

Abstract. We present here the concepts of “reference” and “modality” in two realistic authors of the 13th century, Peter of Spain and William of Sherwood. The context of their doctrine is the so-called theory of supposition, a theory of the reference of terms within the sentence. We then try to link it with the theory of modality, which involves sentences containing expressions like “possible”, “necessary”, “impossible” and “contingent”. We then present the doctrine of supposition and modality in two Nominalist authors of the 14th century, William of Ockham and Albert of Saxony. Finally, we present provisional conclusions, given the scope of our study.

Keywords: Reference - Modality - Medieval Logic - William of Ockham - Albert of Saxony.

