

**Ronneberger-Sibold, Elke. 1987.** Verschiedene Wege zur Entstehung von suppletiven Flexionsparadigmen: deutsch gern - lieber - am liebsten. Beiträge zum 3. Essener Kolloquium über Sprachwandel und seine bestimmenden Faktoren, ed. by Norbert Boretzky, Werner Enninger and Thomas Stolz, 243-264. Bochum: Brockmeyer.

The paper investigates the development of the suppletive paradigm *gern – lieber – am liebsten* in German. In the XIX century both lexemes (*gern* and *lieb*) had full regular paradigms (*gern – gerner – am gernsten* and *lieb – lieber – am liebsten* respectively) and were interchangeable. Later the paradigms “broke up” and merged giving rise to suppletion. It is suggested that the main condition for forming a new suppletive paradigm is semantic closeness of the participating lexemes, and frequency of usage is the main factor for preserving suppletion.