

PRO- IN TWO SEMANTIC NETWORKS (A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ENGLISH AND BULGARIAN)¹

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Abstract: *The prefix pro- is found in different languages of Indo-European origin. It has given rise to a number of prefixes and prepositions in these languages. The present article aims to construct the semantic networks of pro- in English as a representative of Germanic languages and Bulgarian as one of the South Slavic languages and to find some intersections and variations. Most studies devoted to prefixes focus on their function as aspectual markers and do not consider their semantic contribution when they are associated with verbs. By analysing the prefix pro-, this research tries to show that prefixes also play a very important role in the semantic structuring of space. As the data reveal, pro- is more productive in Bulgarian than in English, as it combines with more varied types of base verbs. Therefore, it has developed a more branched semantic network.*

Key words: *spatial semantics, prefix pro-, English, Bulgarian, semantic networks*

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