Les oracions triargumentals causatives dels verbs psicològics catalans d’interès

Bartomeu Abrines (Binissalem)
Carles Royo (Tarragona)

Summary: This paper analyses simple tri-argumental causative sentences with Catalan psych verbs of interest (aficionar ‘to take up’, apassionar ‘to be passionate about’, entusiasmar ‘to be thrilled’, il·lusionar ‘to get excited by’, interessar ‘to be interested in’) that do not fulfil Pesetsky’s Target/Subject Matter (T/SM) Restriction (1995): L’Arnau va interessar la Meritxell [en/ per] la literatura (‘Arnau interested Meritxell in literature’). They are considered to have a complex bi-clausal argumental structure identical to that of sentences with the causative periphrasis fer ‘make’ + infinitive, but with the verb fer being silent. Both contain a dominant event nucleus vDOP and a defective functional domain (CP, TP and VoiceP) in the infinitive clause. This structure is compared with that of causatives with a subordinate clause introduced with the conjunction que ‘that’, which have a dominant event nucleus vGOP, and a complete functional domain (CP and TP). Lastly, this structure can be given more lexical content to form a periphrasis with a modal verb or equivalent, the structure of which is also analysed, together with that of constructions with other periphrases that have a pronominal psych verb in the subordinate clause.

Keywords: Catalan, argumental structure, causative sentence, tri-argumental sentence, psych verb of interest, Target/Subject Matter Restriction

Received: 04-02-2020 · Accepted: 05-11-2020