Une variété de (W) revient à dire (que) : construction d'équivalence

A variety of (W) revient à dire (que) '(W) amounts to saying (that)': an equivalence construction

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Abstract: In this article we study the combinations of *revient à dire* '(it) amounts to saying' with the elements that occupy the W place, namely the demonstrative pronouns *ceci/cela* 'this/that', the personal pronouns *il/elle* 'he/she', the relative periphrastic structure *ce qui* 'which is', nominal and infinitival phrases. The aim is to show that (*W*) revient à dire '(W) is to say' is an equivalence construction (reformulation) based on the syntactic pattern Qqc. revient à (faire) qqc. 'Something means to (do) something'. Our distributional analysis shows that *ce qui* 'which is' dominates *ceci/cela* 'this/that' in any type of corpus. This observation is in accordance with an analysis in terms of a continuative relative clause with a coordinating and synthesizing function.

Key words: continuative relative clause, demonstrative pronouns, reformulation, equivalence construction.