items in the analyzed texts. These phraseological items can be divided in two categories: *phraseological transference* and *interference*. These phraseologisms have a culture-specified component, which does not have any equivalent in other languages. The analyzed items mainly have a pragmatical function: they express the attitude of characters in the novels to the contents of the texts.

For Günter Schmale (*The conversational treatment of idiomatic expressions in German talk shows: a corpus-based study*), corpus-based analyses of authentic conversational interaction, so far not the core interest of mainstream phraseological research, are essential in order to determine communicative functions of prefabricated expressions, but they are also indispensable so as to deliver a comprehensive description of multimodal aspects of phraseme usage. Based on a 32-hour-corpus of German television talk shows, this chapter studies the conversational treatment of formulaic

expressions, i.e. reformulations (rephrasals and paraphrases), metadiscursive comments, play on words, and concomitant nonverbal activities, which very regularly “treat” idiomatic metaphorical and/or figurative expressions in the context of “public speaking” within German talk shows.

Xabier Altzibar Aretxabaleta's paper, *Locuciones adverbiales idiomáticas en euskera*, introduces and describes a list of Basque adverbial idioms of time, quantity and opinion. A distinction is made between idioms of a higher and lower degree of idiomaticity, and focus is set on the former for their high expressive value. There exist a considerable number of Basque idiomatic fixed expressions, and many of them are equivalent or similar to Spanish idioms. This fact is considered as evidence of linguistic and cultural connection between both languages.

The chapter by Graciela García de Ruckschloss, *Variación fraseológica del español de Cuyo*, introduces a comparative empirical investigation between phraseologisms found in a region of Argentina, and those found in the rest of the country and neighbour states, including Spain, with the final objective being lexicographical cataloging. By doing this, contrastive phraseological documentation is performed to incorporate the elements to the *Diccionario de regionalismos cuyanos*, a regional semasiological monolingual dictionary that contains the local variants of the peninsular Spanish registered in Cuyo.

Makoto Sumiyoshi's paper, *Non-compositionality and the emergence of a new phraseological unit...*, discusses the phraseological pattern *have until X to V*, which can be exemplified by *The banks have until the end of February to make a decision*. The discussion in this paper is organized around the following three interesting points displayed by the phraseological pattern. First, the unit expresses the time-limit meaning that is usually expressed by the preposition *by*, although what is denoted by *until* is the duration meaning. Second, as far as syntax is concerned, it is difficult to resort to traditional linguistic apparatuses such as intraposition to explain the emergence of the unit. It can be argued that *have until* is chosen as a unit without regard to its internal syntactic structure. Third, corpora research reveals that the preposition *till* is infrequently employed in the unit even though traditional grammar argues that *till* and *until* are exchangeable in most cases. This can be attributed to a stress clash caused by the sequence of *have till*.

The aim of Laura M^a Aliaga Aguzá's *Locuciones enunciados de valor específico en contextos reales del español* is to make a pragmatic approach to the *specific value statements* in Spanish. For this purpose, the author establishes boundaries with adjacent structures, as *idiomatic phrases* and *sayings*. Secondly, focus is set on the practical analysis of such structures.

Lucja Biel: *Areas of similarity and difference in legal phraseology...*, discusses areas of similarity and difference in the phraseology of key terms in UK and Polish company law. The analysis is based on two comparable corpora of company law legislation. Similarities are motivated by the shared company-is-a-person metaphor and related conceptual scenarios, while differences arise from their system-specific instantiations, conditions-effects scripts and linguistic restrictions.

Rosa Cetro's work, *Tourisme, santé et bien-être...*, makes a contrastive phraseological analysis of some compound nouns or expressions containing the French word *tourisme*, or its Italian equivalent *turismo*, dealing with health and wellness. The aim of this research is to find which of these compound nouns is the most suitable to describe the tourism sector including thermalism, thalassotherapy and climatotherapy in both languages. After searching for these compound nouns in dictionaries, encyclopaedias, press and on Web pages, candidates are compared syntactically and semantically to establish their degree of equivalence.

Jaki's chapter is called *Bier, Schweiß und Tränen - The activation of associative networks by lexical substitutions in phraseological units*. Newspapers and advertisements are replete with modified phraseological units involving mechanisms with one specific type of modification, lexical substitution. Using lexical substitution, writers can exploit various strategies on different meaning and form levels, in order to play with a large number of associations that are connected with both the canonical and the modified form. For the researcher, this implies looking at the formal, semantic and contextual relations between *substituens* and *substituendum*. Furthermore, exploring which relations hold between the meanings of the entire canonical and modified forms will prove to be as essential as reflecting upon the factors that influence modifiability, in particular figurativity.

Britta Juska-Bacher and Stefan Meier, in the chapter *Die areale Verbreitung Sog. phraseologischer Helvetismen*, observe that the geolinguistic distribution of phraseological helvetisms is not clearly defined.

On the basis of empirical data gathered from about 1000 questionnaires (from Switzerland, Germany and Austria), they show that, in lexicographical practice, the term *helvetism* is used for different types of phrasemes: a first group which is exclusively known in (all areas of) Switzerland, a second group which is also known in Austria and/or parts of Germany, and a third group which is only known in some parts of Switzerland. We suggest that these different areal distributions should be considered by adding an element to the term *helvetism*, e.g. *austro-helvetism*, *regional helvetism*. For these classifications empirical data play an essential role.

Liliana Mitrache's paper „*Der Apfel fällt nicht leicht vom Stamm*“. *Aspekte der Sprachstörungen bei Altersdemenz* contains a research on the connection between dementia and language disturbances. A typical language disturbance of senile dementia, which belongs to the early disease stage, is the *concretism*. This term describes the inability of the patient to understand abstract expressions, the words are understood only in their literal or strict sense. In this investigation this aspect of language disturbance in senile dementia is highlighted. The analysis uses proverbs and idioms, which are based upon neuropsychological tests, accomplished in the medical-geriatric competence centre Felix Platter-Hospital in Basel, Switzerland.

Giovanna Angela Mura, in her work *Las unidades fraseológicas irónicas: un esquema fraseológico en español*, aims to demonstrate the different discursive functions carried out by the Spanish phraseological pattern (*esquema fraseológico*) *¿será por + X?*. Drawing on theories developed by GRIALE (Grupo de Investigación para la Pragmática y la Ironía del Español, University of Alicante), the different uses of this phraseological *scheme*, which include future values, negative values and references to probability, can be observed.

Ulrike Preusser's text, *Stilistischer Fehlgriff oder funktionale Modifikation? – der Phraseologismen-Gebrauch in Sarah Kuttner's Mängelexemplar*, examines the idea that literary texts continually represent revealing corpora for investigating the functions of idioms, which, however, is quite doubtful in some cases. This article attempts to reveal the implemented modifications of Sarah Kuttner's *Mängelexemplar* in such a

way as to differentiate if these can be classified either functional or unmotivated.

Justyna Pietrzak, in *Motivación fónica en los fraseologismos italianos*, analyses phonic and rhythmic devices within phraseological units. A classification of phraseologisms is proposed according to their phonetic/prosodic motivation, including some phraseological units whose only motivation is phonic.

The main aim Mario García-Page's paper, *El nombre propio proverbial en la comparación estereotipada*, is to study some stereotyped comparatives containing a proverbial proper name that points out their typically Spanish origin. These expressions are *más feo que Picio*, *más listo que Cardona*, *más tonto que Abundio*, *escribir más que el Tostado*, *tener más cuento que Calleja*, and *saber más que Lepe*.

Louisa Buckingham's chapter, "*Poniendo en evidencia*": *an analysis of selected light verb constructions in Spanish in a Latin American newspaper corpus*, examines the relative idiomaticity of the noun component in light verb constructions (LVC), and discusses the relationship between idiomaticity and the degree of morpho-syntactic fixedness of the whole construction. The material was extracted from a seven-million-word corpus of contemporary newspaper texts from seven Latin American countries, and the study concentrates on LVC whose verbs are the most frequent *dar*, *poner*, *tener* and *tomar*. Results demonstrate that idiomaticity is not always a prerequisite for morpho-syntactic fixedness and that even fully idiomatic LVCs may display degrees of structural variation.

The paper by Yara El Ghayalini and Mahdi Fendri, *Léxico y frasesmas figurados del aceite y la aceituna en árabe moderno*, studies the notional domain of olive tree in Arabic idioms and lexicon (Tunisian dialect). The cultural impact of this tree is of high importance for research in ethnolinguistic phraseo-paremiology and metaphor studies.

Esteban T. Montoro's *La fraseología especializada del área científica y socioeconómica del olivar y el aceite de oliva: entre la tradición y la modernidad*, is also dedicated to olive trees and oil production terminology, including figurative expressions and jargon, across history up to the present times.

For Mariam Mroue (*La phraséologie du positionnement dans les écrits scientifiques*), the transdisciplinary scientific lexicon is a common lexicon

for the entire scientific community, and it is related specifically to the writing and communication of scientific knowledge. This study examines the transdisciplinary collocations expressing the position of the author in his writing through a corpus of about two million words, made up of scientific articles and thesis of three scientific fields: linguistics, economics and medicine. The practical application of this study is to help foreign students in French universities to write their technical literature.

In the paper by Alejandro Pastor & Encarnación Tabares, *Estudio de la variación topolectal de las UFE en el ámbito del derecho penal español e hispanoamericano*, the authors present a systematic analysis of the main differences in the lexical selection of Spanish legal collocations, in relation to their counterparts in the different legal systems of the rest of the Spanish-speaking countries. A corpus has been built consisting of specialized texts from criminal codes of all Spanish-speaking countries from Latin America and Spain. For the practice of translation diatopic variations in the field of specialized collocations are very important because usually the terms do not always select the same basis in the different legal systems that share Spanish as official language (e.g. the same collocation is not always used in the same communicative situations and with the same meaning).

Christine Schowalter's contribution, *Die Paar Kröten, das sind doch alles nur Peanuts!* is dedicated to the *toad* (ger. *Kröte*). In the German language a very small amount of money can be metaphorically designed as *Kröten* but, nowadays, as *Peanuts* as well. A first analysis concentrates therefore on the question if the two metaphors are similar and in which manner they could whether or not be replaced by each other. A second enquiry focuses then on the idiom *to swallow a toad* (ger. *eine Kröte schlucken*) and its cross-linguistic equivalence between several languages as English, German, French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. This part is based on articles from newspapers published in various countries in 2009.

In Jean-Pierre Colson's second contribution, *A new statistical classification of set phrases*, traditional classifications based on semantic criteria are confronted with the problem of borderline cases. They cannot be easily verified on large corpora nor used for automatic extraction. In this paper, a purely statistical classification is proposed, based on the association between the element parts of n-grams and on the frequency of the combination.

M^a Luisa Ortiz Alvarez and Ana Paula Ribeiro Câmara, in their work *La jerga de estudiantes brasileños universitarios: la tribu y la aldea*, examine slang as a group's linguistic resource ("tribe belonging"), more specifically, Brazilian youngsters' slang in a university context, its dynamism and its immense potential for reflecting socio-cultural practices and values. Expressions within this micro-system (*Brazilian university slang*), collected from *Orkut* web chats and recorded interviews with students, are analyzed in relation to their origin and meaning, as well as to their role in this emerging specific context.

Sixta Quassdorf's paper, *Quotations or anonymous phrasemes - that is the question!*, addresses the relationship between quotations and phrasemes. Simple answers cannot be given to this question, as quotations are a pragmatic rather than a structural phenomenon, i.e. their proper "existence" is context-sensitive. However, diachronic studies of usage reveal how word strings that are marked as quotations (or strongly resemble word strings in a literary work) are used outside their original context; they show if and how these word strings change over time and what these changes tell us about their phraseological status. A sample study of the verse line *I must be cruel, only to be kind*, from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, demonstrates that, besides the emergence of deviating but recurrent formal and semantic properties, increased usage in new discourse contexts is especially indicative of a this development from a poet's word to a phraseological unit.

In Nils Bernstein's *Wo flinten im Korn und Hunde begraben liegen...* the author focuses the polemics in recent specialized literature about Lutz Röhrich's hypothesis of proverbs as the "rhetoric of the simple man". However, the use of many phraseological units, especially of conversational routines, is not adequate in the rather elaborated language of poetry. The counting of phraseological units in an anthology of ten volumes of German Poetry (ed. by Walther Killy et.al.) documents that they are very frequent in Modern Poetry of the 20th century. The increased frequency of occurrence can be used as a criterion for discriminating the language of poetry from everyday speech. Furthermore it proves the tendency of using colloquial language in Postmodern Poetry in terms of a deviation of concepts of conventional poetics. The article finally shows that phraseological units can be found in certain epochs of literary history.

M^a Luisa Schilling's contribution, *Nur über meine Leiche! - ¡Por encima de mi cadáver! enunciados fraseológicos alemanes y españoles que expresan recusación*, offers a contrasted analysis of German and Spanish psycho-social recusation routine formulas used to verbalize the linguistic expressions of denying and refusing. Furthermore, it analyses the linguistic structure of these routine formulae as well as their illocutive value. Finally, it includes a contrasted analysis of the final results and a wide range of total and partial equivalences between both languages.

The chapter by M^a Carmen Ugarte García, *Pintadas y fraseología*, deals with Graffiti as a vehicle for the dissemination of new and old proverbs, along with other new manifestations of culture. In Spain, the study of the graffiti has been an exception, although some researches have seen the need to pay some attention to them. In this contribution external and internal form of graffiti are reviewed. Their external form uses mnemonic mechanisms, similar to proverbs, to attract the attention.

Last but not least, Monia Bouali's paper, *Les adjectivaux actualisateurs: étude contrastive français/ arabe*, describes these multi-word collocations or idioms performing the same function than adjectives (G. Gross: 1991). According to their use, they can be predicative (<être> *en colère* : *to be in anger: “angry”) or non-predicative (<être> *de fer*: *to be [made] of iron). Previous linguistic studies generally focus on the first category. This work, deals specifically with adjectival collocations that realize the actualization of predicates, or arguments, in the elementary sentence. Whatever they be predicative or argumental, the *adjectivals* assume identification criteria specific to each use. The functioning of these items is described from a contrastive French / Arabic point of view.

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