

Vincent, Nigel & Kersti Börjars. 1996. Suppletion and syntactic theory. Papers from the 1st LFG Colloquium. Grenoble, ed. by M. Butt and T.King, 448-462.

The article considers suppletion as a phenomenon that poses a problem for the morpheme-based theory of morphological representation. The romance verb 'go' is analysed in detail to show that suppletion reveals the diachronic links between periphrastic and inflectional form.

The romance Future is etymologically periphrastic: it is formed of the Infinitive+*habere*, 'to have'. But the fact that in French the *a*-stem (as one in *aller*) replaces the infinitive and the past participle exactly as in Italian but does not replace the *i*-stem and, as a result, French Infinitive and Future have different stems (*aller* vs *irai*) shows that the French future was at the relevant time an independent morphological formation and not a periphrastic form.

Analysis of the Italian suppletive comparative *meglio* represent a case where suppletion and periphrasis intertwine and allows the authors to claim that only a feature-based system such as LFG could provide a model where the morphosyntactic equivalence of inflection, suppletion and periphrasis can be adequately accounted for.