

On the order of diminutive, endearment, augmentative and pejorative heads^{*}

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“This article is dedicated to Adriana Belletti, a dear colleague and friend from the early days of the generative enterprise in Italy (though she is much younger)”

In this paper evidence will be provided that diminutive, endearing, augmentative and pejorative morphemes are rigidly ordered with respect to one another, pointing to the existence of diminutive, endearing, augmentative and pejorative functional heads correspondingly ordered within the extended projection of the nominal phrase. The evidence will primarily come from the relative order of the diminutive, endearing, augmentative and pejorative suffixes of Italian, but also from the order of the corresponding bound and unbound morphemes of other languages.

* The related article will be part of Di Domenico, E., C. Hamann and S. Matteini (eds.) (to appear) *Structures, Strategies and Beyond. Studies in Honour of Adriana Belletti*, Amsterdam/Philadelphia, Benjamins Publishing Company.