

THOMAS ERNST'S SYNTAX OF ADJUNCTS – A 21ST CENTURY LINGUISTIC THEORY

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Abstract: This paper presents the theory, known as *Syntax of Adjuncts* proposed by Thomas Ernst which describes the distribution of adjuncts. Ernst aims at creating a universal theory explaining the reasons for the order of adjuncts in the sentence. He claims that there are more universal principles than previously thought that regulate this order. He shows that the distribution of adjuncts in the sentence is due to semantic rather than to syntactic factors. In this paper I discuss some of the tools of the theory, in particular the Scope-based Approach and the Weight Theory. I also present the classification of adjuncts according to T. Ernst.

Keywords: Syntax of Adjuncts, Thomas Ernst, semantics and scope of adjuncts, Scope-based Approach, Weight Theory

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