

ADJECTIVES IN NOMINAL PHRASES — AN ENGLISH-POLISH CONTRASTIVE STUDY

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1.1. The aim of this paper is to offer a highly tentative discussion of some problems involved in the contrastive English-Polish analysis of adjectives in NP's and to suggest some possible solutions, as well as mapping out areas for further investigation.

1.1.1. In order to produce a complete contrastive description that would firstly, account for and convey some insights into the nature of differences and similarities between the two languages in the area investigated, and secondly, prove pedagogically helpful, adjectives in nominal phrases in English and Polish should be considered in the light of their (a) syntactic derivation, (b) morphological structure, and (c) semantic load, in both languages.

1.1.2. In view of the ultimate practical goal of this study, those aspects of the phenomenon investigated whose contrastive description may be of some pedagogical value should be discussed first. Consequently, instances of *contrast* observed, e.g., in the position and order of adjectives in equivalent English and Polish NP's should be investigated, since the probability of making a language error in this area is comparatively high due to the operation of the native language interference, the native language being Polish if the goal language is English, and vice versa. The question of morphological inflectional paradigms of adjectives in English and Polish NP's may temporarily be disregarded, since this is an instance of a *difference* between the two languages that has no essential pedagogical bearing. (For the distinction between *contrast* and *difference* introduced for the purpose of practical application in the contrastive studies, see Rivers 1970 : 8).

1.2. The problem of the most effective method to be adopted for the contrastive description of adjectives in NP's in English and Polish is of fundamental importance. To my knowledge, most of the English-Polish contrastive analyses so far completed have been based on TG grammar (consider Marton 1968; Marton 1970; the papers by Zabrocki, Lipińska, Morel presented at the Second Conference of Polish-English Contrastive Studies at Karpacz, December 1971), and the general notions of *equivalence* (Catford 1965 : 28; Krzeszowski 1967 : 33 - 39) and *congruence* (Krzeszowski 1967) have been defined for the purposes of the transformational contrastive studies of English and Polish (Marton 1968 : 53 - 62). At the present stage of investigation, however, I am in no position to state that the TG approach will ensure the best method of dealing with all aspects of Adjectives in NP's in English and Polish. It will be adopted, however, in the sample analyses of adjective syntactic derivation to be presented in this paper, and some working T-rules generating adjectives in NP's in English and Polish will be postulated. It is hoped that a comparison of corresponding strings, generated by corresponding transformations in the two languages, will make it possible to establish if, and at which point of their derivational histories, two equivalent Adj-N structures in English and Polish can be described as congruent. The results of such a comparison should prove pedagogically useful.

1.3. The subject matter of this study is English and Polish nominal phrases containing adjectives. It is necessary to establish some formal criteria by which the language data for the contrastive analyses to be carried out here can be identified in both languages.

1.3.1. Nominal phrases in English are sentence constituents that can be recognized in the surface structure by the application of a series of NP identifying tests in the form of (a) cleft sentence transformation, (b) passive transformation, (c) interrogative transformation (Jacobs and Rosenbaum 1968 : 38 - 40). It is possible to devise a series of similar tests to identify NP's in Polish surface structures, but this question will not be taken up in the present paper. By a NP in Polish I shall understand the nominal group known under the name of "syntaktyczna grupa nominalna" in Polish linguistic literature. (For the definition of "grupa syntaktyczna" see Kuryłowicz 1948 and Misz 1963 in Lewicki 1971; Klemensiewicz uses the term "skupienie" in this sense).

1.3.2. NP's with adjective modifier(s) should be clearly distinguished from other nominal complexes, especially from nominal compounds, since these two nominal groups are most likely to be confused.

1.3.2.1. In English the main criterion for the differentiation between NP's with adjective modifier and nominal compounds is the stress superfix. Namely, the {+'} stress superfix characterizes English nominal compounds, whereas the {^+'} stress superfix is typical of surface structure NP's with an adjective modifier (e.g. a *blackbird*; is a nominal compound as opposed to a *black bird* — a

nominal phrase). This traditional distinction has been adopted by Lees in his classic work on English nominalizations (1960), though the author observes that the criterion is not absolute and should be modified as far as English nominal compounds are concerned (Lees 1960 : 180 - 182). NP's with adjective modifier, however, "result phonetically in only the {^+'} stress superfix" (Lees 1960 : 181), so this phonetic reflex of the syntactic status can safely be considered a characteristic surface structure feature of the English adjectives in NP's examined in this paper. Other typical features of English adjectives in NP's as different from English nominal compounds (and nominal complexes of the form N-N) may be enumerated as follows (see Lees 1960 : 180): (a) Adjectives in NP's can be separated from their head nouns by an intervening element X (which may be another attributive adjective) whereas the elements of nominal compounds cannot be so separated, e.g. *a blue woollen jacket* — Adj-X-N is possible but **a blue drunken jacket* of the nominal compound *a bluejacket* is ungrammatical and by no means does it carry the meaning of *a drunken bluejacket* — X-Nom. Comp.

(b) Attributive adjectives can be preceded by intensifiers but nominal compounds cannot, e.g. *a very black board* — Adj-N, is grammatical but **a very blackboard* — Nom. Comp., is unacceptable.

(c) Attributive adjectives in English NP's may be geminated whereas gemination is inconceivable in the case of nominal compounds, e.g. *a red, red skin* — Adj-Adj-N, is possible but **a redredskin* — Nom. Comp., is ungrammatical.

The feature of attributive adjectives specified in (b) has been distinguished by the structural school (see e.g. Francis 1958 : 268); feature (c) has been pointed out by Chomsky (1957 : 19) and is listed in Lees together with features (a) and (b) (Lees 1960 : 180).

It should be remembered that the above list of features of English modifying adjectives is treated as a working and very general solution which will have to be modified and further specified in the course of closer investigation. It can be observed that many lexical words in English generally considered adjectives do not comply with all items of this characterization, e.g. such recognized adjectives as *wooden* in NP *a wooden leg* or *left* in NP *my left hand* do not admit of intensification (feature b) and gemination (feature c), and the validity of these two features for the adjective identifying characteristics may be questioned.

1.3.2.2. In Polish, a classification of nominal complexes into "adjectivo-nominal compounds" (corresponding to English nominal compounds) and "NP's consisting of a head noun and adjective modifier" has been introduced by Marton (1970 : 62) on syntactic grounds¹. The distinction has been estab-

¹ The term "adjectivo-nominal compound", introduced by Marton, does not strictly correspond to the Polish term "złożenie" understood in its traditional sense and NP's of

lished on the basis of the following criteria: (a) word-order — “adjectival modifiers usually take a prenominal position whereas in adjectivo-nominal compounds they are post-nominally placed” (Marton 1970 : 62), e.g. *brunatny niedźwiedź* is Adj-N as opposed to *niedźwiedź brunatny* — Adj.-Nom. Compound, (b) possibility of modification by an adverb or intensifier — “while most adjectives functioning as modifiers in NP’s may be modified by intensifiers or adverbs, none of the adjectives within the compounds can be so modified” (Marton 1970 : 62), e.g. *bardzo młoda dziewczyna* — Adj.-N, is grammatical, but **statek bardzo parowy* — a modified Adj.-Nom. Compound, is ungrammatical. Marton has also observed that (c) adjectives in nominal compounds cannot be separated from their head nouns by an intervening element whereas modifying adjectives can, e.g. the NP *komiczny aktor* will be classified as Adj-N, since *bardzo komiczny aktor* and *ten komiczny podstarzały aktor* are grammatical, but the nominal complex *aktor komediowy* will make up an adjectivo-nominal compound, since the syntactic groups **aktor bardzo komediowy* and **aktor dobry komediowy* are ungrammatical. It seems to me, as a native speaker of Polish, that one more feature of Polish adjectival modifiers may be added to those outlined by Marton, namely (d) their potential ability to be geminated, e.g. an Adj-N phrase *czarny, czarny las* occurs and is grammatical in stylistically marked Polish (consider the line from a popular tale for children: “*A w tym czarnym, czarnym lesie stał taki czarny, czarny dom*” — “*And in this black, black forest there stood such a black, black house*”), whereas the unit **prąd elektryczny, elektryczny* is unacceptable.

The distinctions given above will be adopted in the present paper as a starting point for further study.

1.3.3. A tentative juxtaposition, however crude and informal, of the characteristic features of attributive adjectives in the surface structure NP’s in English and Polish that have been established here in opposition to English nominal compounds and Polish adjectivo-nominal compounds respectively, may prove useful in collecting the data for further investigation. Consider,

the type *niedźwiedź brunatny* should not be treated as subtypes of Polish “złożenie”. Though the term “compound” may be found terminologically confusing I have adopted it in this paper after Marton since Polish linguistic nomenclature does not have, to my knowledge, a separate term for the type of N-Adj combination considered here. Combination N-Adj is not a typical compound (złożenie) since its elements are independent morphemic words but in Polish the elements of the combination N-Adj are definitely more connected with each other than the same elements in the combination Adj-N (zestawienie). When considered in opposition to typical Adj-N phrases, the term “compound” for NP’s of the type N-Adj seems justified. Terminological difficulties connected with rendering the English term “compound” in Polish have been pointed out and described by Grzebieniowski (1962 : 164 n.3)

ENGLISH		
Adj-N	Nom. Compound	
$\left[\begin{array}{l} +/\wedge+// \\ +/very/ \text{ quite_N/} \\ +/_X \text{ N/} \\ +/_ _ \text{ N/} \end{array} \right]$	$\left[\begin{array}{l} +/'+'/ \\ -/very/ \text{ quite_}/ \\ -/ \text{ X } / \\ -/ \text{ gemination/} \end{array} \right]$	a black bird : a black bird a very black board : *a very blackboard a blue woollen jacket : *a blue-drunken-jacket a red, red skin : * a redredskin
POLISH		
Adj-N	Adj -Nom. Compound	
$\left[\begin{array}{l} +/ _ \text{ N/} \\ -/ \text{ bardzo_ N/} \\ +/ _ \text{ X N /} \\ +/ _ _ \text{ N /} \end{array} \right]$	$\left[\begin{array}{l} +/ \text{ N } _ _ / \\ -/ \text{ N } \text{ bardzo-} / \\ -/ \text{ N X } _ _ / \\ -/ \text{ N } _ _ _ _ / \end{array} \right]$	brunatny niedźwiedź : niedźwiedź brunatny bardzo młoda dziewczyna : *statek bardzo parowy komiczny podstarzały aktor : *aktor dobry komediowy czarny, czarny las : *prąd elektryczny, elektryczny

Note: X — an intervening element

Even this tentative and informal juxtaposition shows that modifying adjectives in English and Polish NP’s are comparable and that they exhibit many similar features. It goes without saying that a thorough contrastive discussion and further specification of these features are needed. In this place it may be noticed that the feature concerning order and position of adjectives in relation to their head nouns in Polish NP’s will be the most important point in English-Polish contrastive analysis of NP’s containing adjectives. The features of gemination and intensification, which are not present in many generally recognized adjectives in either language, seem to be of a semantic rather than typically syntactic character, and thus, being universal in a sense, they may have little value for the practical purposes in a contrastive analysis. This supposition, however, remains to be tested.

It must be remembered that the features specified here describe mainly the vast class of what may be called “bona fide adjectives”. Lees uses the term in reference to English attributive adjectives syntactically derived from “N is Adj” underlying structures (Lees 1960: 180). The characteristic features of these adjectives and their Polish equivalents are practically the same in both languages. The corresponding equivalent Adj-N phrases containing these adjectives are nearly always congruent, having been yielded by identical

transformations². Sometimes, however, the distribution of the features listed here is different in Polish and in English. For instance, the adjective *drewniany* in the NP *drewniany most* has prenominal position, accepts, though not readily an intervening element — *ten drewniany, z żelaznymi podporami most* (Marton 1970: 62), but does not admit of an intensifier — *ten bardzo drewniany most* is ungrammatical in neutral Polish. The adjective *wooden* in the equivalent English NP *a wooden bridge* has prenominal position, but it does not admit of an intervening element — *this wooden with iron props bridge* is ungrammatical, and does not accept an intensifier — *this very wooden bridge* is also ungrammatical.

1.4. Attempting to define some basic notions for this contrastive study, a few remarks on the syntactic function of adjectives in English and Polish NP's will now be made. It is assumed that adjectives in English and Polish nominal phrases are modifiers of the main noun of these phrases. Modification is understood here as the relation of the subordination of adjectives (attributes) to the main noun (centre or head) in an endocentric surface NP structure (see Bloomfield 1933: 196 - 200). Kuryłowicz calls this type of relation "attribution" („stosunek atrybutywny w szerokim znaczeniu tego terminu" — Kuryłowicz 1948 in Lewicki 1971: 37) and considers it a typical feature of a syntactic group („grupa") as opposed to a sentence ("zdanie"). He observes that the same as the syntactic function of the element that is being defined in the group ("grupy tj. kompleksy, które w całości zdania pełnią tę samą funkcję syntaktyczną, co ich człon określany" — in Lewicki 1971: 38).

The linguistic material under consideration here shows that the functions of NP's in English and Polish sentences are the same, irrespective of whether a given NP is represented by Det-N or by Det-Adj... Adj-N combination. Consider the basic syntactic functions in the following equivalent examples:

NP as a subject

This big yellow book is mine. Ta duża żółta książka jest moja.
 Det — Adj — Adj — N Det — Adj — Adj — N

This book is mine. Ta książka jest moja.
 Det — N Det — N

NP as an object

I have this big yellow book. Mam tę dużą żółtą książkę.
 Det — Adj — Adj — N Det — Adj — Adj — N

I have this book. Mam tę książkę.
 Det — N Det — N

² The term "identical transformations" has been introduced by Marton to denote transformations that operate on two congruent strings in the same way and result in two congruent transforms (Marton 1968: 59)

Chomsky's [B,A] general representation of function (Chomsky 1965: 71) may be adopted here to describe the function of adjectives NP's in English and Polish, and the following general definition of adjectival modification in nominal phrases is suggested for both languages:

Modifier-of: [Adj, NP]

1.5. The views on the status of Adjective in current linguistic theory are highly controversial (cf. e.g. Chomsky 1965, Lees 1960, C. Smith 1961; Marchand 1966, Winter 1965; Jacobs and Rosenbaum 1968). Chomsky recognizes Adjective as a grammatical category but his TG considers only the simplest cases of adjectives derived from underlying constituent sentences of the "N is Adj" type (Chomsky 1965: 107). Many of the existing TG grammars of English follow his general treatment, accounting for only a small number of the traditional members of the class of adjectives. A complete description of adjectives in NP's in English and Polish should reveal the contrastive details of the nature of Adjective as fully as possible. Consequently, those adjectives that appear in surface NP's but are not or may not be derived from underlying "N is Adj" copulative sentences should be considered in this study. Accordingly, the adjectives to be investigated here will be divided into two main groups from the point of view of their transformational derivation: (a) copulative adjectives, i.e. those adjectives that are transforms of "N is Adj" underlying sentences, (b) non-copulative adjectives, i.e. those adjectives that cannot or may not be syntactically derived from "N is Adj" sentences. An attempt to account for their transformational origin will be made in the pages to come.

2.1. *A technical description.*

In the following section of the paper a working description of TG derivation of attributive adjectives in English and Polish will be attempted. Since the aim of this paper is only to point out the possibilities and indicate directions for further research, the working T-rules postulated here should, by and large, be treated as temporary and highly tentative. Strict formalization is consciously avoided at this stage, so consequently the selectional features and the morphological features of gender and number are not specified, and the category of Determiner is not considered. The notation used is also greatly simplified. Categories are denoted by their conventional abbreviations: Adj — for Adjective, N, N', N'' — for successive, different Nouns, V — for Verb, Pro — for Pronoun. Some additional features of these categories, when necessary, are given in parentheses (), e.g. Pro (Indefinite), N (Genitive); otherwise parentheses indicate optional elements. Slants // denote the categories from which the elements that are followed by these slants have been derived, e.g. Adj/N/ means "adjective derived from N". Braces { } indicate choice; the hyphen /—/ is used as a concatenation mark and the arrow ———→ means

“goes to”. The following order of presentation will be observed: first, appropriate T-rules with illustrative examples will be given for English and for Polish respectively (marked ET — for English, and PT — for Polish, and numbered consecutively), then two lists of exemplificatory NP's with their respective equivalents will follow with consecutively numbered examples, and finally some contrastive observations will be made.

2.2. Copulative adjectives.

2.2.1. ET1 N — is — Adj —> Adj — N

e.g., *the girl is nice* —> *a nice girl*

PT1 N — jest — Adj —> Adj — N

e.g., *dziewczyna jest miła* —> *miła dziewczyna*

Examples:

1. a beautiful girl — piękna dziewczyna
2. an active person — aktywna osoba
3. a significant decision — ważna decyzja
4. a green cucumber — zielony ogórek
5. stary człowiek — an old man
6. żółta kredka — a yellow pencil
7. spokojny wieczór — a quiet evening
8. kolorowy latawiec — a colourful kite

It may be observed that the adjectives resulting from these transformations have the same prenominal position in both languages. Semantically, they can be described as directly denoting qualities of the noun. In the standard Polish grammars attributive adjectives of this type are called “descriptive adjectival modifiers” (“przydawki przymiotne charakteryzujące” or “właściwościowe”) (see: Szober 1959: 312, Jodłowski 1957: 321, Klemensiewicz 1969: 56). Their prenominal position has been attested as basic in neutral Polish. (Many examples to this effect are quoted by Jodłowski 1957: 321, and Kurkowska 1959: 213 - 216). In marked English, copulative attributive adjectives when single, are placed after the head noun very seldom, and the stylistic effect of this device is strongly poetical. Consider, ...“ my native shore fades o'er *the waters blue*” (Byron).

2.2.2. The rules suggested above do not account for postnominally placed adjectives that modify indefinite pronouns³. The necessity of this modification will be signalled here in the form of tentative amendment rules ET1-A and PT1-A:

³ For a TG description of English post-nominal adjectives of this type see C. Smith (1961).

ET1-A Pro(Indefinite) — is — Adj —> Pro(Indefinite) — Adj

e.g., *somebody is big* —> *somebody big*

PT1-A Pro(Indefinite) — jest — Adj —> Pro(Indefinite) — {Adj (G)}

e.g., *ktoś jest duży* —> *ktoś duży*

coś jest duże —> *coś dużego*

Examples:

9. someone bold — ktoś odważny
10. anyone willing — ktokolwiek chętny
11. nothing extraordinary — nic nadzwyczajnego
12. something round — coś okrągłego
13. nikt ważny — nobody important
14. ktoś wysoki — somebody tall
15. coś pięknego — something beautiful
16. cokolwiek ciemnego — anything dark

In the resulting transforms, and inflectional [+Genitive] feature can be observed in Polish adjectives modifying [— human] pronouns in the Nominative and Accusative cases. Consider,

Przydarzyło mi się coś dziwnego — *Something strange happened to me.*

Pro(Nom.)—Adj (G.)

Zauważyłem coś interesującego — *I noticed something interesting.*

Pro(Acc.)—Adj (G.)

Some interesting observations on this type of pronoun modification in Polish are to be found in two articles by Pisarkowa (1967: 36, and 1968: 25 - 26). Following Klemensiewicz, Pisarkowa suggests that Polish adjectives in the Genitive case attain a clearly substantival function in the structure discussed (Pisarkowa 1968: 26).

As far as their morphological structure is concerned copulative adjectives are either “base” or “derived” and at the present moment it is difficult to state which type prevails either in English or in Polish. (For the distinction between “base” and “derived” adjectives see Francis 1958: 270 ff. for English, and Szober 1959: 128 ff. for Polish). A contrastive morphological study of adjective derivation in both languages is a separate subject that might illuminate many points in the discussion of transformational derivation of attributive adjectives.

2.3. Non-copulative adjectives.

Of the group of non-copulative adjectives, derived adjectives will be discuss-

ed first. Describing English word-formation Marchand introduces the term "transpositional" (i.e. syntactic) adjective (1960: 229), which he further specifies in a later article (Marchand 1966), as denoting those modifying adjectives in NP's which are mere renderings of grammatical relations transposed from their underlying sentences. Marchand views Adj-N phrases as "morphologic combinations which go back to ultimate kernel sentences". In his opinion "a morphologic syntagma is nothing but an explicit syntagma — the sentence" (1966: 133). In Polish, a similar approach is advocated by Doroszewski who put forward the conception of syntactic interpretation of lexicology in Polish (his „składniowa interpretacja słowotwórstwa”) (Doroszewski 1952: 282; for some interpretations of Polish derived adjectives see Bartnicka 1961: 212 - 219). In the present discussion the term "transpositional adjective" will be used to denote adjectives syntactically derived from other parts of speech in both languages. The most frequent transpositional adjectives in English NP's are: (a) adjectives derived from nouns, (b) adjectives derived from adverbs. These two groups will be discussed in the following sections.

2.3.1. Transpositional denominal adjectives.

In NP's that contain denominal non-copulative adjectives, at least four transposed syntactic functions of the nouns from which these adjectives have been derived can be discerned. These functions will be indicated before the transformational rules accounting for the transpositional adjectives in English and the corresponding rules for such adjectives in Polish are given.

2.3.1.1. SUBJECT — OBJECT

$$ET2 \text{ N} - \text{V} - (\text{preposition} - \text{N}' \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Adj/N}' - \text{N}' \\ \text{Adj/N}' - \text{N} \end{array} \right\})$$

e.g., *the sun gives energy* → *solar energy*
the court deals with crime → *a criminal court*

$$PT2 \text{ N} - \text{V} - \text{N}' \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{N}' - \text{Adj/N}' \\ \text{N} - \text{Adj/N}' \end{array} \right\}$$

e.g., *słońce daje energię* → *energia słoneczna*

Examples:

17. musical comedy /music accompanies comedy/ — komedia muzyczna
 18. atomic number /atom has a number/ — liczba atomowa⁴

⁴ It may be observed that in combination with the noun *bomb* in NP *atomic bomb* the adjective *atomic* acquires a specific meaning, typical for this Adj-N combination only, and it loses its non-copulative status. (The sentence *this bomb is atomic* is grammatical). The same phenomenon could be observed in other examples of the group of denominal adjectives. In the classification of adjectives into copulative and non-copulative the meaning of their head nouns has to be taken into consideration in each case since it

19. educational officer /an officer deals with education/ — pracownik oświaty /cf. also „oświatowy” in „kulturalno-oświatowy”/
 20. szkoła zawodowa /szkoła uczy zawodu/ — a vocational school
 21. powieść historyczna /powieść opisuje historię/ — a historical novel⁵
 22. orkiestra jazzowa /orkiestra gra jazz/ — a jazz-band

2.3.1.2. SUBJECT — VERB

$$ET3 \text{ N} - \text{V} \rightarrow \text{Adj/N}' / \text{N}' / \text{V}'$$

e.g., *the sun radiates* → *solar radiation*

$$PT3 \text{ N} - \text{V} \rightarrow \text{N}' / \text{V}' - \text{Adj/N}'$$

e.g., *słońce promieniuje* → *promieniowanie słoneczne*

Examples:

23. Papal appeal /the Pope appeals/ — apel Papieża /papieski/
 24. German retreat /the Germans retreat/ — odwrót Niemców
 25. human behaviour /human beings behave/ — zachowanie ludzkie
 26. łowny kot /kot łowi myszy/ — a mouser /Bartnicka 1969: 213/
 27. ryki zwierzęce /zwierzę ryczy/ — animal roars
 28. opieka rodzicielska /rodzice opiekują się/ — parental care

2.3.1.3. VERB — PREPOSITION OBJECT

$$ET4 \text{ N} - \text{V} - \text{Prep} - \text{N}' \rightarrow \text{Adj/N}' / - \text{N}'' / \text{V}'$$

e.g., *they elect the president* → *presidential election*⁶

$$PT4 \text{ N} - \text{V} - \text{N}' \rightarrow \text{N}'' / \text{V}' - \text{Adj/N}'$$

e.g., *oni wybierają prezydenta* → *wybory prezydenckie*

usually determines the type of structure underlying the NP considered, consequently determining copulative or non-copulative type of the adjective. In this section of the paper only non-copulative denominal adjectives are considered which in the underlying sentences functioned as nominal objects, subjects and adverbials.

⁵ The example *powieść historyczna* may also have another interpretation of "powieść o znaczeniu historycznym; powieść, która stała się /jest historyczna" (a novel important in the history of literature), similar in meaning to *wydarzenie historyczne* (a historical event) or *postać historyczna* (a historical character). In this meaning the adjective *historyczny* can be described as copulative.

⁶ It may be interesting to note that in the case of the transpositional denominal adjectives which are non-copulative in this group, the position after the copula in the underlying English sentences can be occupied by their corresponding nouns in the structures with the main verb in the Passive Voice, e.g. in the case of *they elect the president* → *presidential election*, the structure **the election was presidential* is ungrammatical but the corresponding noun *president* can occupy the position after the copula in the structure: *it was president, who was being (to be) elected*.

Examples:

29. presidential adviser /he advises the president/ — doradca prezydenta
 30. spinal operation /they operate on the spine/ — operacja kręgosłupa
 31. manual worker /he works with his hands/ — pracownik fizyczny
 32. studia medyczne /oni studiują medycynę/ — medical studies
 33. koński pastuch /on pasie konie/ — a herdsman for horses /Bartnicka 1969: 217/
 34. reżyser filmowy /on reżyseruje filmy/ — a film director

2.3.1.4. VERB — PREPOSITION — NOUN /adverbial phrase/

ET5 N — V — Prep — N' → Adj/N' / — N

e.g., *the bear lives near the Pole* → *a polar bear*

PT5 N — V — Prep — N' → N — Adj/N'

e.g., *niedźwiedź żyje za kręgiem polarnym* → *niedźwiedź polarny*

Examples:

35. an industrial worker /a worker works in industry/ — pracownik przemysłu
 36. a Canadian pine /the pine grows in Canada/ — sosna kanadyjska
 37. a nocturnal flower /the flower blooms at night/ — kwiat, który zakwita nocą /e.g. królowa nocy/
 38. kursy wieczorowe /kursy odbywają się wieczorem/ — evening courses
 39. kwiat ogrodowy /kwiat rośnie w ogrodzie/ — a garden flower
 40. kawa brazylijska /kawa rośnie w Brazylii/ — Brazilian coffee

2.3.1.5. Even this tentative survey of some English and Polish denominal transpositional adjectives considered from the point of view of their syntactic derivation makes it possible to observe that adjectives of this group are very closely related to English nominal compounds and Polish adjectivo-nominal compounds respectively. Polish equivalents of the English transforms resulting from the application of ET2 — ET5 are either adjectivo-nominal compounds (example 17, 18, 31, 36) or nominal complexes with the second element in the Genitive case (examples 19, 23, 24, 29, 30, 35). English equivalents of the Polish transforms resulting from the application of PT2 — PT5 are NP's with a modifying denominal adjective (examples 20, 21, 28, 32, 40), regular nouns (example 26), NP's consisting of a head noun and a nominal modifier (examples 22, 34, 38, 39 and possibly 27), NP's of the form N-Prep-N' (example 33), relative clauses (example 37). Lees (1960: 180) has observed that English NP's of the structure N-aff-N' (where N-aff corresponds to our Adj/N') are similar to English nominal compounds in terms of their transformational derivation. The evidence of this contrastive analysis confirms this

observation. In view of what has been concluded it seems advisable to treat English NP's containing denominal transpositional adjectives as a subtype of nominal compounds in the contrastive study of English and Polish NP's.

A relative clause structure in the Polish equivalent in example 37 suggests that the final PT5 transformation does not apply to the Polish string „kwiat zakwita nocą”⁷. In this example the derivation stopped at the relative clause string, an obligatory stage in a detailed derivational history of every example discussed here. More examples of this kind may be found in Polish and English, and a more extensive investigation should show in which of the two languages the transformations of the above series apply more frequently.

2.3.2. Transpositional adjectives derived from adverbs.

Jespersen accounted for the transformational character of English adjectives derived from adverbs by describing them as “shifted subjunct adjuncts” (Jespersen MEG, II: 285 ff.). The following rules attempt to account for the presence of transpositional adjectives derived from adverbs in English and Polish NP's:

2.3.2.1. ET6 N — V — Adv → Adj/Adv / — N'/V/

e.g., *he rises early* → *an early riser*

PT6 N — V — Adv → N — Adj/Adv / — N'/V/

e.g., *on wrócił nagle* → *nagły powrót*

Examples:

41. a heavy smoker /he smokes heavily/ — ten, który dużo pali
 42. a hard student /he studies hard/ — ten, który dużo się uczy (Fries 1952: 222)
 43. a rapid performance /somebody performed it rapidly/ — szybkie wykonanie (Fries 1952: 222)
 44. wielki nudziarz /on bardzo nudzi/ — a great bore
 45. natychmiastowa pomoc /to pomogło natychmiast/ — immediate help
 46. silne bombardowanie /oni silnie bombardują/ — a heavy bombardment

In both languages the head nouns modified by transpositional adjectives derived from adverbs belong to the group of nouns morphologically derived from the class of verbs. NP's resulting from the application of ET6 and PT6 may be divided into those containing [+human] agent nouns (examples 41, 42, 44), and those whose head noun is [— human]. Marchand (1966) observes whereas those of the latter group refer to non-habitual actions. The distinction

⁷ The term “kwiat nocny” though theoretically possible, is not used in the botanical vocabulary of Polish, the exact name of the flower (e.g. królowa nocy) being used instead.

is also apparent in the morphological structure of the modified nouns in these transforms. The {-er} morpheme is typical of [+ human] nouns. In Polish, rule PT6 seems to result mainly in NP's with [- human] head nouns (examples 45, 46 and the Polish equivalent in 43). In examples 41 and 42 Polish equivalents of English NP's with [+ human] head nouns are relative clauses which suggests that rule PT6 does not apply to them. English equivalents of Polish transforms of PT6 that would not be transforms of ET6 are very difficult to find and it seems that in respect to transformations ET6 and PT6 Polish might prove a "deeper" language, but of course much more linguistic material has to be considered before this assumption is propounded.

It is interesting to note that in some cases single "suppletive" nouns may be used in Polish to describe [+ human] agent nouns in a derogatory manner. Consider such pejorative expressions as "kujon" or "pracuś" which may be interpreted as stylistically marked transforms of "somebody studies hard" and "somebody works continually". Jodłowski (1964) discusses similar instances of nominalized adjectives in Polish. Consider e.g. his example *pospieszny* (a fast train) which may be interpreted as derived from *pociąg jedzie szybko* (the train runs fast).

2.3.2.2. A group of transpositional adjectives derived from adverbs of degree will only be signalled here by way of some representative contrastive examples. Consider,

47. absolute necessity — absolutna konieczność
48. perfect regularity — doskonała regularność
49. utter darkness — zupełna ciemność
50. kompletna ruina — utter ruin
51. doskonała prostota — perfect simplicity
52. ogromna próżność — enormous vanity

NP's listed here are morphologically derived from adjectives as far as their head nouns are concerned. Consider, *regular* → *regularity*; *prosty* → *prostota*. In English, NP's of this group may be interpreted as transforms of underlying structures of the type: "Something — is — Adv Degree — Adj, e.g. *something is absolutely necessary* → *something is [of] absolute necessity*. In Polish, two interpretations of examples 50 - 52 can be furnished. Consider, in the NP *absolutna ciemność* the head noun *ciemność* may have been derived from: (a) the adverb *ciemno* (Jest absolutnie ciemno), or (b) the adjective *ciemne* (coś jest absolutnie ciemne). It should be remarked that the adjectives of these examples do not properly belong to the non-copulative group discussed here, since some of them can enter "N is Adj" pattern in both languages. Consider e.g. *his simplicity is perfect* and *jego prostota jest doskonała* (example 51)

2.3.3. In the preceding discussion only some types of non-copulative attributive adjectives in English and Polish NP's have been considered. Some other types, which seem to require a semantically based description, will only be signalled in this place by way of illustrative examples. Consider the following groups which should be accounted for in further investigations:

1. A group of adjectives that form two-element sets in reference to their head noun [the type of: *my left hand* — *my right hand*, *lewa ręka* — *prawa ręka*].
2. A group of adjectives denoting materials [*a wooden house* — *drewniany dom*].
3. Adj-N phrases which can be interpreted as the transforms of noun deletion transformation applied to the strings of the form: Adj-N-N [the type of: *general store* ← *general goods store*, *sekretarz powiatowy* ← *sekretarz komitetu powiatowego*].
4. Adj-N phrases with figurative meaning [e.g. *his bounden duty* — *jego psi [święty] obowiązek*].

ADJECTIVE SEQUENCES IN MULTI-ADJECTIVAL NP'S

3.1. In our discussion only NP's with one modifying adjective have so far been considered. The questions of interrelation and order of adjectives in multi-adjectival NP's in English and Polish are of equal if not greater significance in the present study because of their unquestionable importance in the teaching of both languages. Modifying adjectives in English and Polish NP's can occur in sequences, theoretically composed of an unlimited number of elements. In practice, sequences of more than four adjectives in one NP seem unnatural in neutral English or Polish. Adjective sequences occupy the position before or after the noun in both languages. Consider,

53. *an attractive, triangular, green stamp* (Hornby 1962: 174)
— *atrakcyjny, trójkątny, zielony znaczek*
54. *mój pierwszy prawdziwy bal* (Wierzbicka 1970: 129)
— *my first real ball*
55. *the mountains, tall and majestic, rose above the valley* (Pit Corder 1965: 51)
— *góry, wysokie i majestatyczne, wznosiły się nad doliną*
56. *pamiętam twarz mężczyzny, szczupłą, o skośnych oczach* (Pisarkowa 1965: 27) — *I remember the man's face, lean, with slanting eyes.*

It should be remarked at this point that postnominal position of a string of adjectives, especially when they are joined by coordinating conjunctions, is a feature of the literary rather than colloquial style in Polish as well as in English (consider examples 55 and 56).

3.2. Adjectives in sequences may be parallel or successive in their relation to the head noun, a distinction indicated in both spoken and written English and Polish. Consider the following examples:

57. *a nasty, irritable, selfish man* : 58. *a nice little old man*
 — *wstrętny, irytujący samolub* : — *mily staruszek* (Strang 1970: 137)
59. *piękny, stary, srebrny lichtarz* : 60. *wspaniałe wielkie czerwone jabłka*
 — *a beautiful old silver candlestick* : — *magnificent big red apples*
 (Wierzbicka 1970: 129)

In examples 57, 59 adjectives are parallel in their relation to the head noun, in examples 58, 60 they are successive. In speech, parallel adjectives are separated from each other by clearly noticeable plus junctures, in writing — by commas.

Typically parallel adjectives all equally define the head noun, and it may be suggested that they have been incorporated into their surface NP's through a series of conjunction transformations. Thus, examples 57 and 59 might be described as derived in the following way:

57. the man is nasty
 AND the man is irritable
 AND the man is selfish } —→ the man is nasty and irritable and selfish —→ a nasty, irritable, selfish man
59. lichtarz jest piękny
 I lichtarz jest stary
 I lichtarz jest srebrny } —→ lichtarz jest piękny i stary i srebrny —→ piękny, stary, srebrny lichtarz

In some cases coordinating conjunctions are retained in the surface structure, which may be treated as an argument in favour of the basic approach to sequences of parallel adjectives in NP's through the conjunction transformation. Consider some sequences with coordinating conjunctions retained:

61. *a rainy and stormy afternoon* — *deszczowe, burzowe popołudnie*
 62. *a brilliant though lengthy novel* — *błyskotliwa choć przydługa powieść*

The problem of the ordering of conjunction transformations remains to be solved in both languages. It seems that the resulting order of parallel modifying adjectives in NP's depends, to a great extent, on extralinguistic factors such as context of situation and the psychological disposition of the speaker. It is less rigid than the order of adjectives successive in their relation to the head noun.

3.3. It can be observed that adjectives successive in their relation to the head noun all belong to different "semantic groups" (from the point of view of meaning adjectives are usually divided into groups denoting age, colour, size,

length, shape, quality, etc.). It may be suggested that "successive" adjectives are introduced into NP's through a series of successively applied relative clause transformations. In view of this assumption, examples 58 and 60 could be analysed in the following way:

58. a man is old } → a man who is old, who is little, is nice
 a man is little } → a nice little old man
 a man is nice }
60. jabłka są czerwone } → jabłka, które są czerwone, które są
 jabłka są wielkie } wielkie, są wspaniałe → wspaniałe wielkie
 jabłka są wspaniałe } czerwone jabłka

(This analysis has been suggested to me by Jacobs and Rosenbaum's TG description of relative clause embedding — 1964: 261)

From the preceding description it follows that the last-introduced adjective element modifies the whole Adj ... Adj-N group introduced before. Consider,

63. *a poor sick little girl* ← *a sick little girl is poor*
 — *biedna, chora dziewczynka*
64. *a sick poor little girl* ← *a poor little girl is sick*
 — *chora uboga dziewczynka*

3.4. The question of adjective order is considered by the standard English grammar books but is treated as a marginal problem. Some directions to the student are usually given in the form of a general "table of adjective place in sequences" which classifies adjectives into semantic groups (see e.g. Hornby 1962: 174, Pit Corder 1965: 49, Strang 1968: 138), but it is always remarked that the rules given are not inviolable. The problem of adjective order in Polish is not considered by the standard grammars at all and the phenomenon is thought to belong to the province of stylistics. (Some remarks on the order of adjectives in Polish NP's can be found in Kurkowska 1959: 213, and Wierzbicka 1970: 129).

In this paper only a few contrastive observations can be made on some aspects of adjective order in English and Polish. It is believed, however, that an English-Polish contrastive study of the phenomenon may elucidate some of the points connected with the elusive question of adjective order in English and thus the investigation may prove helpful in the task of finding a good method of teaching English adjective order to Polish students. In the following list of equivalent examples a striking regularity can be observed. Consider,

65. *a beautiful young lady* — *piękna panienka*
 66. *a rich old man* — *bogaty starzec* (also: *bogaty stary człowiek*)

67. a nice French girl — miła Francuzka
 68. a naughty little boy — niegrzeczny chłopczyk

In these equivalent structures three-word English phrases of the form Adj-Adj-N are matched by two-word Polish phrases of the form Adj-N. It seems that for certain Polish adjectives our rule PT1 (N — is — Adj → Adj-N) results in a single noun, not an Adj-N phrase. This regularity may be observed to hold for: (a) adjectives denoting age, (b) adjectives denoting nationality when they modify [+human] nouns, (c) adjectives carrying the meaning of a diminutive, e.g. the adjective *little*. The fact that these adjectives can be incorporated into head nouns in Polish throws some light on their close-to-noun position in English. This observation may also facilitate further investigation on the problem of ordering relative transformations accounting for sequences of successive adjectives in English, and to some extent also Polish NP's.

The problem of adjective order is far from being solved, and needs further thorough investigation. The main types of derivation proposed have partially accounted for the semantic difference between *a sick young boy* (*chory młody chłopak*) and *a young sick boy* (*młody chory chłopak* — or *młody chory* i.e. *młody pacjent*), but they do not explain the contrast observed in the order of modifying adjectives in e.g. the following English-Polish equivalent pairs:

69. good old days — dawne dobre czasy
 70. a good old friend — stary dobry przyjaciel

As has been often indicated in this paper, the solutions proposed here should be viewed as no more than suggestions. It is hoped that some of them at least will prove useful for further research.

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