Drawing on vast amounts of new data from live, unscripted radio and TV broadcasts, and the internet, this is a brilliant and original analysis of colloquial English, revealing unusual and largely unreported types of clause structure. Andrew Radford debunks the myth that colloquial English has a substandard, simplified grammar, and shows that it has a coherent and complex structure of its own. The book develops a theoretically sophisticated account of structure and variation in colloquial English, advancing an area that has been investigated from other perspectives, such as corpus linguistics or conversational analysis, but never before in such detail from a formal syntactic viewpoint.

Andrew Radford is Emeritus Professor at the University of Essex. He has written nine books on syntactic theory and English syntax, including Syntactic Theory and the Structure of English (1997), Minimalist Syntax (2004) and Analysing English Sentences (2016), all published by Cambridge University Press.
Colloquial English
In this series

117. Pieter Muysken: Functional Categories
118. Juan Uriagereka: Syntactic Anchors: On Semantic Structuring
120. Leonard H. Babby: The Syntax of Argument Structure
121. B. Elan Dresher: The Contrastive Hierarchy in Phonology
122. David Adger, Daniel Harbour and Laurel J. Watkins: Mirrors and Microparameters: Phrase Structure Beyond Free Word Order
123. Nina Ning Zhang: Coordination in Syntax
124. Neil Smith: Acquiring Phonology
125. Nina Topintzi: Onsets: Suprasegmental and Prosodic Behaviour
126. Cedric Boeckx, Norbert Hornstein and Jairo Nunes: Control as Movement
128. M. Rita Manzini and Leonardo M. Savoia: Grammatical Categories: Variation in Romance Languages
129. Barbara Citko: Symmetry in Syntax: Merge, Move and Labels
130. Rachel Walker: Vowel Patterns in Language
131. Mary Dalrymple and Irina Nikolaeva: Objects and Information Structure
133. Dunstan Brown and Andrew Hippiusley: Network Morphology: A Defaults-based Theory of Word Structure
134. Rettele Lou Los, Corriem Bloo, Geert Booij, Marion Elenbaas and Ans van Kemenade: Morphosyntactic Change: A Comparative Study of Particles and Prefixes
135. Stephen Crain: The Emergence of Meaning
136. Hubert Haidar: Symmetry Breaking in Syntax
137. José A. Camacho: Null Subjects
139. Bruce Tesar: Output-Driven Phonology: Theory and Learning
140. Asier Alcázár and Mario Saltarelli: The Syntax of Imperatives
141. Misha Becker: The Acquisition of Syntactic Structure: Animacy and Thematic Alignment
142. Martina Wiltschko: The Universal Structure of Categories: Towards a Formal Typology
144. Cedric Boeckx: Elementary Syntactic Structures: Prospects of a Feature-Free Syntax
146. Mark Baker: Case: Its Principles and its Parameters
147. William Bennett: The Phonology of Consonants: Dissimilation, Harmony and Correspondence
148. Andrea Sims: Inflectional Defectiveness
149. Gregory Stump: Inflectional Paradigms: Content and Form at the Syntax-Morphology Interface
150. Rochelle Lieber: English Nouns: The Ecology of Nominalization
151. John Bowers: Deriving Syntactic Relations
152. Ana Teresa Pérez-Leroux, Mihaela Pirvulescu and Yves Roberge: Direct Objects and Language Acquisition
153. Matthew Baerman, Dunstan Brown and Greville Corbett: Morphological Complexity
154. Marcel Den Dikken: Dependency and Directionality
155. Laurie Bauer: Compounds and Compounding
156. Klaus J. Kohler: Communicative Functions and Linguistic Forms in Speech Interaction
158. Andrew Radford: Colloquial English: Structure and Variation

Earlier issues not listed are also available
COLLOQUIAL ENGLISH

STRUCTURE AND VARIATION

ANDREW RADFORD

University of Essex
This book is dedicated to my dear wife Khadija, whose unswerving and enduring love, friendship and selflessness have supported my research, and whose winning smile and irresistible laughter have lit up life in Grey Britain for the past four decades. Words can never express my feelings for you and the profound debt I owe you.
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acknowledgements</th>
<th>page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prologue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Background</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Introduction</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 S-, S'- and S&quot;-analyses</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 CP Analyses</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 The Cartographic Approach</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Truncated Clauses</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 Summary</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Topics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Introduction</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Three Types of Topic in Colloquial English</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 The Derivation of Topics</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Multiple Topic Structures</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Topics and Complementisers</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6 Topics and Other Peripheral Non-wh Constituents</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7 Topics in Wh-interrogatives and Exclamatives</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8 Topics in Relative Clauses</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9 Summary</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Complementisers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Introduction</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Primary Spellout</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Secondary Spellout</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 Complementisers in Embedded Wh-clauses</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 Complementisers in Root Clauses</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6 The Nature of Complementiser Spellout</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.7 Summary</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.8 Appendix: Complementisers in Adverbial Clauses</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 How come?

4.1 Introduction 216

4.2 Zwicky & Zwicky’s Reduction Analysis 217

4.3 Collins’ Complementiser Analysis 224

4.4 Ochi’s Spec-CP Analysis 236

4.5 Shlonsky & Soare’s INTP Analysis 245

4.6 Endo’s FINP Analysis 254

4.7 A Factive Analysis of how come that 270

4.8 Other how come Questions 283

4.9 Summary 290

4.10 Appendix: Questionnaire on how come 291

Epilogue 293

References 295

Index 329
Acknowledgements

This book has greatly benefited from invaluable help provided by numerous people. I will not attempt to list them all here, but special thanks are due to the following (listed alphabetically, by surname) for helpful observations, suggestions, references or data.


More specific contributions are acknowledged at appropriate points in the text. I should also like to thank anonymous referees for helpful comments (particularly on the organisation of the text), Neil Smith and Andrew Winnard for encouraging me to publish my work as a research monograph with Cambridge University Press, and Anna Oxbury for invaluable help with copy-editing.

In addition, I would like to thank the University of Essex for granting me a period of research leave which enabled me to undertake much of the groundwork for the research findings reported here, and for allowing me to continue to use their research facilities after my retirement, in my capacity as Emeritus Professor.

I would also like to express my retrospective thanks to those teachers who (half a century ago) played a formative role in my undergraduate and graduate education at (Trinity College) Cambridge, and inspired me to go on and pursue research. These include Prof. Pat Boyde (eminent Dante scholar) and the late...
xii  Acknowledgements

Prof. Ralph Leigh (eminent Rousseau scholar) who were perceptive enough to see that I had no literary soul and encouraged me to pursue philology and linguistics rather than Dante and Racine; the late Prof. Peter Rickard (eminent French philologist) and the late Dr Joe Cremona (eminent Romance philologist) who inspired my interest in Romance philology and awakened in me a fascination with linguistic data; and Prof. Pieter Seuren (eminent syntactician) who guided and inspired my graduate work on syntax. The debt I owe to all of you is incalculable.

And finally, a special word of thanks to all the broadcasters who have not only entertained me so richly over the past decade, but have also provided a fertile source of data for my research. I can’t thank them all here, but I’d like to single out a few favourites: Alan Green, Tim Vickery, Geoff Boycott, Jonathan Agnew and the late Jimmy Armfield and Graham Taylor. What a massive job (that) you guys do in sharing your wisdom and wit with us, and in always giving 110%!