

Contents

<i>List of figures and tables</i>	x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>Note on texts</i>	xiii
Part I Background	1
1 The structural diversity of free adjuncts and absolutes	5
1.1 <i>Free adjuncts</i>	6
1.2 <i>Absolutes</i>	10
1.3 <i>Related but different constructions</i>	13
2 Problems of terminology	17
3 Previous research	24
3.1 <i>Traditional grammar</i>	24
3.2 <i>The semantic variability of free adjuncts and absolutes</i>	26
3.2.1 <i>Weak versus strong adjuncts/absolutes (I): matrix clauses with binary operators</i>	27
3.2.2 <i>Weak versus strong adjuncts/absolutes (II): individual-level and stage-level predicates</i>	30
3.2.3 <i>Inferences and their impact on logical role</i>	32
4 Aim and scope of the study	35
5 The corpus	38
Part II The subject in free adjuncts and absolutes	41
6 Control in free adjuncts	43
6.1 <i>Degrees of unrelatedness and acceptability</i>	43
6.2 <i>Relevant factors in a theory of control</i>	47
6.2.1 <i>Preclusion of S_M-control (group 1)</i>	49

6.2.2	<i>Preclusion of S_M-control (group 2)</i>	53
6.2.3	<i>The controller and its properties</i>	64
6.3	<i>Alternative theories of control</i>	76
6.3.1	<i>Functional control</i>	77
6.3.2	<i>Pragmatics-conditioned control</i>	80
6.3.3	<i>Embedded infinitives</i>	83
7	<i>The subject in absolutes</i>	91
7.1	<i>No coreference</i>	92
7.2	<i>Constituent coreference</i>	93
7.3	<i>Part-whole coreference</i>	95
7.4	<i>Full coreference</i>	99
8	<i>The nature of the subject in a definition of free adjuncts and absolutes</i>	102
Part III The interpretation of free adjuncts and absolutes		105
9	<i>General remarks</i>	107
9.1	<i>Semantic representations</i>	107
9.1.1	<i>Recovery of deleted conjunctions</i>	108
9.1.2	<i>Autonomous constructions without a basic meaning</i>	112
9.2	<i>Constraints on the semantic indeterminacy</i>	114
9.2.1	<i>Limited search domains</i>	115
9.2.2	<i>Different degrees of informativeness in semantic relations</i>	118
9.2.3	<i>Distribution of semantic relations</i>	132
10	<i>Individual semantic relations</i>	142
10.1	<i>Anteriority and posteriority</i>	142
10.1.1	<i>Anteriority</i>	143
10.1.2	<i>Posteriority</i>	151
10.1.3	<i>The temporal semantics and pragmatics of present-participial free adjuncts</i>	154
10.2	<i>Conditionality</i>	157
10.3	<i>Concessivity</i>	160
10.4	<i>Instrumentality, manner, and exemplification/ specification</i>	164
10.5	<i>Accompanying circumstance</i>	168
11	<i>Factors influencing the interpretation</i>	171
11.1	<i>Negation</i>	173
11.1.1	<i>The interpretation of negated free adjuncts</i>	174
11.1.2	<i>'Without + V-ing'-constructions</i>	180

<i>11.1.3 A comparison with negated free adjuncts</i>	182
<i>11.2 Idiomatization</i>	190
<i>11.3 Augmentation</i>	194
<i>11.3.1 The augmentation of free adjuncts</i>	195
<i>11.3.2 The augmentation of absolutes</i>	199
Part IV Implications for semantic and pragmatic theory	205
12 Free adjuncts and absolutes as instances of minimization in language	207
13 Free adjuncts and absolutes and the semantics–pragmatics distinction	215
<i>Notes</i>	219
<i>References</i>	236
<i>Index</i>	244