To and the construction of endpoints

Lise Hamelin

Abstract: In this paper, a monosemic utterer-centred approach to the analysis of English prepositions is advocated. More accurately, three different uses of the English preposition *to*, in which this marker participates in the construction of an endpoint, for instance, a result or a consequence, are examined. The hypothesis defended here is that *to* is the trace of an operation of location between two terms. I will try to highlight the properties of those terms so as to grasp the nature of the operation of location marked by *to*. To do so, the tools developed in the theoretical setting of the Theory of Enunciative Operations will be referred to.

Key words: semantics, English language, prepositions, utterer-centred approach, telos