

Relational Adjectives in Romance and English

Mismatches at Interfaces

Mihaela Marchis Moreno

University of Lisbon



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contents

List of tables *page vii*

1	Introduction	1
2	What Does Morphology Learn from Relational Adjectives?	7
2.1	Lexicalism versus Syntax–Morphology Interface	7
2.2	A Transparent Interface between Syntax and Morphology	10
2.3	Theoretical Implications for the Proposed Analysis	12
3	Ontological Semantics: Qualifying versus Relational Adjectives	14
3.1	Introduction to the Ontological Semantics of Relational Adjectives	14
3.2	The Classification of Adjectives as Prototypical versus Marginal	18
3.3	On the Semantics of Adjectives	23
3.4	Three Abstract Types of Adjectival Modification: Absolute, Relational and Synthetic	26
4	A Classification of Relational Adjectives across Languages	30
4.1	Postal (1969): English Relational Adjectives	31
4.2	Levi (1978): English Complex Nominals	33
4.3	Bartning (1980): French Relational Adjectives	36
4.4	Bosque & Picallo (1996): Spanish Relational Adjectives	40
4.5	McNally & Boleda (2004): A Semantic Analysis of Relational Adjectives	43
4.6	Fábregas (2007): Spanish Relational Adjectives	46
4.7	Alexiadou & Stavrou (2011): Greek Relational Adjectives	48
4.8	A Split Classification of Relational Adjectives	50
5	The Morpho-syntactic Analysis of Relational Adjectives	57
5.1	The Denominal Nature of Relational Adjectives	58
5.2	Counterevidence to the Denominal Character of Relational Adjectives	60
5.3	Bare Nouns in Romance	62
5.4	Relational Adjectives as Bare Plurals in Romanian and Spanish	65
5.5	Thematic Relational Adjectives as Plural/Mass Nouns Expressions	68
5.6	Classificatory Adjectives as nPs	73
5.7	Evaluative Nouns: Another Case at the Syntax–Morphology Interface	75
5.8	Conclusions	81

6	The Syntax of Thematic Adjectives	84
6.1	Introduction	84
6.2	The Position of Genitive Assignment	87
6.3	Thematic Relational Adjectives	95
6.4	Interim Conclusions	99
7	Deverbal Nominalizations	101
7.1	Cornilescu's Approach to Romanian Nominalizations	102
7.2	The Aspectual Interpretation of the NO and NS Structures	105
7.3	Cornilescu's Account of the Dichotomy Infinitive versus Supine	109
7.4	Conclusions	111
8	Thematic Adjectives and Nominalizations	112
8.1	Noun-Object Structures with Th-Adjectives	114
8.2	Noun-Subject Th-Adjectives	127
8.3	The Syntactic Analysis of Noun-Th-ADJ-EA Cluster	142
8.4	Conclusions	148
9	The Syntax of Classificatory Adjectives	151
9.1	Introduction	151
9.2	The Contrastive Context: Classificatory Adjectives and CEL	154
9.3	Classificatory Adjectives and <i>de</i> Modifier Phrases	156
9.4	The Syntactic Analysis of Classificatory Adjectives	158
9.5	Conclusions	161
10	Relational Adjectives as Compounding	163
10.1	Introduction	163
10.2	Subordinate Compounds: A Classification	165
10.3	Attributive Compounding	173
10.4	<i>De</i> Phrases and Relational Adjectives as Compounds: Pros and Cons	180
10.5	Conclusions	186
11	Conclusions and Questions for Future Research	188
	<i>References</i>	194
	<i>Index</i>	202