Possessif ou défini associatif? Les relations fonctionnelles et actancielles

Possessive or associative anaphora? Functional and actantial relations

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Abstract: This paper tackles the subject of associative and possessive anaphora with two kinds of nouns: relational nouns that Kleiber called functional (e.g. *driver*) and nouns of actants (e.g. *murderer*). For example, there is a functional relation between *driver* and *car*, an actantial relation between *murderer* and *to murder*. We first continue Kleiber's semantic and referential analysis by emphasizing new properties of functional nouns, such as the level of adaptation to the functional relation and the kind of dependence relation, « possessive » or localizing. Finally, when all conditions are met for the use of either of the anaphoric processes, we elucidate the consequences of the referential choice upon textual coherence relations.

Key words: associative anaphora, possessive anaphora, relational nouns, functional relations, actantial relations, coherence relations.