The Data-Oriented Approach to
"Peripheral Phenomena" in English (1), (2)

ABSTRACT

This paper consists of two parts. The first part discusses the theoretical background of the author's approach to the study of present–day English. The distinction, which has never been made clear at all, between "theory-oriented approach" and a "data-oriented approach" will be clearly distinguished by regarding those two different approaches as different ways of doing linguistics. The author adopts the data-oriented approach, and it is only natural to assume that different theories and methods from theory-oriented approach are required for employing a data-oriented approach.

The second part of this paper discusses what might be called "peripheral phenomena" in the English language. By "peripheral phenomena" is meant such structures as "resultative constructions," "*self*-constructions," "*way*-constructions" and the like which are best regarded as extensions of regular and core phenomena. The main point of the discussion is that those peripheral phenomena should be considered in terms of "analogy", "blending", "concept categorization" and "merging". Each of the terms will be presented with illustrations in the remainder of this paper.

Key words : pheripheral linguistic phenomena, data-oriented approach,
approach to specific languages