To and the construction of endpoints

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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