

Drápela, Martin

Worksheet 2 : Complex noun phrases: premodification

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WORKSHEET 2

COMPLEX NOUN PHRASES: PREMODIFICATION

Study the part Overview (pp. 574–587) of complex noun phrases. Afterwards, move to subchapter Structural types of premodification (p. 588).

- 1) Describe the four major structural types of premodification and give examples from LGSWE.
Give some examples from LEFNAC.
Provide frequencies of the four premodifier types across the registers according to LGSWE.
- 2) Provide frequencies of premodifier types as occurring in LEFNAC.
Consider only NPs with a single premodifier. Compare these frequencies with those given in LGSWE.
- 3) Choose five premodifying nouns that are extremely or relatively frequent in the news register according to LGSWE (p. 592) and check the occurrence of these nouns against LEFNAC.
Do the same with five relatively frequent nouns in the register of academic prose (p. 593). Do these words occur also in the fiction text? Give examples of complex noun phrases with the premodifiers you have chosen.
- 4) Look at the distribution of premodification by length (p. 597). Present the statistics as provided in Figure 8.9 and give examples from both, LGSWE and LEFNAC. Characterize the distribution of premodification for at least two types in LEFNAC: the 1-word premodification and the 2-word premodification. Additionally, can a 4-word premodifier be found in the texts?
- 5) Present the occurrence of coordinated premodifiers according to LGSWE (p. 601). Analyze LEFNAC with respect to the occurrence of the *Adj AND Adj + N* pattern.

Texts: F2, N2x, N2y, A2

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

antecedent

apposition

asyndeton

attributive adjective

auxiliary verb

bare infinitive