

## PROCESSING ENGLISH PREFIXED VERBS

*Nikola Tatar*

Centre for Foreign Languages, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš, Serbia

Contact: Nikola Tatar  
Jahorinska 1, 18000 Niš, Serbia  
E-mail: nikolatatar@gmail.com

This paper takes for its main aim to question whether prefixed verbs (and other morphologically complex verbs) are more demanding for processing than "regular" ones through the reading experiment that was conducted among the senior students of the English Department at the Faculty of Philosophy. It was expected that the respondents would need more time for treating verbs with additional elements and mostly they did. However, while examining the results, our attention was drawn by the fact that besides semantic priming one has to take into consideration and account for the so-called structural or morphological priming. What is more, conclusions drawn from this research might be applicable to language processing in general, since it is almost widely agreed that language is processed in the same way regardless of the modality of the input signal, which may, as it is widely known, be visual or auditory. There is only one exception: written language employs the visual cortex as an input pathway, while spoken language makes use of the auditory cortex.

*Acta Medica Medianae 2018;57(4):137-143.*

**Key words:** *prefixed verbs, reading, language processing, priming*