



The Get-Passives as an Emotive Language Device

By Norman Knabe

GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 36 pages. Dimensions: 8.3in. x 5.8in. x 0.6in. Seminar paper from the year 2008 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Linguistics, grade: 2, University of Hamburg, course: Language and Emotion, 16 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: With forming a passive-voiced sentence out of an active-voiced sentence, certain elements of a situation shall be emphasized. By making the recipient of the active-voiced form the grammatical subject of the passive-voiced sentence, its focus becomes reinforced due to the sentence-initial position. The passive is thus favoured over the active form when the receiver of an action (recipient) should be focused rather than the performer (agent) of the action. Next to the greater emphasis of the active-voice object, the passive is used to stress the result of an action (which is supported by the possibility of omitting the agent). The structure be past participle can be considered as the norm for English passives. Since the passive meaning is essentially expressed by past participles, be in the structure can also be replaced by other verbs such as get, become, remain etc. Considering be- and get-passives, there seems to be no obvious difference between the...



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