DOM IN ROMANIAN AND THE REFERENTIAL FORM-MENTAL ACCESSIBILITY INTERPLAY

Sofiana CHIRIACESCU

Abstract: It is generally assumed that the form of the NP (proper name, definite NP, etc.) reflects the degree of activation of the referent introduced by it in the discourse (Givon 1981; Ariel 1988, etc.). I will show in this paper that the relation between a referring expression and the activation status associated with it plays an important role when trying to explain the distribution of pe-marking (in the sense of differential object marking) in Romanian, i.e. the pe-marked direct objects are more prominent in the discourse than their pe-unmarked counterparts.

Key words: discourse prominence, anaphoric and cataphoric continuity.