

Abstract

Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper

Bachelors's degree

Title: Agreement variation in existential there + be constructions

Author: Darya S. Egorina

Research Supervisor: Olesya V. Dolmatova, candidate of philology, associate professor

Research Initiator: Pyatigorsk State University

Topical Importance is explained by the linguistic process that we can see in modern English. Nowadays we have the increasing interest to special characteristics of number agreement between the verbal form of the existential *there*-constructions and postverbal noun phrase. Such an agreement seems to constitute the norm, but the degree of non-concord in this respect is a noticeable phenomenon worthy of being studied and characterized.

Goal: to find out the causes of non-concord in English existential sentences and determine constituents that favor it.

Tasks:

- to collect the data of non-concord in English existential sentences;
- to investigate different approaches to this phenomenon;
- to classify the data according the views of different researchers ;
- to examine the causes of this phenomenon;
- to determine the factors of its origin.

Theoretical value: the study allows to examine a new tendency in number agreement and to identify the causes of non-concord that has an impact on semantic features of the phrase.

Practical applicability is determined by the fact that its results can be used in theoretical and practical grammar courses. In addition they can be involved in the process of learning English language (language courses, training courses and practical classes).

Results: A description of postcopular NP and coda structures, the causes of non-concord phenomenon and meanings that has quantifier *all* in postverbal NPs.

Implementation advice: the work can be used to create textbooks on the theoretical and practical grammar, syntax and semantic peculiarities of English language.