



Old English Verbs Denoting Locomotion: Morphosyntactic Alternations

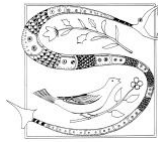
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This paper deals with the relationship between the syntax and the semantics of Old English verbal classes of motion. Its aim is to determine the extent to which these classes are consistent in terms of their grammatical behaviour and to identify the morphosyntactic alternations in which they partake. The theoretical basis of the research draws on a description of the semantics of motion (Goddard 1997), the framework of verb classes and alternations (Levin 1993 and subsequent work) and the typological distinction between event-framed and satellite-framed languages (Talmy 1985). As for the descriptive part, previous research in the verbs of motion of Old English is reviewed, notably on verbs of general motion, neutral motion and manner of motion. Argument realization is analysed as described in *The Dictionary of Old English* (2016), concentrating on transitivity, morphological case, prepositional government, and reflexivity. As for meaning components, this study focuses on polysemy. The conclusions of this research refer to the main morphosyntactic alternations in which motion verbs participate and the correlation between these alternations and the verb classes of motion.

References

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