VERB-INTENSIFIER COLLOCATIONS IN ENGLISH: AN EXPERIMENTAL APPROACH

JANUA LINGUARUM

STUDIA MEMORIAE NICOLAI VAN WIJK DEDICATA

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C.H. VAN SCHOONEVELD INDIANA UNIVERSITY

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AN EXPERIMENTAL APPROACH

by

SIDNEY GREENBAUM THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



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To Masha and Avraham

PREFACE

This study is based on research conducted at the Survey of English Usage, University College London. The work was supported in part by a grant to the Survey by H.M. Department of Education and Science. I am grateful to Professor Randolph Quirk as Director of the Survey for providing the facilities for the experiments described in the following pages, and am also deeply indebted to him in a personal capacity for stimulus, advice, and practical assistance. To those who were my colleagues at the Survey thanks are due for acting as native informants or for giving practical assistance in connection with the experiments: Valerie Adams, Caroline Bott, Judith Carvell, Henry Carvell, Derek Davy, Norman Fairclough, Joan Huddleston, and Ruth Kempson. Caroline Bott also provided help on the statistical side. It gives me pleasure to acknowledge valuable comments on an earlier version of this study from Professor Barbara M. H. Strang, Sven Jacobson, Eddie Levenston, Jan Svartvik, and Eugene Winter. Particular thanks are due to Dick Hudson for his detailed criticism. Finally, I am conscious of the debt I owe to Geoffrey Leech, who gave a detailed reading to the first version of this work and offered many suggestions on both content and presentation.

SIDNEY GREENBAUM

University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, U.S.A. October 1968

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