

RELATIVE CLAUSES

Using novel examples from live, unscripted radio/TV broadcasts and the internet, this path-breaking book will force us to reconsider the nature of everyday English and its complex interplay of syntactic, pragmatic, sociolinguistic and psycholinguistic factors. Uncovering unusual types of non-standard relative clauses, Andrew Radford develops theoretically sophisticated analyses in an area that has traditionally hardly been touched on: that of non-standard (yet not clearly dialectal) variation in English. Making sense of a huge amount of data, the book demonstrates that some types of non-standard relative clauses have a complex syntactic structure of their own in which the relation between the relative clause and its antecedent is either syntactically encoded or pragmatic in nature, while others come about as a result of hypercorrection, and yet others arise from processing errors.

ANDREW RADFORD is Emeritus Professor of Linguistics at the University of Essex. His many books include *Minimalist Syntax* (2004), *Analysing English Sentences* (2016) and *Colloquial English: Structure and Variation* (2018), all published by Cambridge University Press.

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STRUCTURE AND VARIATION IN
EVERYDAY ENGLISH

ANDREW RADFORD

University of Essex



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UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-49280-5 — Relative Clauses
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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India
79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108492805
DOI: 10.1017/9781108687744

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First published 2019

Printed and bound in Great Britain by Clays Ltd, Elcograf S.p.A.

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Radford, Andrew, author.

Title: Relative clauses : structure and variation in everyday English / Andrew Radford, University of Essex.

Description: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY : Cambridge University Press, 2019. | Series: Cambridge studies in linguistics | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2018048986 | ISBN 9781108492805 (hardback)

Subjects: LCSH: English language – Relative clauses. | BISAC: LANGUAGE ARTS & DISCIPLINES / General.

Classification: LCC PE1385 .R33 2019 | DDC 425–dc23

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2018048986>

ISBN 978-1-108-49280-5 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-108-72968-0 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

This book is dedicated to my dear departed parents (Emily and Eric), who survived a doodlebug attack in the war which blew out all the windows in our house, then had to face the more daunting task of bringing me up! My mum loved to recount the story of the day when she left me in a pram outside a shop, and I rocked it so hard that I eventually fell out – ever after I became known as ‘the pram-rocker’. A bystander who took pity on me looked at the deep wound (OK: tiny scratch) on my prominent forehead and said: ‘He’ll be a professor one day, mark my words’. Thanks for everything, mum and dad – you set an example I have always tried to live up to.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-49280-5 — Relative Clauses
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Acknowledgements

This book has greatly benefited from invaluable help provided by numerous people. The most important of these are: Chris Collins, Claudia Felser and Oliver Boxell, who worked with me on developing syntactic and processing accounts of relatives with ‘missing’ prepositions (discussed in Chapter 4); Memo Cinque, for commenting on an early draft of a document which was a precursor to chapters 1 and 2 of the present book, and for sharing with me the insights of his own typological research into the syntax of relative clauses; and Tony Kroch for sharing with me data that he collected on resumptive relatives.

In addition, I’d like to thank the following people (listed alphabetically, by surname) for helpful observations, ideas, suggestions, references or data: Doug Arnold, Martin Atkinson, Sjeff Barbiers, Josef Bayer, Paola Benincà, Bob Borsley, Isabelle Burke, Silvio Cruschina, Peter Culicover, Joseph Galasso, Ángel Gallego, Liliane Haegeman, Roger Hawkins, Alison Henry, Philip Hofmeister, Georgios Ioannou, Ángel Jiménez-Fernández, Mike Jones, Mireia Llinàs-Grau, Rudy Loock, Jim McCloskey, Jamal Ouhalla, Ian Roberts, Tom Roeper, Luigi Rizzi, Louisa Sadler and Julio Villa-García. More specific contributions are acknowledged at appropriate points in the text.

My grateful thanks also go to the publishing team at Cambridge University Press, especially the commissioning editor, Andrew Winnard, for encouraging me to produce this volume; the series editor, Neil Smith, for enthusiastic support and helpful suggestions about the organisation and presentation of the text; the copy-editor, Gordon Lee, for help with editing; Shirley Rhodes, for proofreading; and Heather Lings, for compiling the index.

And finally, since the data for this book are mainly drawn from recordings I have made of live, unscripted broadcasts on British radio and TV stations, a special word of thanks to all the broadcasters who have not only entertained me enormously over the past decade, but have also provided a key source of data for my research. I can’t thank them all here, but I’d like to single out a few of my favourites: Alan Green, Tim Vickery, Geoff Boycott, Jonathan Agnew and the late Jimmy Armfield, Graham Taylor and Ray Wilkins.

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