

Pre- and Post-Modifying As in an English Noun Phrase in Comparison with French

Adéla Dyjáková

Bachelor Thesis
2014



Tomas Bata University in Zlín
Faculty of Humanities

Univerzita Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně

Fakulta humanitních studií

Ústav moderních jazyků a literatur

akademický rok: 2013/2014

ZADÁNÍ BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

(PROJEKTU, UMĚLECKÉHO DÍLA, UMĚLECKÉHO VÝKONU)

Jméno a příjmení: Adéla Dyjáková

Osobní číslo: H11055

Studijní program: B7310 Filologie

Studijní obor: Anglický jazyk pro manažerskou praxi

Forma studia: prezenční

Téma práce: Premodifikující a postmodifikující adjektiva v
anglické nominální frázi v porovnání s francouzštinou

Zásady pro vypracování:

Studium odborné literatury – nominální fráze, adjektivní fráze

Analýza pozice adjektiva v rámci nominální fráze v angličtině

Analýza pozice adjektiva v rámci nominální fráze ve francouzštině

Porovnání obou jazyků

Stanovení závěru

Rozsah bakalářské práce:

Rozsah příloh:

Forma zpracování bakalářské práce: **tištěná/elektronická**

Seznam odborné literatury:

Crystal, David. 2003. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of The English Language*. 2nd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Dušková, Libuše et al. 2003. *Mluvnice současné angličtiny na pozadí češtiny*. 3. vyd. Praha: Academia.

Huddleston, Rodney and Geoffrey K. Pullum. 2002. *The Cambridge Grammar of The English Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Quirk, Radolph et al. 1985. *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. London: Longman.

Veselovská, Ludmila and Joseph Emonds. 2005. *English Morphology and Morphosyntax: Syllabi, Examples and Exercises*. Olomouc: Univerzita Palackého v Olomouci.

Vedoucí bakalářské práce:

Mgr. Dagmar Machová

Ústav moderních jazyků a literatur

Datum zadání bakalářské práce:

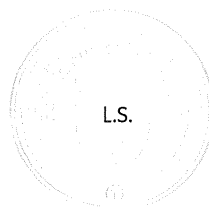
29. listopadu 2013

Termín odevzdání bakalářské práce:

2. května 2014

Ve Zlíně dne 22. ledna 2014


doc. Ing. Anežka Lengálová, Ph.D.
děkanka




PhDr. Katarína Nemčoková, Ph.D.
ředitelka ústavu

PROHLÁŠENÍ AUTORA BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

Beru na vědomí, že

- odevzdáním bakalářské práce souhlasím se zveřejněním své práce podle zákona č. 111/1998 Sb. o vysokých školách a o změně a doplnění dalších zákonů (zákon o vysokých školách), ve znění pozdějších právních předpisů, bez ohledu na výsledek obhajoby ¹⁾;
- beru na vědomí, že bakalářská práce bude uložena v elektronické podobě v univerzitním informačním systému dostupná k nahlédnutí;
- na moji bakalářskou práci se plně vztahuje zákon č. 121/2000 Sb. o právu autorském, o právech souvisejících s právem autorským a o změně některých zákonů (autorský zákon) ve znění pozdějších právních předpisů, zejm. § 35 odst. 3 ²⁾;
- podle § 60 ³⁾ odst. 1 autorského zákona má UTB ve Zlíně právo na uzavření licenční smlouvy o užití školního díla v rozsahu § 12 odst. 4 autorského zákona;
- podle § 60 ³⁾ odst. 2 a 3 mohu užít své dílo – bakalářskou práci - nebo poskytnout licenci k jejímu využití jen s předchozím písemným souhlasem Univerzity Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně, která je oprávněna v takovém případě ode mne požadovat přiměřený příspěvek na úhradu nákladů, které byly Univerzitou Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně na vytvoření díla vynaloženy (až do jejich skutečné výše);
- pokud bylo k vypracování bakalářské práce využito softwaru poskytnutého Univerzitou Tomáše Bati ve Zlíně nebo jinými subjekty pouze ke studijním a výzkumným účelům (tj. k nekomerčnímu využití), nelze výsledky bakalářské práce využít ke komerčním účelům.

Prohlašuji, že

- elektronická a tištěná verze bakalářské práce jsou totožné;
- na bakalářské práci jsem pracoval samostatně a použitou literaturu jsem citoval. V případě publikace výsledků budu uveden jako spoluautor.

Ve Zlíně 30.4.2014


.....

1) zákon č. 111/1998 Sb. o vysokých školách a o změně a doplnění dalších zákonů (zákon o vysokých školách), ve znění pozdějších právních předpisů, § 47b Zveřejňování závěrečných prací:

(1) Vysoká škola nevydělečně zveřejňuje disertační, diplomové, bakalářské a rigorózní práce, u kterých proběhla obhajoba, včetně posudků oponentů a výsledku obhajoby prostřednictvím databáze kvalifikačních prací, kterou spravuje. Způsob zveřejnění stanoví vnitřní předpis vysoké školy.

(2) *Disertační, diplomové, bakalářské a rigorózní práce odevzdané uchazečem k obhajobě musí být též nejméně pět pracovních dnů před konáním obhajoby zveřejněny k nahlázení veřejnosti v místě určeném vnitřním předpisem vysoké školy nebo není-li tak určeno, v místě pracoviště vysoké školy, kde se má konat obhajoba práce. Každý si může ze zveřejněné práce pořizovat na své náklady výpisy, opisy nebo rozmnoženiny.*

(3) *Platí, že odevzdáním práce autor souhlasí se zveřejněním své práce podle tohoto zákona, bez ohledu na výsledek obhajoby.*

2) *zákon č. 121/2000 Sb. o právu autorském, o právech souvisejících s právem autorským a o změně některých zákonů (autorský zákon) ve znění pozdějších právních předpisů, § 35 odst. 3:*

(3) *Do práva autorského také nezasahuje škola nebo školské či vzdělávací zařízení, užije-li nikoli za účelem přímého nebo nepřímého hospodářského nebo obchodního prospěchu k výuce nebo k vlastní potřebě dílo vytvořené žákem nebo studentem ke splnění školních nebo studijních povinností vyplývajících z jeho právního vztahu ke škole nebo školskému či vzdělávacímu zařízení (školní dílo).*

3) *zákon č. 121/2000 Sb. o právu autorském, o právech souvisejících s právem autorským a o změně některých zákonů (autorský zákon) ve znění pozdějších právních předpisů, § 60 Školní dílo:*

(1) *Škola nebo školské či vzdělávací zařízení mají za obvyklých podmínek právo na uzavření licenční smlouvy o užití školního díla (§ 35 odst.*

3). *Odpírá-li autor takového díla udělit svolení bez vážného důvodu, mohou se tyto osoby domáhat nahrazení chybějícího projevu jeho vůle u soudu. Ustanovení § 35 odst. 3 zůstává nedotčeno.*

(2) *Není-li sjednáno jinak, může autor školního díla své dílo užít či poskytnout jinému licenci, není-li to v rozporu s oprávněnými zájmy školy nebo školského či vzdělávacího zařízení.*

(3) *Škola nebo školské či vzdělávací zařízení jsou oprávněny požadovat, aby jim autor školního díla z výdělku jím dosaženého v souvislosti s užitím díla či poskytnutím licence podle odstavce 2 přiměřeně přispěl na úhradu nákladů, které na vytvoření díla vynaložily, a to podle okolností až do jejich skutečné výše; přitom se přihlédá k výši výdělku dosaženého školou nebo školským či vzdělávacím zařízením z užití školního díla podle odstavce 1.*

ABSTRAKT

Tato bakalářská práce se zabývá pre-modifikací a post-modifikací nominální fráze pomocí adjektiv. Detailně zkoumá pre-modifikační a post-modifikační adjektiva jako součást nominální fráze anglického jazyka. Poté je porovnává s francouzským jazykem. Pomocí komentářů u francouzských příkladů je znázorněný kontrast mezi těmito dvěma jazyky.

Klíčová slova: nominální fráze, adjektivní fráze, adjektivum, adverbium, nomen, pre-modifikace, post-modifikace, přívlastek, francouzský jazyk, anglický jazyk

ABSTRACT

This bachelor thesis deals with pre-modification and post-modification of noun phrase by adjectival phrase. Pre-modifying and post-modifying A phrases as the elements of noun phrases in English language are examined in detail and they are compared with French language. The contrast between those languages is noticeable in the glossing of French examples.

Keywords: noun phrase, A phrase, adjectival phrase, adjective, adverb, noun, pre-modification, post-modification, attribute, French, English

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My biggest acknowledgement is to my advisor Mgr. Dagmar Machová for her help, willingness and patience with my bachelor thesis. I want to thank also to Mgr. Magda Zálešáková for her help during writing the French part of my bachelor thesis. In addition, my thanks go to my family and friends, especially to my parents to whom I am grateful for supporting me during my studies.

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	10
1 CHARACTERISTICS OF ADJECTIVES.....	11
1.1 Parts of Speech	11
1.1.1 Closed Classes (Minor Classes)	11
1.1.2 Open Classes (Major Classes)	11
1.2 Features of Adjectives	11
1.3 Semantic Criteria for Being an Adjective.....	12
1.3.1 Similarity of Verbs and Adjectives.....	12
1.3.2 Continuous Form of Adjectives.....	12
1.4 Morphological Criteria for Being an Adjective	12
1.4.1 Similarity of Adjectives and Adverbs.....	12
1.4.2 Grading of Adjectives – Morphological Point of View.....	13
1.4.3 Forms of Adverbs and Adjectives	13
1.4.4 Suffix –ly	13
1.5 Syntactical Criteria for Being an Adjective	14
1.5.1 Predicate Function of Adjectives or A Phrases	14
1.5.2 Attributive Function of Adjectives or A Phrases.....	14
1.5.3 Complement Function of Adjectives or A Phrases (Secondary Predicates)	15
1.5.4 Peripheral and Central Adjectives	15
2 A PHRASE IN AN ENGLISH NOUN PHRASE.....	18
2.1 Phrase in an English Language	18
2.2 English Noun Phrase.....	19
2.2.1 The Structure of a Noun Phrase.....	19
2.3 A Phrase.....	22
2.3.1 Pre-modification	22
2.3.2 Post-modification	23
2.3.3 Pre and Post-modifying Structures	24
2.3.4 Discontinuous Structures	24
3 PRINCIPLES DETERMINING THE DISTRIBUTION OF ADJECTIVES IN AN ENGLISH NOUN PHRASE.....	25
3.1 As Pre-modifying Elements of an English Noun Phrase.....	25
3.1.1 Pre-modification by Adjectives	25
3.1.2 Pre-modification by Adverbial Phrases	27

3.1.3	Adjectives with Complements.....	28
3.1.4	Strong Attributive Constructions.....	30
3.2	As as Post-modifying Elements of an English Noun Phrase.....	31
3.2.1	Obligatory Post-modifying A Phrases.....	31
3.2.2	Optional Post-modifying A phrases.....	32
3.2.3	Post-modification by Adverbial Phrase.....	35
4	MORPHOLOGY OF ADJECTIVES IN FRENCH LANGUAGE.....	36
4.1	Gender of French Adjectives.....	36
4.1.1	Same Structure for Both Genders.....	36
4.2	Number of French Adjectives.....	37
4.3	Agreement of French Adjectives.....	37
4.3.1	Agreement in Number and Gender.....	37
4.3.2	Absence of Agreement in Number and Gender.....	37
5	PRINCIPLES DETERMINING THE DISTRIBUTION OF ADJECTIVES IN A FRENCH NOUN PHRASE.....	39
5.1	Noun Phrase in a French Language.....	39
5.2	French As as Post-modifying Elements of a French Noun Phrase.....	40
5.2.1	Adjectives Containing More than One Syllables.....	40
5.2.2	Adjectives Expressing Properties.....	40
5.2.3	Adjectives Formed of Proper Names.....	41
5.2.4	Daily used Adjectives.....	41
5.3	French As as Pre-modifying Elements of a French Noun Phrase.....	42
5.4	Special Cases of Distribution of As in a French Noun Phrases.....	44
5.4.1	Distinction in the Meaning of French As Depending on the Distribution in French Noun Phrases.....	44
5.5	Complex A Phrase in French.....	47
5.5.1	Multiple A Phrases.....	47
5.5.2	A Phrases Pre-modified by Très.....	47
5.5.3	Grading of Adjectives.....	48
	CONCLUSION.....	49
	BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	50

INTRODUCTION

This bachelor thesis is called Pre and Post-modifying As in an English Noun Phrase in Comparison with French. As is evident from the title, the bachelor thesis is focused on comparison of two languages, especially English and French from the linguistic point of view.

English adjectives as parts of speech will be discussed in the first chapter. It will consist of description of features of adjectives, their division and morphological, semantic and syntactical criteria of adjectives as a part of speech. The last thing which will be discussed in the first chapter of this thesis will be the function of adjectives from the syntactical point of view. Adjectives and A phrases have three main functions which are predicate, attributive and complement. The first chapter will start to deal with them.

Main points of the second chapter will be English noun phrase and English A phrase. Phrases are structural units of words. All phrases have possible pre-modification parts and possible post-modification parts. Pre-modification parts are elements which occur before the head of a phrase in contrast with post-modification parts which are elements occurring after the head of a phrase. The structures of noun phrases and A phrases and the main possibilities of their modifying elements will be discussed in the second chapter.

The third chapter will be called principles determining the distribution of adjectives in an English noun phrase. Rules which cause this distribution exist in English language as well as in French. This chapter will be divided into pre-modifying elements and post-modifying elements. English A phrases usually occur in the pre-modifying position and that is the reason for dealing with the pre-modifying As in more details. As as post-modifying elements of noun phrases will be also discussed in this chapter.

The fourth and the fifth chapters will be dealing with the structure of a noun phrases in French language. Fourth chapter will be about French morphology of adjectives and fifth chapter will be about the distribution of adjectives in French noun phrase. In French noun phrases post-modification by A phrases is more typical in comparison with English noun phrase. Through this bachelor thesis, I want to show a comparison between English and French in the task of distribution of A phrases in noun phrases and to emphasize principal differences between those two languages in this field.

1 CHARACTERISTICS OF ADJECTIVES

1.1 Parts of Speech

Words in each language are divided into the number of word categories. Word categories are based on sharing common properties of words. The same division exists in English language as well. These categories are traditionally called parts of speech. There are some criteria for establishing a part of speech. The most common are semantic properties, morphological properties and syntactical properties. Semantic properties are based on the meaning of word. Morphological properties are based on the word structure from an internal point of view. Those criteria show the morphemes and their classification. The syntactical properties are based on sentence structure or on a distribution of words. All properties will be discussed later in this bachelor thesis.

Parts of speech can be classified into two main categories: closed classes and open classes. (Quirk 1985, 67)

1.1.1 Closed Classes (Minor Classes)

First class is called closed because it is almost impossible to add any new words into the class by using word formation. Each of those categories has a limited number of items they content. Those categories are: prepositions (*of, at, in, with, on...*), pronouns (*he, they, somebody, who,...*), determiners (*the, a, those, this, every,...*), conjunctions (*and, that, because,...*), modal verbs (*can, could, may, would,...*), primary verbs (*be, have, do*). Content of those categories is strictly fixed. (Quirk 1985, 67)

1.1.2 Open Classes (Major Classes)

The existence of those classes seems to be universal but the roles of their members could differ. Parts of speech occurred in the open class could be modified by adding new words. Those classes are: nouns (*Jake, room, game, car, answer,...*), adjectives (*happy, new, large, great, stupid,...*), full verbs (*answer, play,...*) and adverbs (*happily, heavily,...*). (Quirk 1985, 67)

1.2 Features of Adjectives

Adjective is a word, which can be defined from many points of view. One of the definitions says that adjective amplifies a noun and it determines its properties. It is a word, which expresses some feature or quality of a noun or pronoun. (Crystal 2003, 211)

It is not always possible to identify an adjective when it stands out of the sentence because its syntactic function is not indicated by the word form. But there is a possibility how to identify an adjective, for example thank to some inflectional morphemes (*-er, -est*) which are connected with grading of adjectives. For example:

(1) *My mum is nicer to me than my aunt.*

1.3 Semantic Criteria for Being an Adjective

Semantic criteria are based on the meaning of the identifying object and on its function in a larger group of words. Semantic is a science which studies meaning relations in the system of language. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 4) As was already mentioned, semantic criteria of As mean that As are words which express a feature or a quality of a noun or pronoun. Semantic criteria will be shown more detailed in this subchapter.

1.3.1 Similarity of Verbs and Adjectives

Semantic point of view shows that adjectives are similar to verbs, especially to the stative verbs. Stative verbs express status, relations and attitudes. For example, verb *succeed* could be expressed as *to be successful*. (Dušková 1988, 142 – 143)

1.3.2 Continuous Form of Adjectives

Not only verbs are classified as dynamic and stative. Adjectives are in contrast with verbs more stative. Some of them are also dynamic. It is shown also in English grammar in usage of adjectives following the verb *be*. (Dušková 1988, 143) For example sentences:

(1) *You are clever.*

(2) *I am stupid.*

(3) *It is difficult.,*

where *clever, stupid* and *difficult* are adjectives used as continuous part of the verb phrase.

1.4 Morphological Criteria for Being an Adjective

1.4.1 Similarity of Adjectives and Adverbs

From morphological point of view, adjectives stand very close to adverbs. Their morphological features are very similar. (Dušková 1988, 142)

1.4.2 Grading of Adjectives – Morphological Point of View

One of the most significant features is grading, which develops adjectives and also adverbs. That means that they can occur in the comparative and in the superlative forms. (Dušková 1988, 149) From morphological point of view, grading means adding inflections (*-er and -est*).

As an example, adjective *happy* is used:

- (1) *The men are happier than before.*
- (2) *They are the happiest men I have ever seen.*

1.4.3 Forms of Adverbs and Adjectives

Some adverbs have also no adverbial suffix, for instance adverbs *then, often, here, soon, there* and so on. They should not be wrong classified as adjectives. Some adverbs have the same form as adjectives. For example *fast, long, late, near* and so on. From morphological point of view, those words could be classified as adverbs but also as adjectives. The classification depends on the distribution of words in the sentence, therefore on its syntactic function. (Dušková 1988, 142) For example:

- (1) *I have got a fast car.,*

where word *fast* pre-modifies noun *car* and develops it, therefore it is classified as adjective. Another example:

- (2) *I can drive my car fast.,*

where word *fast* post-modifies the verb phrase *can drive* and therefore it is classified as adverb.

1.4.4 Suffix –ly

Suffix *-ly* is not suffix especially connected to adverbs as part of speech. But it is also a typical suffix of adjectives. (Quirk 1985, 407) As for instance:

- (1) *I succeeded sufficiently.*
- (2) *He reacted naturally.*
- (3) *I have a lonely feeling.*
- (4) *This is a friendly relationship.*

In the first and in the second examples, words *sufficiently* and *naturally* are shown in the position of adverb modifying verbs *succeeded* and *reacted*. In the third and in the fourth examples, words *lonely* and *friendly* are shown in the position of adjectives modifying nouns *feeling* and *relationship*.

1.5 Syntactical Criteria for Being an Adjective

Adjectives and adverbs in traditional sense in an English language can appear in positions of predicate nominal, attributes or a subject/object complements. In the position of predicate nominal it is called an adjectival predicate, in the position of attribute, it is called an adjectival pre and post-modifiers of noun phrase and in the position of complements, it is called adjectival complements. Two main of these three functions of adjectives are adjectival pre and post-modification of noun phrase (attributes) and being an adjectival predicate (predicate nominal). (Quirk 1985, 402 – 403)

1.5.1 Predicate Function of Adjectives or A Phrases

Adjectives can stand independently in the predicative function. They can be in the position of subject complement or in the position of object complement. (Quirk 1985, 403) In the predicate function of adjectives, copula or linking verb are followed by an A phrase. Copula is any form of the verb *be* and linking verbs are for instance verbs *seem, became, appear, feel, smell, sound, taste*.

1. Predicate function of A phrase with copula (copula + AP)

- (1) *My brother is handsome.*
- (2) *My sister is taller than me.*
- (3) *My best friend is very crazy.*

2. Predicate function of A phrase with linking verb (linking verb + AP)

- (1) *He seems very happy.*
- (2) *He became really old.*
- (3) *It smells bad.*
- (4) *The song sounds good.*

1.5.2 Attributive Function of Adjectives or A Phrases

In attributive function adjectives or A phrases modify nouns as heads of noun phrases. That means that they are noun-modifiers. It could stand in both positions – in front and after a head of a noun phrase. (Quirk 1985, 402) The position depends on the characteristics of the adjective and on the complexity of the A phrase.

Examples of pre and post-modifying adjectives:

- (1) *John is a scared child. John is a child scared of dogs.*
- (2) *He is a very happy boy. He is a boy very happy to help.*

In the first sentence of example (1) and first sentence of example (2), adjectives stand as pre-modifiers of heads of a noun phrases. In second sentences adjectives stand after heads of noun phrases. They post-modify noun phrases. As is visible, those post-modifiers are more specific than pre-modifiers. The complexity of noun phrase is strictly given. Adjectives as a part of noun phrases will be dealing with later on.

1.5.3 Complement Function of Adjectives or A Phrases (Secondary Predicates)

Adjective in the position of a subject complement is related to the subject and to the predicate. Adjective in the position of an object complement is related to the object and to the predicate. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 49)

1. A phrase as a subject complement

(1) *Mary arrived **very tired**.*

(2) *John returned **so different**.*

In example (1) A phrase *very tired* stands in the position of subject complement. It develops subject *Mary* and it gives more information about it. As well as in example (2) where A phrase *so different* amplifies subject *John* and gives more information about it.

2. A phrase as an object complement.

(1) *Richard painted **the wall so dark**.*

(2) *He made **his mother happy**.*

In example (1) A phrase *so dark* modifies object *the wall*. In example (2) A phrase *happy* modifies object *his mother*. A phrases give more information about those noun phrases.

1.5.4 Peripheral and Central Adjectives

Typical adjectives are attributive which means that they can pre and post-modify nouns, they can follow linking verbs and copula and are gradable. (Quirk 1985, 403 – 404) What should be clear is that all adjectives do not fulfill all those features. Adjectives are typically analyzed with respect to those features. In the following eight examples, four criteria for establishing classes of adjectives will be studied.

Those criteria are: **attributive use**, **predicative use after the linking verb seem**, **pre-modification by very** and **grading**. (Quirk 1985, 404)

(1) *John is **hungry**.*

(2) *The universe is **infinite**.*

(3) *Susan is an **old** friend.*

(4) *The prisoners were **afraid**.*

- (5) *Bob is an **utter** fool.*
- (6) *The patient was **asleep**.*
- (7) *The meeting is **soon**.*
- (8) *Anna is **abroad**.*

1.5.4.1 Analysis of Examples

According to Randolph Quirk (1985, 404) it can be said that **central adjectives** are able to satisfy first two criteria – attributive use and predicative use after the linking verb *seem*. **Peripheral adjectives** are able to satisfy at least one of those first two criteria – attributive use or predicative use after the linking verb *seem*. Word which does not satisfy at least one of two first criteria could be classified in traditional grammar as an **adverb**.

The first example with adjective *hungry* is able to satisfy all four criteria:

- (1a) *my hungry brother*
- (1b) *My brother seems hungry.*
- (1c) *My brother is very hungry.*
- (1d) *My brother is hungrier than yesterday.*

Adjective *infinite* satisfies attributive use and predicative use after the linking verb *seem*:

- (2a) *an infinite passion*
- (2b) *It seems infinite.*
- (2c) **It is very infinite.*
- (2d) **It is more infinite.*

It can be said that adjectives *hungry* and *infinite* are both **central adjectives**.

Adjective *old* satisfies the first, the third and the fourth criterion:

- (3a) *my old grandfather*
- (3b) **He seems old.*
- (3c) *He is very old.*
- (3d) *He is older than ma father.*

Adjective *afraid* satisfies the second, the third and the fourth criterion:

- (4a) **Afraid kids are not at school.*
- (4b) *He seems afraid.*
- (4c) *He is very afraid.*
- (4d) *He is more afraid than me.*

Adjective *utter* satisfies only the first criterion:

(5a) *He is the utter crazy man.*

(5b) * *It seems utter.*

(5c) * *It is very utter.*

(5d) * *It is more utter.*

Adjective *asleep* satisfies only the second one criterion:

(6a) * *my asleep brother*

(6b) *He seems asleep.*

(6c) * *He is very asleep.*

(6d) * *He is more asleep.*

It can be said about those adjectives that they belong to the category of **peripheral adjectives**.

Word *soon* satisfies the third and the fourth criterion:

(7a) * *my soon coming*

(7b) * *It seems soon.*

(7c) *It happened very soon.*

(7d) *It happened sooner than they expected.*

And word *abroad* does not satisfy any of those criteria:

(8a) * *my abroad father*

(8b) * *It seems abroad.*

(8c) * *It is very abroad.*

(8d) * *It is more abroad.*

It can be said that words *soon* and *abroad* are from a traditional point of view **adverbs**.

2 A PHRASE IN AN ENGLISH NOUN PHRASE

This chapter will be the introduction into the topic of As in an English noun phrase. English noun phrase and the position of an adjectival phrase in a whole English noun phrase are main points which will be discussed in this chapter.

2.1 Phrase in an English Language

A phrase is a complex unit of words. Each phrase is structural. None of the sentence consists of words because every sentence in any language consists of phrases. A phrase could also consist of other phrases. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 8)

(1) [*to read a novel in one day*]^{VP}

Example (1) is a verb phrase and its head is verb *to read*. Inside this phrase there is hidden also a prepositional phrase *in one day*, where the head of this phrase is preposition *in* and inside the prepositional phrase there is even noun phrase *one day* where the noun *day* is the head. Any of word categories could become a head of a phrase. Typical categories for being heads of phrases are nouns, verbs, As and prepositions. Example of noun phrase (NP):

(2) [*my lovely sister*]^{NP},

where the noun *sister* is the head of a noun phrase. Pronoun *my* and adjective *lovely* pre-modify head *sister*. Example of verb phrase (VP) could be:

(3) (*He*) [*quickly sent a letter*]^{VP},

where VP phrase *quickly sent a letter* consists of adverb *quickly*, which pre-modifies verb *sent* which is the head of whole VP and NP *a letter* which post-modifies head *sent*. To demonstrate A phrase is used phrase:

(4) [*very clever*]^{AP},

where adjective *clever* is the head of the A phrase and adverb *very* pre-modifies the head. And finally, an example of a prepositional phrase (PP) is:

(5) [*in the afternoon*]^{PP},

where preposition *in* is the head of a phrase and the NP *the afternoon* post-modifies head *in*.

2.2 English Noun Phrase

A noun phrase is a phrase in which the noun constitutes the head of a phrase. The head of a phrase has properties of the noun as a part of speech. Noun phrase and verb phrase are able to create a whole sentence. For example sentence:

(1) *Marry sleeps.*

This example is a sentence because it constitutes of two main phrases: *sleeps* which is verb phrase of the sentence where the head of the phrase is verb *sleeps* and *Marry* which is a noun phrase of the sentence and where the head of the noun phrase is proper name *Marry*.

2.2.1 The Structure of a Noun Phrase

The easiest type of a noun phrase is a bare phrase which contents only the head.

(1) [*John*]^{NP} *went home.*,

where *John* is a whole noun phrase as well as head of the noun phrase. A noun phrase could have more parts. The most complex noun phrase in an English language could contain those parts:

(Pre-DET AP) / (Qu) – D/POSS – (Qe) – A – A – N/A – N (head) – (of – NP) – XP or clause (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 30)

(Pre-DET AP) are A phrases which could occur in the pre-determiner position of a noun phrase in English (*exclamative such, what or too, that etc.*). (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 550) This will be discussed later on in chapter 3, **(Qu)** are quantifiers (*all, half etc.*) **D/POSS** are determiners including possessives (*the, that, my etc.*), **(Qe)** are numerals (*three, fourth, etc.*), **A** are adjectives and their modifiers, **N/A** are secondary adjectives, **N** is the head of whole noun phrase, **(of – NP)** is a prepositional of-phrase, **XP** is any type of a phrase and **clause** is any type of clause (*relative clause, non-finite clause*). (Veselovská and Emonds, 2011, 30 - 31)

(2) [*The handsome boy who is wearing the sunglasses*]^{NP} *is my boyfriend.*

The noun phrase in example (2) contains definite article *the*, pre-modifying adjective *handsome*, head of the noun phrase *boy* and a whole relative clause *who is wearing the sunglasses*. This noun phrase is quite complex.

2.2.1.1 Attributes in Noun Phrases

In this part, English noun phrase will be shown in more detailed point of view. All attributes in English noun phrase could be divided into two types. Those are pre-nominal

attributes which pre-modify a head of a noun phrase and post-nominal attributes which post-modify a head of a noun phrase.

2.2.1.1.1 Pre-nominal Attributes

What is in the group of pre-nominal attributes are first of all **determiners** pre-modifying a head of a noun phrase. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 47) For example: *a, the, that, any, some, no, what, etc.* which can pre-modify for example noun *book*.

Another pre-nominal attribute is a group of **possessive noun phrases** pre-modifying a head of a noun phrase: (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 47)

- (1) [*John's book*]^{NP}
- (2) [*my sister's book*]^{NP}

Another pre-modifying element of a noun phrase is pre-modifying A phrase. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 47) For example:

- (3) [*really happy girl*]^{NP},

where noun *girl* is head of the noun phrase and *really happy* is an A phrase,

- (4) [*this dark blue book*]^{NP},

where noun *book* is head of the noun phrase, *this* is a determiner and *dark blue* is an A phrase. Those pre-modifying A phrases are more adjacent than pre-modifying determiners as is visible on the examples.

Another pre-nominal attributes are **secondary adjectives**, which behave like adjectives but morphologically they are nouns. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 48)

For example:

- (5) [*a very beautiful birthday present*]^{NP},

where noun *present* is head of the noun phrase, *a* is a determiner, *very beautiful* is a pre-modifying A phrase and *birthday* is a secondary adjective. As is shown in the fourth example, secondary adjective is always adjacent.

Another type of pre-modifying element is **adverbs as adjectives**, (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 48) for example:

- (6) [*a down town*]^{NP},

where noun *town* is head of the noun phrase and *down* is an adverb. The sixth pre-modifying part is called **participles**. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 48)

For instance:

- (7) [*entertaining people*]^{NP},

where noun *people* is head of the noun phrase and word *entertaining* is a participle.

The last possibility of pre-modifying attributes is **quotational compounds**, (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 48) such as:

(8) [*do-it-yourself service*]^{NP},

where noun *service* is head of the noun phrase and *do-it-yourself* is a quotational compound.

2.2.1.1.2 Post-nominal Attributes

Firstly, **post-nominal adjectives** occur in the group of post-nominal attributes. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 48) For example:

(1) [*the girl alone*]^{NP}

(2) [*a work abroad*]^{NP}

(3) [*someone very happy*]^{NP}

(4) [*Queen Royal*]^{NP}

In example (1), noun *girl* is head of the noun phrase, *the* is a determiner and *alone* is a post-nominal A phrase. In example (2), noun *work* is head of the noun phrase, *a* is a determiner and *abroad* is a post-nominal adjective. In example (3), *someone* is head of the noun phrase and *very happy* is a post-nominal A phrase and in example (4), noun *Queen* is head of the noun phrase and *Royal* is a post-nominal adjective.

Another post-nominal attribute could be a **prepositional phrase**. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 48) For instance:

(5) [*the dog of my sister*]^{NP}

(6) [*the way to our house*]^{NP}

(7) [*a fairy-tale about sad princess*]^{NP}

In example (5), noun *dog* is head of the noun phrase, *the* is a determiner and *of my sister* is a post-modifying prepositional phrase. In example (6), noun *way* is head of the noun phrase, *the* is a determiner and *to our house* is a post-modifying prepositional phrase and in example (7), noun *fairy-tale* is head of the noun phrase, *a* is a determiner and *about sad princess* is a post-modifying prepositional phrase.

Another group of post-nominal attributes are **infinitives**. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 48)

For example:

(8) [*an advice to go there*]^{NP}

(9) [*a tendency to help others*]^{NP}

In example (8), noun *advice* which is head of the noun phrase, *an* is a determiner and *to go there* is post-modifying infinitive structure and in example (9), noun *tendency* is head of the noun phrase, *a* is a determiner and *to help others* is a post-modifying infinitive structure.

The fourth possibility of post-nominal attributes are **participles with –ing**. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 48) For instance:

(10) [*the cup standing on the table*]^{NP},

where noun *cup* is head of the noun phrase, *the* is a determiner and *standing on the table* is a post-modifying -ing participle.

Finite clauses are also one of possibilities to post-modify a noun phrase. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 49)

(11) [*a shock that he is ill*]^{NP},

where noun *shock* is head of the noun phrase, *a* is a determiner and *that he is ill* is a post-modifying finite clause.

Another post-modifying element should be an **apposition**. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 49)

For example:

(12) [*Anna Gavalda the writer*]^{NP},

where *Anna Gavalda* is head of the noun phrase and *the writer* is an apposition.

2.3 A Phrase

In this part of the bachelor thesis an A Phrase will be defined. Each phrase in an English language is formed by the head of a phrase. We can recognize the type of the phrase according to the category of its head. (Quirk 1985, 60) In A phrase, the head of a phrase should be adjective or adverb. The head of phrase is pre-modified by pre-modification elements and post-modified by post-modification elements.

2.3.1 Pre-modification

One of pre-modification elements of English A phrases are **grading adverbs** also known as **degree words**. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 51)

(1) [*more/less/the most/the least beautiful*]^{AP},

where adjective *beautiful* is head of the A phrase and *more/less/the most/the least* are possible grading adverbs pre-modifying an A phrase, or:

(2) [*very/rather/too/so/as happy*]^{AP},

where adjective *happy* is head of the A phrase and *very/rather/too/so/as* are possible adverbs pre-modifying an A phrase, or:

(3) [*surprisingly beautiful*]^{AP},

where adjective *beautiful* is head of the A phrase and *surprisingly* is a pre-modifying adverb of the A phrase.

Other pre-modification elements could be **measure phrases**. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 51) For example:

(4) [*four-meter-sixty-centimeter high*]^{AP},

where adjective *high* is head of the A phrase and *four-meter-sixty-centimeter* is a pre-modifying measure phrase.

2.3.2 Post-modification

Post modifying elements of A phrase are very often **prepositional phrases**. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 51) For instance:

(1) [*bad at cooking*]^{AP}

(2) [*loyal to my mother*]^{AP}

(3) [*ready for match*]^{AP}

In example (1), adjective *bad* is head of the A phrase and *at cooking* is a post-modifying prepositional phrase, in example (2), adjective *loyal* is head of the A phrase and *to my mother* is a prepositional phrase which post-modifies the A phrase and example (3) shows adjective *ready* which is head of the A phrase and prepositional phrase *for match* post-modifies this A phrase.

Second group of post-modifying elements is **that clause**. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 51) For example:

(4) [*sure (that) they will come*]^{AP}

(5) [*happy (that) you came*]^{AP}

In example (4), adjective *sure* is head of the A phrase and *(that) they will come* is a post-modifying that clause and in example (5), adjective *happy* is head of the A phrase and *(that) you came* is a that clause which post-modifies this A phrase.

The last possible post-modifying element is **to infinitive verb phrase** which follows a head of an A phrase. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 52) For example:

(6) [*ready to leave*]^{AP}

(7) [*slow to react*]^{AP}

(8) [*clear not to kiss me*]^{AP}

In example (6), adjective *ready* is head of the A phrase and *to leave* is a verb phrase as a part of this A phrase. In example (7), adjective *slow* is head of the A phrase and *to react* is to infinitive verb phrase post-modifying the A phrase and in example (8), adjective *clear* is head of the A phrase and *not to kiss me* is to infinitive verb phrase which post-modifies this A phrase.

2.3.3 Pre and Post-modifying Structures

Some **structures** which are bound to each other exist in English language as well. One of them is pre-modification and second is post-modification part of an A phrase. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 52) It is shown in following examples:

(1) [*as happy as my mother*]^{AP},

where adjective *happy* is head of the A phrase and *as – as* structure pre and post-modifies the A phrase, or:

(2) [*so difficult as the previous exam*]^{AP},

where adjective *difficult* is head of the A phrase and *so – as* structure pre and post-modifies the A phrase, or:

(3) [*too stupid to pass the exam*]^{AP},

where adjective *stupid* is head of the A phrase and *structure too – to (do something)* pre and also post-modifies the A phrase.

2.3.4 Discontinuous Structures

Discontinuous structures are phrases which are commonly used in English language. (Veselovská and Emonds 2011, 52) Example is:

(1) [*much better than me*]^{AP},

where adjective *better* is head of the A phrase and *much – than structure* pre and post-modifies head of the A phrase while *much* is a pre-modifying element and *than* is a post-modifying one.

3 PRINCIPLES DETERMINING THE DISTRIBUTION OF ADJECTIVES IN AN ENGLISH NOUN PHRASE

One of the most important functions of adjectives and adverbs in traditional sense in English language is to modify a noun and to function as a part of whole noun phrase. The distribution of adjectives in an English noun phrase is controlled by many rules. Those rules will be discussed in chapter 3.

3.1 As as Pre-modifying Elements of an English Noun Phrase

Pre-modification of head of a noun phrase by A phrases is in English language more typical than its post-modification. Pre-modification of a head of a noun phrase will be discussed in chapter 3.1.

3.1.1 Pre-modification by Adjectives

As was mentioned above, pre-modification by A phrases in English language is occurred more often than its post-modification. Almost all As except complex ones could be used as a pre-modification part of head of a noun phrase. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 1323) In part 3.1.1., special cases and information about pre-modifying A phrases will be discussed. Attributive A phrases were already mentioned in chapter 2. Those are internal pre or post-modifying elements of a head of a noun phrase. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 551) Attributive adjectival phrases as pre-modifiers will be discussed in this chapter.

3.1.1.1 *As dependent on their length*

The principle of A phrase dependent on its complexity is shown in following examples:

(1) *That was [the better than shown T-shirt]^{NP}.*

Example (1) shows the A phrase inside the noun phrase *the better than shown T-shirt*. *Better* is head of the A phrase and *than shown* is a post-modifier of head of the A phrase.

It should be known that those comparative complements correctly used in those examples are usually short, such as *than* or *as* with a one another word. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 551)

(2) **That was [a worse than was shown to us T-shirt]^{NP}.*

Example (2) is wrong because post-modifier *than was shown to us* of head of the A phrase *worse* is too long. It cannot be used.

3.1.1.2 *As dependent on their function inside a noun phrase.*

Following examples show elements which are dependent on the function of A phrases in noun phrases. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 552)

(3) *He is [four years old].*

(4) **[A four years old boy].*

Example (3) shows a correct sentence and example (4) is a wrong sentence because the noun phrase structure *four years old* could be used in the predicative A phrase but not in the attributive A phrase. It could be used in the attributive A phrase only whereas it is in a form of compound adjective as is shown in the following example:

(5) *He is [a four-year-old boy].*

3.1.1.3 *As dependent on their sentence function inside a noun phrase*

This type of attributive adjectival phrases could have also post-modifiers of their head. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 551)

(6) *He was [a handsome enough boy].*

(7) **[The handsome enough boy] did it.*

In example (6) a noun phrase *a handsome enough boy* occurs. *A* is a determiner of a noun phrase *handsome* is head of the A phrase and *enough* is a post-modifier of the head. “The post-modifier *enough* occurs very readily.” (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 551) Those examples are dependent on the sentence function of the modifying noun phrase. The construction with *enough* seems to be possible only if the A phrase is a part of the subject complement or object complement (Quirk 1985, 421) as is shown in example (7), where A phrase *handsome enough* is a part of the subject and therefore it is the wrong structure.

3.1.1.4 *Pre-modifying-only Attributive Adjectives*

Pre-modifying only adjectives could occur only in the attributive function as pre-modifiers of heads of noun phrases. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 553) “There are numerous cases where an attributive adjective has a meaning that it cannot have in predicative function, or where the semantic relation between the adjective and the head nominal is different from that which it bears to its predicand when it is used predicatively.” (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 553)

Examples of pre-modifying only adjectives:

(1) *It is [my own car]^{NP}.*

(2) **It is [my car own]^{NP}.*

The A phrase *own* could pre-modify head of the noun phrase *car* as is shown in example (1) but in examples (2) A phrase *own* is shown in different function as a post-modifier of the head of the noun phrase *car* which is not possible for this A phrase. It cannot occur in the post-modifying position of attributive function as in example (2).

Another example is:

(3) *He is [a hard worker]^{NP}.*

(4) **He is [a worker hard]^{NP}.*

Example (3) is correct because the A phrase *hard* precedes noun *worker*. Its function is attributive. In the fourth example adjective *hard* post-modifies the noun *worker* which is not possible with the pre-modifying-only adjective.

3.1.2 Pre-modification by Adverbial Phrases

Adverbial phrases from a traditional point of view are also important to mention because they are a part of general term A phrase. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 572) The basic rule of distribution of bare adverbs in traditional sense in English noun phrase is shown in the following example:

(1) *This is [a very fast car]^{NP}.*

What is shown in the previous example is that adverbial phrases can occur in the pre-modification part of head of a noun phrase.

Pre-modification of head of a noun phrase by traditional adverbial phrases which is more complex is shown in following examples.

(2) *He travelled to [many far-away places]^{NP}.*

(3) *I had [a really under-the-weather feeling]^{NP}.*

In example (2), adverbial phrase *far-away* pre-modifies the head of whole noun phrase *places*. In example (3) adverbial phrase *really under-the-weather* pre-modifies the head of noun phrase *feeling*.

Common expressions used as pre-modifying parts of noun phrases are shown in following examples:

(1) *[the round-the-clock service]^{NP}*

(2) *[an up-to-date timetable]^{NP}*

Example (3) shows another A phrase *round-the-clock* pre-modifying the head of noun phrase *service* and example (4) shows that A phrase *up-to-date* pre-modifies the head of noun phrase *timetable*.

Other examples of A phrases pre-modifying a head of a noun phrase are:

(3) [*her too-simple-to-be-true dress*]^{NP}

(4) [*a come-and-fight-me attitude*]^{NP}

Example (5) shows that A phrase *too-simple-to-be-true* pre-modifying the head of a noun phrase *dress*. In example (6) is shown that A phrase *come-and-fight-me* pre-modifies head of the noun phrase *attitude*.

What is visible in previous examples is that this type of A phrases follow the determination part of a noun phrase. Wrong structures of noun phrases are shown in following examples:

(5) * [*up-to-date a timetable*]^{NP}

(6) * [*too-simple-to-be-true her dress*]^{NP}

(7) * [*really under-the-weather a feeling*]^{NP}.

3.1.3 Adjectives with Complements

All adjectives which have any complement cannot occur in the attributive position neither as post-modifiers nor as pre-modifiers of head of noun phrases. Some adjectives have obligatory complements and that is why they can never occur in the attributive position in English language. The only possibility for occurring in the attributive function as pre-modifying elements of head of noun phrases is the switch in their meaning. Those are for instance *able* with *infinitive complement*, *conscious* with preposition *of* and so on. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 559)

For instance:

(1) [*an able to achieve that boy*]^{NP}

(2) [*an able worker*]^{NP}

(3) [*a conscious of going to school girl*]^{NP}

Example (1) shows the structure of adjective *able*, in example (3) the possibility of adjective *conscious* is shown. Example (2) shows adjective *able* in the position of attributive element but the meaning of the adjective is changed. It means *He is a very good worker*.

3.1.3.1 Pre-determiner A Phrases

Pre-modification of noun phrases by A phrases in English language is more typical than its post-modification, as was already mentioned. That is why this pre-modification will be discussed in more detailed point of view in this subchapter. A phrases will be shown in the exact position of a pre-modification part of noun phrases – pre-determiner position.

“Adjectives which occur in the pre-determiner position in NP structure, before the article *a*, must meet one or other of the following conditions: the adjectival phrase begins with *how*, *as*, *too*, *so*, *this* and *that* or the head of an Adjectival phrase has *such* or exclamative *what*.” (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 550) As for example:

- (1) [*How big a house*]^{NP} *is it?*
 (2) * [*How a big house*]^{NP} *is it?*

In the first sentence A phrase *How big* pre-modifies determination part of a noun phrases *a* while word *How* pre-modifies the head of A phrase *big*. In the second sentence, a wrong structure of a noun phrase is illustrated.

- (3) [*As beautiful the house*] *is.*
 (4) * [*As the beautiful house*] *is.*

The third example shows a sentence where A phrase *As beautiful* pre-modifies the determination part of a noun phrase *the* and *As* is a pre-modifier of the head of A phrase *beautiful*. Sentence with wrong structure of a noun phrase is shown in the fourth example.

- (5) [*Too high the building*]^{NP} *is.*
 (6) * [*Too the high building*]^{NP} *is.*

In example (5), A phrase *Too high* pre-modifies the determination part of a noun phrase *the*. While *Too* is a pre-modifier of the head of A phrase *high*.

- (7) [*So happy the girl*]^{NP} *is.*
 (8) * [*So the happy girl*]^{NP} *is.*

In example (7) A phrase *So happy* precedes the determiner of a noun phrase *the*. While *So* is a pre-modifier of the head of A phrase *happy*.

- (9) [*This constructive the example*]^{NP} *is.*
 (10) * [*This the constructive example*]^{NP} *is.*

In example (9), A phrase *This constructive* precedes pre-modifying determination part of a noun phrase. While *This* is a pre-modifying element of the head of A phrase *constructive*.

- (11) *I have never seen* [*that big a dog*]^{NP} *before.*
 (12) **I have never seen* [*that a big dog*]^{NP} *before.*

Example (11) shows that A phrase *that big* precedes determination part of a noun phrase *a*, while word *that* is a pre-modifier of the head of A phrase *big*.

Those were examples of the specific beginnings of A phrases and their function on the distribution inside a noun phrase.

Other elements which influence the distribution inside a noun phrase are the specific heads of A phrase pre-modifying noun phrases: *such* and exclamative *what*. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 550)

(13) *It is [such a pity]^{NP}.*

(14) **It is [a such pity]^{NP}.*

Example (13) shows that A phrase *such* pre-modifies a determination part of a noun phrase *a*. Example (14) shows a sentence with wrong structure of the whole noun phrase.

(15) *[What crazy the girl]^{NP} is.*

(16) **[What the crazy girl]^{NP} is.*

In example (15) A phrase *What crazy* pre-modifies a determiner *the* of a noun phrase and example (16) shows sentence with wrong structure of a noun phrase.

3.1.4 Strong Attributive Constructions

Other parts of adjectives as structure of noun phrases which are important to mention are two intensificatory attributive constructions which occur always as pre-modifying elements of noun phrase. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 561)

3.1.4.1 Intensificatory Repetition

Intensificatory repetition helps us to emphasis the meaning of the adjective. It has the same function as modifying by *very*. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 561) For example instead of *very deep lake* it could be said *deep, deep lake*. Adjectives which often occurred in this function are for instance: *bad, big, small, wild, real, sad, great, soft, smart*, etc. There is no strict rule for the number of repetition but it usually occurs in the double structure. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 561)

3.1.4.2 Intensificatory Tautology

Intensificatory tautology helps also to emphasis the meaning of an adjective. In this case, it is not done by the repetition of the same adjective but by using more adjectives with similar meaning. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 561) For example:

(1) *I saw [a tiny little girl]^{NP}.*

(2) **I saw [a girl tiny little]^{NP}*

In example (1) is shown an intensificatory tautology by using adjectives *tiny little*. The meaning is similar to *very little*. Example (2) shows that the post-modifying of head *girl* by intensificatory tautology is wrong.

3.2 As as Post-modifying Elements of an English Noun Phrase

There are many situations in an English language which determine the obligatory post-position of A phrases as a part of English noun phrases. Those adjectives could be divided into two categories. First category is the obligatory category, where adjectives have to post-modify head of a noun phrase and the second one is optional category in which adjectives could occur in both positions – pre or post-modifying head of a noun phrase. (Dušková 1988, 488)

3.2.1 Obligatory Post-modifying A Phrases

In most cases, a possibility of usage adjective as a pre-modifying element of head of an English noun phrase exist in English language. (Dušková 1988, 488) Examples of obligatory post-modifying distribution of adjectives will be shown in this part.

3.2.1.1 *Post-positive A Phrase with Compound Determiner Head*

Postpositive A phrases are structures which follow the head of a noun phrase. One of them is a noun phrase where the head is a compound determinative (fused-determiner head) (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 552) as are for example *someone*, *somebody*, *something*, *anything*, *somewhere* and others. As for instance:

- (1) *I need [someone clever]^{NP}.*
- (2) **I need [Mary clever]^{NP}.*
- (3) **I need [clever someone]^{NP}.*

Example (1) shows the first construction where the head of noun phrase *someone clever* is a compound determiner *someone*. In contrast with example (2), where the head of a noun phrase is *Mary* and not a compound determiner so it could not be post-modified by adjective *clever*. Example (3) shows the obligatory position of adjective in this case of fused-determiner head. Adjectival phrase *clever* could not precede this type of the head.

3.2.1.2 *Adjectives in the Special Terminology*

Some adjectives in English language which are parts of special terminology have the post-positive position. They occur especially in the field of justice. This terminology is based on French language. (Dušková 1988, 489) Examples are:

- (1) *[body politic]^{NP}*
- (2) *[heir apparent]^{NP}*
- (3) *[court martial]^{NP}*

Those examples come from French language. Internet database The Corpus of Contemporary American English (Accessed April 7, 2014) did not succeed in finding a noun phrases *politic body*, *apparent heir* or *martial court*. The reason is that the post-modifying position of those adjectival phrases is obligatory.

(4) [*the devil incarnate*]^{NP}

(5) [*a notary public*]^{NP}

Examples (4) and (5) are “fixed phrases, with no attributive alternant.” (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 446)

3.2.1.3 *As as Complex Attributes*

Post-modification of head of a noun phrase by adjectival phrase is obligatory also in cases of complex attribute. (Dušková 1985, 490) For instance:

(1) [*a girlfriend more beautiful than you*]^{NP}

(2) * [*a more beautiful than you girlfriend*]^{NP}

(3) * [*a girlfriend beautiful*]^{NP}

Example (1) shows the construction of complex attribute where adjectival phrase *more beautiful than you* post-modifies the head of a noun phrase *girlfriend*. Example (2) shows a wrong structure of a noun phrase because the construction with the complex attribute can occur only in the post-modifying position. In example (3), adjectival phrase *beautiful* is not complex attribute and therefore it is not possible for it to post-modify the head of a noun phrase *girlfriend*.

3.2.2 **Optional Post-modifying A phrases**

3.2.2.1 *Adjectives Based on the Meaning*

Another small group consists of adjectives which could occur only in the post-positive position of head of a noun phrase. Mostly single adjectives and phrases which consist only of the head of an A phrase could occur in this situation. This category is based on the meaning of adjectives. There is a possibility for them to occur in the other position but again, their meaning is changed. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 445 - 446) Those are: *proper*, *elect*, *galore*, etc. For instance:

(1) [*the president elect*]^{NP}

(2) [*our village proper*]^{NP}

(3) [*our proper kitchen*]^{NP}

(4) [*the things galore*]^{NP}

Those three examples show adjectives *proper*, *elect* and *galore* in their position of postpositive adjectives. In example (1) post-modifying adjectival phrase *elect* is shown. The meaning of the noun phrase is *the president chosen* or *president voted*. Example (2) shows adjectival phrase *proper* which post-modifies the head of a noun phrase *village*. The meaning of the noun phrase in this case is *our village itself* in comparison with example (3), where adjectival phrase *proper* pre-modifies the head of a noun phrase *kitchen*. The meaning of this noun phrase is *our clean kitchen*. In example (4), adjectival phrase *galore* post-modifies the head of a noun phrase *things*. In this case the meaning of adjective *galore* is *a lot of*. (Dušková 1988, 489)

Adjectives with Pre-fix a

Some adjectival phrases with pre-fix *a* are typically post-modifying phrases of head of noun phrases. (Dušková 1988, 489) They are “excluded from attributive position”. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 446) Those are for example *alert*, *aloof*, *ablaze*, *asleep* etc. For instance:

(1) [*the cottage ablaze*]^{NP}(2) [*my mother asleep*]^{NP}(3) [*a table aloof*]^{NP}

Example (1) shows a noun phrase with the head *cottage*. This head is post-modified by adjectival phrase *ablaze*. Example (2) shows a noun phrase *my mother asleep* with the head *mother*, which is post-modified by adjectival phrase *asleep* and example (3) shows a noun phrase with the head *table* and its post-modifying adjectival phrase *aloof*.

In the situation of pre-modification of those adjectives the whole adjectival phrases have to occur in the pre-modifying positions of heads of noun phrases. (Dušková 1988, 489) As for instance:

(4) [*four half-asleep children*]^{NP}(5) * [*four children half-asleep*]^{NP}(6) [*a really alive student*]^{NP}(7) * [*a student really alive*]^{NP}(8) [*a very aware student*]^{NP}(9) * [*a student very aware*]^{NP}

Example (4) shows pre-modified adjective *asleep* and therefore it has to pre-modify the head of noun phrase *children* and not to post-modify it as in example (5). Example (6) shows pre-modified adjective *alive* and therefore it has to pre-modify the head of noun phrase *student* and not to post-modify it as is shown in example (7). Example (8) shows adjectival phrase *very aware* which has to pre-modify the head of the noun phrase *student*. Example (9) shows that post-modification by this adjectival phrase is not possible.

3.2.2.2 Special Post-modifying Adjectives

Post-modification of heads of noun phrases is also typical with adjectives *absent*, *present*, *concerned* and *involved*. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 445) Examples of such adjectives are:

- (1) [*the pupils absent*]^{NP}
- (2) [*the pupils present*]^{NP}
- (3) [*the students concerned*]^{NP}
- (4) [*the people involved*]^{NP}

Examples (1), (2), (3) and (4) show four of those special adjectives *absent*, *present*, *concerned* and *involved* which post-modify heads of noun phrases *pupils*, *pupils*, *students* and *people*. The pre-modification of heads in those cases is not a mistake but it is less typical and it changes the sense of the phrase. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 446)

- (5) [*the absent government*]^{NP}
- (6) [*the present government*]^{NP}
- (7) [*the concerned mother*]^{NP}
- (8) [*an involved literary style*]^{NP}

Example (2) shows postpositive *present* which “denotes a temporary state of affairs”. (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 445) In comparison with example (6), where adjective *present* means *nowadays*. “The same applies to *involved* and *concerned*, though here the attributive sense differs more.” (Huddleston and Pullum 2002, 445) The meaning of adjective *involved* as post-modifying element of a noun phrase as in example (4) is *concerned* or *implicated* and the meaning of adjective *involved* as a pre-modifying element as in example (8) is *complicated*. In example (3), adjective *concerned* is shown as a post-modifying element and its meaning is *guilty*. In example (7), adjective *concerned* occurs as a pre-modifying element and the meaning is *worried*.

3.2.3 Post-modification by Adverbial Phrase

What else occur in English language are also traditional adverbial phrases which typically post-modify heads of noun phrases which they are a part of. They are typically post-modifying in connection with the meaning of time and place. (Quirk 1985, 453)

Those are for example:

- (1) *[the road back]^{NP}*
- (2) *[the way out]^{NP}*
- (3) *[the kids behind]^{NP}*
- (4) *[the meeting yesterday]^{NP}.*

4 MORPHOLOGY OF ADJECTIVES IN FRENCH LANGUAGE

Morphology of French language is completely different than morphology of English language. The difference could originate due to the fact that French belongs to the group of Romance languages and English belongs into the group of Germanic languages. (Sleeman, Van de Velde and Perridon 2014, 1-9) In this short chapter morphology of adjectives used in French language will be discussed.

4.1 Gender of French Adjectives

The basic rule will be described in the following sentences. Adjectives in French language are dependent on the noun they modify as well as in English language. Adjective as such has no gender in French language. It creates mostly two structures based on the gender of the noun it modifies. The gender in French language is not dependent on the sex of the object as it mostly happens in English language. The system of gender in French language has two structures. Masculine gender of nouns is determined by the determiner *le* and feminine gender of nouns is determined by determiner *la*. As for adjectives, masculine structure of adjectives which is the basic one is also starting structure for creation structure of adjectives for feminine gender of nouns which is mostly created by adding suffix *-e* to the masculine structure of adjective. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 29) For example:

(1) *un joli mur*

DET-pretty-wall

‘a pretty wall’

(2) *une jolie voiture*

DET-pretty-car

‘a pretty car’

Example (1) shows masculine structure of adjective, in this case *joli* and example (2) shows example of the feminine structure of adjective *jolie* where suffix *-e* is added.

4.1.1 Same Structure for Both Genders

Same structure of adjectives in both gender structures are typical for adjectives which end with vowel *-e*. For example adjectives *rouge*, *utile* etc. Another type of same structures are adjectives which have the only one gender. Those are for example *avant-coureur* or *nazi*. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 32)

4.2 Number of French Adjectives

As Holubcová and Špinková say, (1986, 32) in French language are two numbers – singular and plural. Adjective as such has no number. It creates just the structure for plural or for singular number of the noun it modifies. Basic rule of creation plural structure of adjectives is adding suffix *-s*, as is shown in following examples:

(1) *un homme poli*

DET-man-polite

‘a polite man’

(2) *des hommes polis*

DET-men-polite

‘some polite men’

4.3 Agreement of French Adjectives

4.3.1 Agreement in Number and Gender

In French language, adjectives have usually agreement in number and gender with the noun they modify which was already mentioned above. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 36) Following examples show the agreement.

(1) *des arbres verts*

DET-trees-green-PL

‘some green trees’

(2) *des filles belles*

DET-girls-beautiful-PL

‘some beautiful girls’

(3) *une robe et une jupe grises*

DET-dress-and-DET-skirt-grey-PL

‘a grey dress and a grey skirt’

Example (1) shows the agreement in plural form and also in masculine gender. Example (2) shows as well the agreement of plural form and in the feminine gender. Example (3) shows also the agreement in plural form and in feminine gender.

4.3.2 Absence of Agreement in Number and Gender

According to Holubcová and Špinková (1986, 36) in French language, cases of absence of agreement exist as well. Those are for example colours, as is shown in following examples.

(4) *une robe marron*

DET-dress-brown

‘a brown dress’

(5) *des robes marron*

DET-dresses-brown

‘some brown dresses’

In example (4) is shown singular form of feminine adjective which is in agreement in number and gender. Example (5) shows the absence of agreement in number and gender of adjective *marron*.

5 PRINCIPLES DETERMINING THE DISTRIBUTION OF ADJECTIVES IN A FRENCH NOUN PHRASE

One of the most important functions of As in French language is as well as in English language to pre-modify and to post-modify noun phrases. Rules which control the distribution of French adjectives in French noun phrases will be discussed in this chapter.

One of the differences between French and English is that in French language rules of distribution could be broken because of emotional or stylistics reasons. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34)

5.1 Noun Phrase in a French Language

As well as in English language, noun phrase in French language consists of the head of a noun phrase which is the noun and other pre and post-modifying elements. “Within a Noun Phrase, nouns can be modified by Adjectival Phrases (e.g. *le très petit garçon*), by Prepositional Phrases (e.g. *les chaussures de Marie*) or by a Relative Clause (e.g. *le type que j’ai vu hier*).” (Lodge 1997, 137)

The structure of a complex noun phrase in French can consist of those parts:

D/POSS-(A)-N-(A)-(PP)-(Clause)

1. D/POSS - Determination part – pre-modification (*le, la, les, un, une, l’, des* – DET; *ma, mon, mes* – possessive pronouns, *ce, cet, cette* – demonstrative pronouns)
2. (A) - (Adjectives) – pre-modification (*joli, beau*) occurrence of adjectives in the pre-modification part is not typical but it is possible
3. N - Head – the head of a noun phrase consists of noun as well as in English language
4. (A) - (Adjectives) – post-modification (*vert, moyen, etc.*) typical occurrence of adjectives
5. (PP) – (Prepositional Phrase) – post-modification (*de Marie, de moi, etc.*)
6. (Clause) – (Relative Clause) – post-modification (*que j’ai vu, que j’aime, etc.*)

In following examples, noun phrases modified by A phrases are shown:

(1) *un homme grand*

DET-man-big

‘a big man’

(2) *ce joli garçon*

DET-nice-boy

‘this nice boy’

Example (1) shows the noun phrase where *un* is a determiner, *homme* is the head of a noun phrase and *grand* is a post-modifying adjective. In example (2), *ce* is a determiner, *joli* is a pre-modifying adjective and *garçon* is head of the noun phrase.

5.2 French As as Post-modifying Elements of a French Noun Phrase

In comparison with English, post-modifying of noun phrases by adjectives is in French language more typical than its pre-modifying. The typical structure of an English noun phrase is shown vice versa.

5.2.1 Adjectives Containing More than One Syllables

More-syllabic adjectives occur in French noun phrase in the post-modifying part of the head of the noun phrase. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34) As for example:

(1) *une femme harmonique*

DET-woman-harmonic

‘a harmonic woman’

(2) *un homme systématique*

DET-man-systematic

‘a systematic man’

5.2.2 Adjectives Expressing Properties

Adjectives expressing properties are in French also in group of post-modifying elements of head of noun phrases. In French, there are three basic properties which are expressed by adjectives. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34)

5.2.2.1 Adjectives of Physical Properties

First of adjectives expressing properties of nouns are those which express physical properties. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34) For example:

(3) *une taille moyenne*

DET-size-average

‘an average size’

5.2.2.2 Adjectives Expressing Shape

Second type of post-modifying adjectives expressing properties is a group of adjectives expressing shape. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34) For example:

(4) *un champ carré*

DET-field-square

‘a square field’

5.2.2.3 *Adjectives Expressing Colour*

Last major type of post-modifying adjectives expressing properties is type of adjectives expressing colour. All colours in French language occur in the post-modifying position of head of noun phrases. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34) For instance:

(5) *une jupe jaune*

DET-skirt-yellow

‘a yellow skirt’

As is visible on the glossing of previous examples, English language examples are in opposition with French language example.

5.2.3 *Adjectives Formed of Proper Names*

Many adjectives which are formed out of proper names exist in French language. In this case, all adjectives are post-modifying elements of French noun phrases. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34) As for instance:

(6) *la mode parisienne*

DET- fashion Parisian

‘the Parisian fashion’

As is shown in example (6), the difference between French and English noun phrases is the position of A phrase which shows that in French noun phrase, adjective *parisienne* is post-modifying element and in English noun phrase, adjective *Parisian* is pre-modifying element.

5.2.4 *Daily used Adjectives*

Adjectives which are connected with social, historical and geographical fields are also occurred in the post-positive structure of the head of a French noun phrase. Those adjectives can be adjectives of special terminology or daily used adjectives. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34) For example:

(7) *la classe ouvrière*

DET-class-working

‘the working class’

(8) *la cathédrale gothique*

DET-cathedral-gothic

‘the gothic cathedral’

(9) *le continent européen*

DET-continent-European

‘the European continent’

(10) *l’électricité statique*

DET-electricity-static

‘the static electricity’

Example (9) shows a noun phrase *la class ouvrière* which is connected with the social field, example (10) shows noun phrase *la cathédrale gothique* which is connected with historical field, example (11) shows noun phrase *le continent européen* which belongs to the geographical field and in example (12), noun phrase *l’électricité statique* is a technical phrase.

In English language, daily used adjectives are pre-modifying elements of noun phrases as is obvious from glossing.

5.3 French As as Pre-modifying Elements of a French Noun Phrase

Pre-modification of head of noun phrase by A phrases in French language is less typical than the post-modification. Those exceptions of A phrases which occur in the pre-modifying part of noun phrases will be discussed in this part.

French language has two possible ways of pre-modification by A phrases. First of them is pre-modification by one-syllabic adjectives in the case of a more-syllabic head of a noun phrase. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34) For example:

(11) *un bel appartement*

DET-beautiful-apartment

‘a beautiful apartment’

The second possibility is connected with the more comprehensive group of As. Those are As which are extremely often occurring in French language. Those adjectives are *grand, petit, bon, gros, bon, mauvais, joli, vilain, jeune, vieux, ancien* and *nouveau*. (Holubcová and Špinková 1986, 34) Following examples are created according to the full list of typically pre-modifying adjectives:

(12) *un grand jardin*

DET-large-garden

‘a large garden’

(13) *une petite maison*

DET-small-house / DET-cottage

‘a small house’ / ‘a cottage’

(14) *un bon élève*

DET-good-pupil

‘a good pupil’

(15) *une grosse chambre*

DET-big-room

‘a big room’

(16) *un mauvais exemple*

DET-bad-example

‘a bad example’

(17) *une jolie fille*

DET-pretty-girl

‘a pretty girl’

(18) *un vilain garçon*

DET-naughty-boy

‘a naughty boy’

(19) *une jeune femme*

DET-young-woman

‘a young woman’

(20) *un vieux monsieur*

DET-old-man

‘an old man’

(21) *des anciens ameublements*

DET-ancient-furnishings

‘some ancient furnishings’

(22) *un nouveau magasin*

DET-new-store

‘a new store’

Adjectives shown in examples (12) – (22) are in French language usually pre-modifying elements of heads of noun phrases. Some of them could occur also in the post-modifying position of heads of noun phrases in the case of change of the meaning. Those exceptions will be discussed in the following subchapter.

All previous examples are taken from *Základy francouzské mluvnice* by Holubcová and Špinková (1986, 33 – 34).

5.4 Special Cases of Distribution of As in a French Noun Phrases

Special cases of distribution of As are in French language as well as in English. Those will be discussed in following part 5.4.1.

5.4.1 Distinction in the Meaning of French As Depending on the Distribution in French Noun Phrases

The distribution of adjectives in noun phrase is also important in French. The meaning of such a noun phrase is dependent on the distribution of elements inside the noun phrase, especially on pre-modifying and post-modifying adjectives. The meaning is sometimes completely different. (D’Huillier 1999, 416 - 418) Shifts in the meaning will be shown and explained in following examples:

(23) *un homme grand*

DET-man-big

‘a big man’

(24) *un grand homme*

DET-generous-man

‘a generous man’

In example (23), adjective *grand* occurs in the post-modifying position of head of the noun phrase *homme*. In this case, the meaning is that *the body of the man is big*. It expresses his physical property. Example (24) shows adjective *grand* as a pre-modifying element of head of the noun phrase *homme*. In this case, this noun phrase expresses *a man who has very big spirit*, it expresses his internal property.

(25) *un homme pauvre*

DET-man-poor

‘a poor man’/’pauvre’

(26) *un pauvre homme*

DET-poor-man

‘a poor man’/’wretch’

In example (25), adjective *pauvre* post-modifies the head of a noun phrase *homme*. In this case, the meaning of the phrase is that *the man is poor*, that *he has no money*. In the example (26), adjective *pauvre* pre-modifies the head of a noun phrase *homme*. In this case, the phrase means that *he is not happy*, *he has a bad luck*.

(27) *un ami vieux*

DET-friend-aged

‘an aged friend’

(28) *un vieil ami*

DET-old-friend

‘an old friend’

In example (27), adjective *vieux* post-modifies the head of a noun phrase *ami*. The meaning of the phrase is that *the friend is old* meaning *his or her age*. In example (28), adjective *vieil* pre-modifies the head *ami*. The meaning is that *you already know this friend for a long time*.

(29) *un manteau cher*

DET-coat-expensive

‘an expensive coat’

(30) *un cher livre*

DET-dear-book

‘a dear book’

As is already shown in the examples (29) and (30), adjective *cher* as a post-modifying element of head of the noun phrase *manteau* means *expensive* and as a pre-modifying element of head of the noun phrase *livre* in example (30), adjective *cher* means *dear*.

(31) *un livre nouveau*

DET-book-new

‘a new book’

(32) *un nouveau livre*

DET-other-book

‘the other book’

Example (31) shows noun phrase where the head *livre* is post-modified by adjective *nouveau*. In this case the adjective means *new*. Example (32) shows adjective *nouveau* in a

pre-modifying position of the head of a noun phrase *livre*. In this position adjective *nouveau* means *other, another*.

(33) *une élégance certaine*

DET-elegance-certain

‘a certain elegance’

(34) *une certaine élégance*

DET-some-elegance

‘some elegance’

In example (33), adjective *certaine* post-modifies the head of a noun phrase *élégance*. The meaning of adjective is *certain, sure*. In example (34), adjective *certaine* pre-modifies the head of a noun phrase *élégance*. In this case the meaning of adjective *certaine* is *some*.

(35) *une maison ancienne*

DET-house-old

‘an old house’

(36) *une ancienne maison*

DET-house-former

‘an former house’

In example (35) adjective *ancienne* post-modifies the head of a noun phrase *maison*. Its meaning is *old, ancient*. In example (36) adjective *ancienne* pre-modifies the head of a noun phrase *maison* and the meaning of adjective is *former*.

(37) *sa chemise propre*

DET-shirt-clean

‘his clean shirt’

(38) *sa propre chemise*

DET-own-shirt

‘his own shirt’

In example (37) adjective *propre* which post-modifies the head of a noun phrase *chemise* means *clean*. When it is in the pre-modifying position, its meaning is *own*.

(39) *l’année dernière*

DET-year-last

‘last year’

(40) *la dernière année*

DET-latest-year

‘the latest year’

As is shown in previous examples, adjective *dernière* could have two meanings. When it appears in the post-modifying position, its meaning is *last* and when it appears in the pre-modifying position, its meaning is *latest*. Examples expressing the difference in the meaning are taken from *Základy francouzské mluvnice* by Holubcová and Špinková (1985, 34).

5.5 Complex A Phrase in French

Complex A phrases occur in French language as well as in English language. In this subchapter, a complex A phrase in French language will be discussed.

5.5.1 Multiple A Phrases

Multiple A phrase means that a noun is modified by more than one As. “If one of adjectives normally comes before the noun and the other after, they keep their respective position.” (L’Huillier 199, 418) For example:

(1) *un petit chat noir.*

DET-little-cat-black

‘a little black cat’

Adjective *petit* is normally pre-modifying and adjective *noir* is post-modifying adjective.

“When the two adjectives come before or after the noun, they keep that place and are linked together by *et*.” (L’Huillier 1999, 419) For example:

(2) *une belle et jeune fille triste*

DET-beautiful-and-young-girl-sad

‘a beautiful young sad girl’

Adjective *belle* is normally pre-modifying as well as adjective *jeune*. Adjective *triste* is normally post-modifying element of a noun phrase.

5.5.2 A Phrases Pre-modified by Très

Adverb *très* has to pre-modify the adjective and it is adjacent to it. A phrase which is pre-modified by *très* does not change its normal position, (Salkoff 1999, 120) as for example:

(3) *les livres très intéressants*

DET-books-very-interesting-PL

‘some very interesting books’

(4) *les très jolies filles*

DET-very-beautiful-PL-girls

‘some very beautiful girls’

Adjective *intéressant* is normally post-modifying element of the noun phrase. In example (3), it is visible that it does not change its normal position although it is pre-modified by adverb *très*. Adjective *joli* is normally pre-modifying element of the noun phrase and in example (4), it does not change its normal position although it is pre-modified by *très*.

5.5.3 Grading of Adjectives

Comparative and superlative forms exist in French language as well as in English. Adjectives which occur in comparative form do not change their usual position inside the noun phrase. Adjectives which occur in a superlative form are always pre-modifying elements of French noun phrases. (Hawkins and Towell 2010, 103 – 108) As for instance:

(5) *l'exercice facile*

DET-exercise-easy

‘this easy exercise’

(6) *l'exercice plus facile*

DET-exercise-more-easy

‘this easier exercise’

(7) *le plus facile exercice*

DET-more-easy-exercise

‘the easiest exercise’

Adjective *facile* is normally post-positive which is shown in exercise (5). In exercise (6), adjective *facile* occurs in the comparative form and it does not change its normal position. But in example (7), adjective *facile* occurs in the superlative form and although it is normally post-modifying adjective, in superlative form it precedes head of the noun phrase *exercice*.

CONCLUSION

The main task of this bachelor thesis was to discuss the distribution of As in a noun phrase in English language and in French language. English morphology and syntax are completely different than French ones. The difference comes from the origin of those languages. As was mentioned in the fourth chapter, French language belongs into the group of Romance languages in comparison with English which belongs into the group of Germanic languages.

The most important difference between English language and French language in the field of the distribution of As in a noun phrase is that the usual position of A phrases in English is pre-modification of noun phrases and the usual position of A phrases in French noun phrase is post-modification. This results in the fact that the basic rule of distribution inside a noun phrase in English and French is opposite.

Some As in English language could be pre-modifying as well as post-modifying. Those exceptions are called optional post-modifying As and they were discussed at the end of chapter 3. The position of optional post-modifying As results in the difference in meaning of whole noun phrase. Some As in French language could occur in pre-modifying position as well as in post-modifying position of French noun phrase. The result is same as in English, therefore the difference of whole noun phrase. The difference in the meaning of French noun phrases depending on the position of As were shown at the end of chapter 5.

In this thesis was found out that some A phrases which have obligatory atypical post-modifying position exist in English language as well. Those are discussed in the third chapter. In French language are also some A phrases which have obligatory atypical pre-modifying position. Those adjectives are dealt with in the fifth chapter, specifically in part 5.3.

Another fact which was found out in the bachelor thesis is that the distribution inside an English noun phrase depends on the complexity of A phrase. In French language, the complexity of an A phrase does not change its position inside a noun phrase. The only situation in which French A phrases change their typical position is their occurrence in the superlative form. French adjectives in a superlative form are always pre-modifying elements of French noun phrases. The distribution of A phrases inside noun phrases in French language does not care about the complexity of those A phrases. It is based on the rules determining the distribution and it depends also on the meaning of A phrase and on the attitude of a speaker or writer.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Cinque, Guglielmo. 2010. *The Syntax of Adjectives: A Comparative Study*. Massachusetts: MIT Press.
- Crystal, David. 2003. *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Davies, Mark. 1990 - present. *The Corpus of Contemporary American English: 450 million words*. Accessed April, 7 2014. <http://corpus.byu.edu/coca/>.
- Dušková, Libuše et al. 1988. *Mluvnice současné angličtiny na pozadí češtiny*. Praha: Academia.
- Hawkins, Roger, and Richard Towell. 2010. *French Grammar and Usage*. New York: Routledge.
- Holubcová, Milada, and Eva Špínková. 1986. *Základy francouzské mluvnice*. Praha: SPN.
- Huddleston, Rodney, and Geoffrey K Pullum. 2002. *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- L'Huillier, Monique. 1999. *Advanced French Grammar*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Lingea velký slovník: anglicko-český a česko-anglický. 2006. Brno: Nakladatelství Lingea.
- Lingea velký slovník: francouzsko-český a česko-francouzský. 2007. Brno: Nakladatelství Lingea.
- Lodge, Anthony. 1997. *Exploring the French Language*. London: John Wiley & Sons.
- Quirk, Randolph et al. 1985. *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*. London: Longman.
- Šabršula, Jan. *Slovní druhy současné francouzštiny*. 1968. Praha: SPN.
- Salkoff, Morris. 1999. *A French-English Grammar: A contrastive grammar on translational principles*. Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Sleeman, Petra, Freek Van de Velde, and Harry Perridon. 2014. *Adjectives in Germanic and Romance*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Stauchová, Věra. 1969. *Stručná mluvnice francouzštiny*. Praha: ČSAV.
- Veselovská, Ludmila, and Joseph Emonds. 2005. *English Morphology and Morphosyntax: Syllabi, Examples and Exercises*. Olomouc: Univerzita Palackého v Olomouci.
- Veselovská, Ludmila, and Joseph Emonds. 2006. *English Syntax: Syllabi, Examples and Exercises*. Olomouc: Univerzita Palackého v Olomouci.