THE USE OF PREPOSITION “WITH” WITH REFERENCE TO THE CORPUS OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN ENGLISH

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ABSTRACT

This study is entitled “The Use of Preposition “with” with reference to Corpus of Contemporary American English. The aims of the study are to describe the form and to explain the semantic relation, the function and the meaning of preposition “with”.

The data was taken from the Corpus of Contemporary American English. Furthermore, at least 1000 examples have been chosen in order to strengthen the result. The method of collecting data is documentation and the technique is note taking. The qualitative method was applied to analyze the collected data. The technique of analyzing the data was furthermore descriptively and qualitatively analyzed.

The main theory which used to analyze the preposition is the theory of preposition in “A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language” proposed by Quirk (1985) and some supporting theories, including the prepositional phrase theory in “The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language” by Hudleston (2002) and the theory of preposition classification in “Descriptive English Grammar” by House and Herman (1950).

The result of the analysis shows that the form of prepositional phrases begins with a preposition “with” and consists of the noun phrase or clause as the object of the preposition. Sometimes the object of the preposition has one or more modifiers to describe the object in more detailed. The preposition “with” only indicates the semantic role of process showing the semantic relation of process between the preposition and other elements, such as the manner, means and instrument. According to the examples in the data source, the preposition “with” indicates the function of adjunct and disjunct in the sentence and the meaning of agentive spectrum. The preposition “with” only indicates the meaning of means and instrument, support and opposition, manner, and accompaniment. On the other hand, the preposition “with” sometimes indicates another meaning, including the meaning of having.

Keywords: Preposition, form, semantic relation, function, meaning
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