

Title: Etude contrastive du verbe suédois *få* dans un corpus parallèle suédois–français

Language: French

English title: A contrastive study of the Swedish verb *få* in a Swedish–French parallel corpus

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The verb *få* is a uniquely Swedish word by virtue of its frequency and its complex syntax and semantics. In French there is no direct correspondence of Swedish *få*. The aim of the dissertation is to analyse the different uses of the verb in Swedish and to investigate its correspondences in French. The investigation is based on a Swedish–French parallel corpus (Corpus Parallèle Suédois–Français) which consists of 10 Swedish and 10 French original texts with translations in both directions. The size of the corpus is 2.8 million words. The corpus comprises 4,790 tokens of the verb *få* from original texts and translations which are analysed in five different chapters. Three chapters deal with *få* followed by a nominal (*få* in the sense of ‘take possession of’, *få* as a particle verb and causative *få*). In two chapters the focus is on *få* followed by an infinitive (the modal use of *få* and *få* followed by the verbs *erfara* ‘learn’, *höra* ‘hear’, *känna* ‘feel’, *se* ‘see’ and *veta* ‘know’). In each chapter the verbs have been further classified on the basis of the type of correspondence. In addition to the most frequent French correspondences – e.g. the verbs *avoir* and *recevoir* as correspondences of *få* ‘take possession of’ and the verbs *devoir* and *pouvoir* corresponding to modal *få* – some less frequent types of correspondence will be identified, for instance cases where *få* with a complement corresponds to a simple verb in French (*få sömn* ↔ *dormir*, *få i arv* ↔ *hériter*, *få att gå sönder* ↔ *briser*, *få svart* ↔ *noircir*) or a change of perspective (*få en klocka* ↔ *offrir une montre*, *få gå hem* ↔ *permettre à qqn de rentrer*). Zero-correspondence or omission of an element corresponding to *få* occurs in varying degrees in all uses of the verb. When *få* is followed by a nominal, zero-correspondence is relatively infrequent and can probably be explained as the result of general differences between the two languages. French often prefers nominal constructions where Swedish has a verb – *få* is often found in a subordinate clause whereas French uses a nominal or prepositional phrase. However, when *få* is followed by an infinitive, zero is very frequent and the different preferences for verbal or nominal constructions cannot explain the large number of zero correspondences. The examples with zero are above all found with this use of *få*. The correspondences recorded in the corpus are often distributed differently between original and translation texts due to overuse or underuse of *få* in the translations. In the corpus modal *få* is underused in Swedish translations while causative *få* is overused. Certain French verbs and constructions are much more frequent in target texts than in source texts as equivalents of *få*. The results from this corpus-based contrastive study are relevant for language typology and translation studies.

Keywords: Swedish, French, corpus linguistics, contrastive linguistics, language typology, Swedish verb *få*, high-frequency verbs, particle verbs, causative constructions, modality, overuse, underuse