Linguistic Society of America
Fifty-third Annual Meeting
December 28–30, 1978

American Association for Applied Linguistics
First Annual Meeting
December 28, 1978

Boston, Massachusetts

Meeting Handbook
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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The LSA Secretariat has prepared this Meeting Handbook to serve as the official program for the Fifty-third Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America. The Program Committee chaired by Michael Silverstein and consisting of Henry Hoenigswald, S. Jay Keyser, Sally McLendon, Richard Smaby and Bernard Spolsky, reviewed the submitted abstracts and assembled the program for this meeting.

We would like to take this opportunity to formally acknowledge the help which has been given by the Boston Local Arrangements Committee. This Committee was chaired by S. Jay Keyser, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and consisted of Mark Baltin, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mary Clark, University of New Hampshire, Janet Dean Fodor, University of Connecticut, Jane Grimshaw, Brandeis University, Matilda Holzman, Tufts University, Judy Kegl, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Martha Laferriere, Southeastern Massachusetts University, Joan Malin, Brandeis University, John McCarthy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ronnie Wilbur, Boston University, Moira Yip, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Anne Zaenen, Harvard University.

We hope that this Meeting Handbook will be a useful guide for those attending the meeting, as well as serve as a permanent record of the 53rd Annual Meeting.

LSA Secretariat
December 1978
THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Ballroom West

SYNTACTIC STUDIES II
Chair: Kenneth Hale

9:00
Susan F. Schmerling (U Texas); A Categorial Analysis of Dyral Ergativity

9:15
Jonathan Sacks (Harvard); The Semantic Ergative in Lakota

9:30
Bernard Comrie (UCL); Agreement, Animacy, & Voice

9:45
Amuradh Saksena (UCLA); Generalizations on Cause Case Marking

10:00
John Harman (U Manitoba); Medial Verbs & the Grammar of Coreference in a Fagapan Language

10:15
Gilbert Rappaport (UCLA); Noun Phrase Accessibility & Coreference Control in Russian

10:30
BREAK

10:45
Stephan Wallace (U Texas); Passive Assignment

11:00
Barbara A. Reznick (University of Illinois); An Interaction Between Stress & Length In Italian

11:15
Scott DeLancey (Indiana U); Empathy Hierarchies & Jingoistic Morphology

11:30
Donald G. Charra (Ohio State); On the Role of the Plural in Language Structure

11:45
Roderick A. Jacobs (University of Hawai';); Relative, Equative, and Informatives

12:00
Samantha Bowers (University of Chicago); Syntactic Relations in Relative Predication

12:15
Dafna Hershenshous (Cornell U); Semantic Sentences in English & French

12:30
J. S. Bond (University of Oklahoma); Listening to elliptical Speech: Pay Attention to Stressed Vowels

12:45
Effie Connell (Brown U); Perception of Vowel Length in Greek and English

1:00
Andrea Levitt (UCLA); The Role of Phonetic Features in the Elucidation of Phonemes

1:15
C. M. Smoliar (U Illinois); A Case for Long Vowels

1:30
S. C. M. Alexiou (UC Berkeley); A Two-Tier Theory of Metrical Analysis

1:45
Roberta Morris (University of California); The Use of Vowels in Early Middle English Texts

2:00
Ruth Armentrout (UCLA); The Early Development of English

2:15
John Harman (U Manitoba); Medial Verbs & the Grammar of Coreference in a Fagapan Language

2:30
James S. Noblitt (U Illinois); Compensation and Catastrophe: The Problem of Motor Equivalence in Vocal Production

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FRIDAY AFTERNOON

2:00-4:30 p.m. LSA Business Meeting. Chair: Peter Ladefoged; Resolutions Committee: John R. Ross, Chair, Eve V. Clark, & James D. McCawley

The following rules for motions and resolutions were prepared by William J. Gedney and Ilse Lehiste and approved by the Executive Committee at its June 1973 meeting. LSA members are urged to follow these ground rules in order to have their motions and resolutions considered at the Business Meeting.

RULES FOR MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

1. Definitions. A motion is any proposition calling for action whether by an officer of the Society, the Executive Committee or the membership. A resolution expresses the opinion or feeling of a group. Resolutions are of two kinds: a) resolutions expressing "the sense of the majority of the meeting," and b) resolutions expressing "the sense of the majority of the membership."

2. Procedure regarding motions. 2.a. Motions are in order only at the duly constituted annual business meeting. Voting is restricted to members of the Society.

3. Procedure regarding resolutions. 3.a. Resolutions may be introduced at the annual business meeting or at any special meeting of the Society, such as the summer meeting. 3.b. A Resolutions Committee consisting of three members will be appointed by the president prior to the beginning of each regular or special meeting.

4. Presidential Address: "Fundamental Phonological Units" by Peter Ladefoged

8:00 p.m. Reception at MIT

4:45-5:45 p.m. President's Address: "Fundamental Phonological Units" by Peter Ladefoged

8:00 p.m. Reception at MIT
abstracts of regular papers
Did not attach itself all at once to the verbs.

The abstracts which appear in this Meeting Handbook are photocopies of the originals submitted to the LSA Program Committee. Infelicities of style, grammar, punctuation and spelling are the responsibility of the authors.

STATEMENT FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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Christina Abdul-Ghani, UCLA

EXPLAINING THE PLACEMENT OF ACCENT IN DISCOURSE

Accent in discourse neither conforms to the rules proposed for isolated sentences, nor is solely a matter of individual variation. Rather, the placement of sentence stress or accent in spontaneous English discourse depends on the interaction of several factors. Accepted and unaccepted lexical items were submitted to a factor analysis based on 10 coded variables suggested in the literature as indicators of accent placement. Three factors were extracted, accounting for 30% of the variance in the data: Transition Point, Use, Modified. Factor scores were calculated and submitted to a regression analysis, which showed that these factors were significant predictors (p < .01). Certain features, such as new information and specific word classes, were not found to account for variance. The results also show that other variables need to be isolated to account for residual variance and suggest that organizational features of accent should be considered. In many traditional studies in linguistic theory, the use of performance data has been suspect. When it has been used, performance has been viewed as a reflection of competence or as an indication that competence exists. Such an approach assumes the researcher has an understanding of the competence being investigated. This study suggests a further step: at least with respect to accent placement, performance is a way of discovering competence, not simply exemplifying it. Specifically, this method shows that interactional competence is involved in the use of accent in discourse.

Jean Atchison, London School of Economics

Unhappiness about Not Unhappy People

In a well-known paper, Langendoen and Bever (1973) argue that sentences of the type A non-unhappy man arrived are ungrammatical but acceptable. While agreeing that ungrammatical but acceptable sentences are theoretically plausible, we claim that L & B's arguments are fallacious in this particular case. They reach their conclusions by confusing two different types of rules: via rules which relate synonymous and near synonymous sentences, and well-formedness principles. Acceptability tests carried out with approximately 100 informants on NEG (un)-ADJ constructions indicate: (i) that optional deletions permitted by the well-formedness principles do not necessarily correlate with deletions which occur in the course of the transformational derivation of a sentence. (ii) that in certain sentences, two opposing well-formedness principles may clash. Although it is statistically possible to predict which of these will be given priority, it is impossible to draw a firm line between well-formed and 'ill-formed' sentences in these circumstances.

The conclusion drawn is that 'psychologically real' grammars must be based on batteries of scientifically designed acceptability tests, which attack the problem under discussion from a number of different angles.


Andrew S. Allen, University of California, Berkeley

LEXICAL DIFFUSION OF A DERIVATIONAL MORPHOS

The suffix -ESC- did not attach itself all at once to the verbs where it is found in Latin or Romance, but it appeared suddenly on individual items. Its spread follows the pattern of Wang (1969)'s lexical diffusion theory, in which change is abrupt phonetically but lexically gradual. The morphological pair SENSUS/SENSESCUS the old/knew old' appear around 132BC and ESC respectively, while VIRESCU/VIRESCO 'be green/begin to be green' are first attested around 184BC and 55BC. Many other -ESC- verbs were created in Latin and Romance. Conditions favoring the diffusion of the suffix are semantic, stylistic and phonological. Verbs, adjectives and nouns indicating color, age, size and similar states may take -ESC-, which often has an inchoative sense. Forms with the suffix, which is stressed, often occur first in metrical poetry or rhymed prose. The suffix also occurs so as to eliminate vowel alternation, as in Spanish cuentar 'it happens/to happen' in contrast with cuenta/contar 'it counts/to count'.
Naturalness and Phonetic Detail

Discussions of naturalness in generative phonology have generally been concerned with the inter- or intra-lingual interface, and rarely, if at all, with phonetic detail rules. Yet, as Ladefoged has demonstrated, even "universal" coarticulation processes differ in detail from language to language, and thus form an integral part of the phonology of an individual language. In this paper I will consider the naturalness of the phonetic detail rules required by different underlying vowel systems that have been proposed for modern Russian. Several phonetic details of the Russian vowel system are more naturally predicted by an abstract system in which i and ë and e are distinct than by the classical phonemicist description in which i and e are allophones. This runs counter to the general trend in phonology and thus exemplifies the need for a more naturally predicted system in which the phonetic detail rules are considered.

First, we argue for the separateness of Rhetorical-Subject Postposing, which can be seen only in (1a) where it is dependent on Complement Preposing (Topic Shift) but also in (1b) where it is independent.

(1) a. iMshu lyubit Masba 'Masba loves Misha' (where 'Misha' is Rhetorical)
b. idd Masha 'Here comes Masha'

Second, we argue for the separateness of two types of Complement Shift. Emphasis Shift differs from Topic Shift in that (2a) shows the probe shift in a situation in which Misha loves Misha (Emphasis) but not (2b) MISHU, Masha lyubit 'Masha loves Misha' (Topic, cf. (1b)) as well as differing in discourse function.

The Early Correlative Use of the Old English Indefinable Particle be

This paper considers several analyses of the nature and functions of OE be and then argues that its use as a substituting particle developed out of the earlier correlative use as a demonstrative particle which linked a subordinate clause with a demonstrative pronoun or a demonstrative pronoun phrase in the main clause at a time when correlative constructions occurred frequently in the language. This analysis accounts for the fact that he was not used in a variety of constructions such as relative clauses, subject and object complements, subordinate clauses introduced by prepositional phrases containing either a demonstrative pronoun or an abstract noun, and clauses introduced by the conjunction but as well as the fact that he was not used in all OE subordinate clause constructions; it did not occur with the conjunction if, with adverbs such as my 'now' when used as conjunctions, or even with the demonstrative adverbs such as her 'then'. In conclusion, the paper considers the subsequent reanalysis of he as a substituting particle and the extension of its use to non-correlative constructions.

Conversational Codeswitching in Thomas Mann's The Magic Mountain

A recent trend in linguistic approaches to literary study has been to focus greater attention on the role of pragmatic issues in the analysis of literary texts. One aspect of language usage which has been identified as a pragmatic issue is the phenomenon of codeswitching (Bumpers, 1976). The occurrence of this phenomenon in literary discourse has been examined primarily as indicating the distinct speech habits and social background of characters within a novel (e.g. Faulkner, 1968, Trabant, 1968). In this study we investigate the function of metaphorical codeswitching behavior represented in literary language as a device for interpreting the interpersonal dynamics of character interaction within a literary work. We analyze cases of codeswitching within the character dialogue of a chapter from Thomas Mann's The Magic Mountain, in which two interlocutors frequently alternate between German and French. We examine the use of codeswitches as a means of conveying the intentions and attitudes of the speakers to one another. We also consider the occurrences of German/French codeswitching within the novel as a compositional device within the work as a whole.
The results of a subjective reaction test, along the lines of Lambert et al. and Lebov, on a sample of 440 Costa Ricans, indicate that in societies where educational levels are not generally high, social status groups may be differentiated phonologically by the use of prestigious features rather than by stigmatized ones, contrary to findings regarding social dialects in the U.S. (e.g. Wolfram and Faasold). Participating listeners discriminated between three speakers whose reading of a Spanish text varied only according to the presence or absence of stigmatized and prestige features. In the face of certain evidence that listeners could distinguish well between the prestige levels are not generally high, social status groups assigning occupational status to, distanced themselves from the latter two. Whereas male and female listeners did not differ significantly in their perception of the speech of the latter's speech. However, whereas listeners could distinguish well between the prestige speaker, on the one hand, and the intermediate and stigmatized speakers on the other, they barely differed between the latter two. Whereas male and female listeners did not differ significantly from each other in their reactions, contrary to expectation, older listeners, compared to younger ones, significantly more often discriminated between speakers in the expected direction, confirming further that sociolinguistic competence is acquired gradually.

Peter C. Bjarkman, George Mason University

Natural Phonology in Applied Linguistics: Contributions of Theoretical Phonology to the Study of Language Teaching

Stampe's theory of natural phonology has had considerable impact as a system of descriptive phonology and may well be (in the words of A. Sommerstein) "one of the most important developments in phonological theory, if not the most important, since generative phonology itself." (Modern Phonology: 1976). The larger application of this theory to fields such as language pedagogy have yet to be demonstrated. However, W. J. Daniels (Scoria and East European Journal: 1975) offers the only tentative direction in this direction and these are in large part diminished by Dantiles' inadequate understanding of natural phonology as a distinction between morphophonemic "irregular alephic processes". Using English and Spanish as its data sources, this present paper illustrates the following points: (1) natural phonology provides a more satisfactory basis for both contrastive analysis of English/Spanish and for an interlingual comparison of English phonology or generative phonology; (2) what has been viewed in traditional phonology as free variations are not free at all but the manifestations of extensions and limitations of processes; (3) that phonological processes are taxonomically different from phonological rules carries the implication that they must be differently taught; and (4) since processes relate to the teaching of pronunciation and rules to the teaching of formal grammar, for the pronunciation teacher serious implications arise. These implications are perceptually most salient where they concern non-native processes (failure to suppress native processes or to acquire non-native ones) whereas the contrasts between rules do not predict such interference (such errors being due only to inadequate learning).

Hoff Rubenstein, University of Texas

On the Discourse and Reanalysis of Two Semitic Particles

This paper investigates two particles found in a number of Semitic languages. Based on an analysis of the use of these particles in the earliest Semitic texts (from Akkadian), and on their subsequent reanalysis in Semitic, it is claimed that these particles must have had primarily a discourse function in Proto-Semitic. One of these particles serves to indicate that the sentence is non-topic, and in Akkadian and Ethiopic Semitic; the second particle, ša (also šu and ší) has been claimed to mark "new" head NP's in relative and genitive constructions (Haviv 1941). An examination of the diachronic development of these discourse particles suggests that their "proto-functions" were much more similar than evidence from Akkadian indicates. So, for example, both particles are used: (1) to strengthen negation (and later reanalysed as part of a discontinuous marker in Ethiopic Semitic and certain Arabic dialects), (2) as an indefinite marker (especially with interrogative pronouns and adverbs), and (3) as or co-occurring with a relative marker or genitive marker. Furthermore, what seems to be a reflex of ša is found in questions and forming question words in Arabic dialects, and as a "particle of astonishment" in Ethiopic Semitic.

Susan Bark-Seligson, University of Arizona

Subjective Reactions to Phonological Variation in Costa Rican Spanish

Robert Bley-Vroman, University of Texas

Evidance for the Chronology of Umlaut and Syncope in Norse

It has been suggested (Bley-Vroman, CGL 11) that an abstract phonological analysis of Old Icelandic requires an early rule of Umlaut limited to the vowels of strong syllables, followed by a later rule of medial syncope, followed by a later rule of medial syncope, followed by a later rule of Umlaut, and that this diachronic order must, on general laws and constraints exactly to the order of the historical changes. This proposal, however, is at odds with every other treatment of the problem (from Sievers and Kock to Penzl and King) and, English phonotactic processes are not only without reference to syncope at all, that they are the result of other processes known to operate in Norse (particularly Sievers). Labeled constraints against vowel hiatus and certain glide-vowel combinations which together act to mitigate the effect to syncope. All analyses based on these erroneously interpreted runes can therefore be abandoned -- a conclusion which has serious implications for the relationship of synchrony to diachrony and for the nature of Umlaut and syncope.

1. S. Bond, Ohio University

Listening to Elliptical Speech: Pay Attention to Stressed Vowels

If the phonological structure of an utterance is systematically distorted, then distorting those properties which are perceptually most salient would be expected to lead to maximal disruption of perception/comprehension. Four narrative paragraphs were subjected to systematic phonological distortions: 1) voiced obstruants were replaced by their voiceless counterparts in natural phonology as well; 2) nasals were replaced by coronal stops and vice versa; 3) place of articulation for stops was changed at random; 4) front vowels were replaced by back vowels and vice versa. English phonotactic processes were then examined for violation of these constraints. Although the absolute level of difficulty of the perception/comprehension of the paragraphs varied according to listening and response conditions, vowel distortion produced twice as great a decrement in comprehension as any other phonological distortion. Perhaps listeners to continuous speech employ the heuristic strategy "pay attention to stressed vowels", as suggested by Bond and Carnes (Carnegi Symposium on Cognition, June, 1978).

Jane R. Bower, University of Pennsylvania

Intervocalic *// in Breton, and the n-rule

In 1973 the French arealist P. Leroux provided an extensive and systematic phonetic transcrip grounding of modern spoken Breton. The Atlas Lingvistiques de Brehat Breton show that in the intervocalic environment, the voiceless alveolar fricative */s/ has the variants [s], [f] and [x], or disappears altogether leaving two vowels, or sometimes one. This paper proposes that these variants are stages in the progressive replacement of a rule which weakens s to s. The naso vowel appears to have two forms, i.e. nasal vowels and vowels with nasal quality. The intermediate stage appears to be [h].

The intervocalic s is important from a morphophonemic standpoint. Breton, as a Celtic language, has a system of initial consonantal fricatives, which voiceless stops become voiceless or spirantized, and voiceless fricatives become voiced. This, in Breton[x], is the limited form of both [s] and [S]. This paper will investigate the operation of one n-rule biolinguistically and the contrasts for that rule across word boundaries in four different word classes. When the n-rule operates in word interior environments, it remains essentially a phonetic, non-struc-
What Aphasics Tell Us About Normal Language

In the prologue to Fodor, Bever and Garrett's (1974) influential book on psycholinguistic theory, the authors write (p. xiv), "It is...the sad truth that remarkably little has been learned about the psychology of language processes in normals from over a hundred years of aphasial study..." I will argue that data from aphasic speakers shows precisely what normal speech error findings show. In most instances the errors of both populations are qualitatively similar and are subject to practically identical constraints. Speech error evidence has led to the postulation of a level, prior to one where lexical items are phonologically characterized and a parallel structural and phonological coding for information (Fodor and Physiology, etc.). I will show that this bifurcation of levels is, and in fact has been, since early in this century (Pick, 1931), necessary to explain lexical anomalies in a certain type of aphasia, e.g., anomia. In addition, I will show these are striking similarities at the psycholinguistic level as well. Data from speech errors in normal subjects, as reported in studies like Garrett (1975), Fommink (1971) and Boomer and lawin (1976) will be shown as essentially the same interactive constraints between targets and errors. Anticipatory and perseverative exchanges appear in analogous syllabic environments. Quite often the target and error share prosodic characteristics. In many cases stress salience will condition an error. In addition, the errors seen to undergo some type of surface phonological filter which assures proper allophonic syllabic environments. Quite often the target and error share prosodic characteristics. Based on the evidence presented, one can indeed tell us something about the psychology of language processes in normals.

Hilton C. Butler, University of Texas

Factive Predicates and the Manipulation of Narrative Point of View in Fiction

In ordinary conversation factive predicates presuppose that their complements are true. In fiction authors often exploit factive predicates to convey, without explicitly asserting, information about a fictitious world. The sentence "Mrs. Mooney... knew that the young man were only passing the time away," from "The Boarding House" by James Joyce (Dubliners, Panther, 57), is typical. Joyce uses it to inform the reader that the young man were only passing the time away, but what the sentence asserts is merely that Mrs. Mooney, the speaker, believes this to be an accurate description of events. This holds the reader to the linguistic representation of events, related to Grice's conversational maxims of Quality and Manner, that things the author has his characters presuppose are to be accepted as having the author's endorsement. By using presupposition to define his fictitious world the author identifies his own point of view. But this presupposition, however, use factive predicates to presuppose things that turn out to be false. One clear example is Katherine Mansfield's story "Bliss" (Bliss and Other Stories, Penguin). Along with many other presupposition-carrying devices, Mansfield uses factive predicates in sentences like "Rutheralized that she not only bored him; he really disliked her" (107) to convey things that are revealed to be false. The effect is to distance the author from the source point of view the story appears to be told, creating two points of view, the character's and the author's.

Veda R. Charrow, National Center for Administrative Justice

A Final Report on the Comprehension of Jury Instructions

This paper reports on the final results of a two-year psycholinguistic study of the comprehensibility of the professional jargon commonly known as "legalese". The study is significant in that it demonstrates that it is both possible and valuable to study language comprehension in relation to real world tasks. (Cf. Fillmore, 1975; Morgan, 1975; Shuy & Larkin, 1977; Hancher, 1978). Furthermore, the approach to the problem, the explicit questions raised in this study, have implications for pragmatics and for linguistic theory. In this study, we attempted to isolate those linguistic features--lexical, syntactic, semantic and pragmatic--which appear to typify "legalese" as differentiated from standard English usage--albeit in predictable ways--legal language is difficult for the lay person to understand. O'Barr & Conley, 1976; Denset, 1978). Data from a phrase task involving over 200 jurors will be presented. The first set of juries was recruited and native speakers of other linguistic systems, then the subjects should say "yes" to all four cases. In the second experiment, sixty subjects were asked to judge whether two words were etymologically related or not. The prediction was that if an unambiguous word was placed in the ambiguous context then it would serve as prior disambiguating context directing access to only one of the meanings of the ambiguous word. In both experiments we found that prior disambiguating context directed lexical access to only a single meaning of an ambiguous word. These results support an "interactive view" of sentence processing in which lexical access is influenced by prior syntactic and semantic context.
Attitudes Towards Five Dialects of English

This paper will be a report on a language attitude survey conducted in Toronto, in the winter of 1978. 457 people of various ages, social class, and sociolinguistic backgrounds, and of both sexes were asked to listen to 20 voices representing the varieties of English and to rank them on a series of rating scales that tapped into what was felt to be their own criteria for dialect traits and on a socio-economic status scale. The purposes was to establish the relative prestige of, and favorableness in attitudes towards the five dialects of English: Canadian, Midwestern American, Southern, West Indian, and British, and to examine the effect of the listeners' variables: age, sex, social class, and region. Although previous language attitude studies, particularly those using the "mathematized" technique, have found that the variety of language used by a speaker has been a strong factor, the results of this study show that the Dialect factor loses much of its strength when combined with real personality differences and passage content variation. These findings throw a different light on previous studies, and indicate new routes for future research.

Bernard Comrie, University of Southern California

Agreement, Animacy, and Voice

In some languages, the possibility of verb-agreement is determined not only by grammatical relations of noun phrases, but also by their degree of animacy (e.g. first and second person are higher in animacy than third person). Here animate noun phrases are in agreement with the expletive "he". Chomsky, most transitiv verb forms have a subject prefix and an object suffix; in intransitive verb forms, both prefix and suffix encode the subject. In the Present Tense, only the suffixal position is available. If only one of subject and object is first/second person, agreement is in foot with the subject, e.g. I see you. Where agreement is with the subject, the factors required are: number (antecedent voice), animacy in language where agreement is determined by animacy. In Tangut, if only one of subject and object is first/second person, agreement is in foot with the object; e.g. I see him, he sees me. Where both are first/second person, agreement is in foot with the subject, e.g. I see you. Where agreement is with the subject, the factors are: number (antecedent voice), animacy in language where agreement is determined by animacy. In Tangut, animacy overrides grammatical relations, and as change in voice is required to maintain agreement by grammatical relations.

Andrew W. Conrad, Princeton University

Competence and "Corpus" in Structural Linguistics

Lyons (1973) claims that American structuralism "was corpus-based (rejecting the distinction of langue and parole)." Chomsky comments, modern grammars are typically conceived...as descriptive statements about a given corpus (text)." (1964). The criticism of structural grammars is that they are "generative"—i.e., they provided no explicit way of assigning a structural description to a new utterance. The strict-subcategorial details of that verb are therefore relevant to what can occur in the VP—sentences. (1) and (3) have moved one place to the right on this hierarchy, as compared with its role in the corresponding "ordinary-verb" sentence, but retain the same syntactic and semantic relations. The "Grammatical Status of the English Passive Alternation": M.I.T. dissertation.

J. Joseph Cowan, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

Investigating the Psychological Basis of Anaphora

Unambiguous behavioral evidence on how pragmatic and syntactic information participate in the processing of sentences is essential for the development and evaluation of theories of speech perception. This paper shows that experiments in making intrasentential anaphoric connections provide exactly the type of evidence needed. Subjects (65-69) required to select the appropriate antecedent of the pronoun in sentences of the configuration TP1...TP3: . The use of specific hypotheses; (1) if the verb from which the nominal is derived is transitive, an O. can occur with give, and if not, the strict-subcategorial details of that verb are therefore relevant to what can occur in the VP—sentences. (1) and (3) have moved one place to the right on this hierarchy, as compared with its role in the corresponding "ordinary-verb" sentence, but retain the same syntactic and semantic relations. The "Grammatical Status of the English Passive Alternation": M.I.T. dissertation.

Morna Cowan, City University of New York

Three Unexplored Assumptions in Lexical Retrieval Theory for Speech Production

In arguments are offered for three assumptions made in recent discussions of lexical retrieval in speech production: the passive memory assumption, the single access assumption, and the heterogenous memory assumption (cf., Forster (1976) and Faust and Cutler (1977)). This paper demonstrates the role of these assumptions, suggests alternatives, and indicates some consequences of the resulting theoretical choices. A) A passive memory stores each lexical entry at a specific location having only two capabilities: storing information and releasing it (given an instruction uniquely addressed to that location). In most such theories, a central processor performs lexical searches by successively interrogating specific locations and comparing the probe with the content retrieved against some criterion. When there are reasonable active memory models which posist a logical comparison capability at each memory location, the processor can perform lexical searches by successively interrogating specific locations and comparing the probe with the content retrieved against some criterion. B) Several theories assume the lexicon is accessed only where a semantic/syntactic representation (or is replaced by a phonetic representation. But lexical semantic structure strongly suggests a "lexicalization" stage which parses a preliminary semantic representation into lexical units via the lexicon. C) A heterogenous memory stores each lexical entry in two or more distinct, mental alphabets. This paper presents a model for a heterogenous lexicon. Interesting multiple homogenous memory theories have been explored.
Stephen Crair, Claremont Graduate School

A Semantic Constraint on Syntactic Parsing

This research examines how semantic information influences syntactic decisions during sentence processing. Subjects were presented lexical strings having syntactically identical surface structures but with two possible underlying structures (Complex FF or SF).

1. The children taught by the Belrissi method
2. The teachers taught by the Belrissi method

It was predicted that strings of the first type would be processed as complex noun phrases and strings of the second type would be semantically interpreted as the direct object of the following verb (taught). Strings of the second type should be processed as complete sentences, following the "canonical-sentential strategy," since the initial noun phrases would only be semantically interpreted as dependent t-tests. This result would be expected if subjects were anticipating additional lexical material to complete the strings they have parsed as noun phrases. Since the results can be attributed to the semantic determination of syntactic structures and objects, syntactic "perceptual strategies" alone do not appear to be sufficient to account for the processing of underlying syntactic structures during sentence comprehension. This experiment demonstrates one case in which semantic composition guides syntactic parsing.

Steven Cushing, Higher Order Software and MTT

Possible and Actual Quantifiers

Given a class of meanings that get expressed morphologically in natural language, the features that distinguish them are those that may or may not get expressed. One thing that we might expect of theoretical semantics would be some account of which these logically possible meanings are actually possible, in some sense, which of these actually occur, and what general principles there might be to account for this.

Our paper in this volume is intended to illustrate in this way of looking at the syntax of the quantifiers, the way in which and under what conditions the two clause types do derive from the data. The general framework is essentially that of the semantic composition, though we also consider the syntactic evidence for these cases.

Scott DeLancey, Indiana University

Empathy Hierarchies and Jinhaw Agreement Phemonena

Claremont Graduate School

A syntactic analysis of reciprocus as an adjectival dundua ‘weco procres’

John Fried the potatoes rather than boiled/bould the cabbage.

McKew 1977

The present paper purports to show an elaboration of Kuno & Kaburaki, LI Monogr. 3. In the actual language, the features that distinguish them determine, in general, a theoretical possible meanings are actually possible, in some sense, which of these actually occur, and what general principles there might be to account for this. The implications for semantic theory of this way of looking at data will be discussed. In particular, the importance of using cross-linguistic evidence to argue for or against explanatory universals of semantics will be emphasized.

George Donnel, Princeton University

Reciprocus and an IE Syntactic Suppletion

Jungkann's analysis of reciprocus as an adjectival dundua ‘weco proceso.

The present paper purports to show an elaboration of Kuno & Kaburaki, LI Monogr. 3. In the actual language, the features that distinguish them determine, in general, a theoretical possible meanings are actually possible, in some sense, which of these actually occur, and what general principles there might be to account for this. The implications for semantic theory of this way of looking at data will be discussed. In particular, the importance of using cross-linguistic evidence to argue for or against explanatory universals of semantics will be emphasized.
An Alternate Bring/Take Dialect

For the “Standard” bring/take dialect as described in Fillmore (1966, 1971), the relevant factors determining the choice between the two words are almost entirely delictic. The present paper attempts an analysis of an alternate bring/take dialect for which delictus cannot fully explain the distribution. For example: If I brought Mary to Boston and I took Mary to Boston, the difference between brought and took has to do with whether it is more to the speaker’s advantage (brought) or more to Mary’s advantage (take) to have had the action performed. On the other hand, delictus account for differences in judgement for sentences such as Brian can take me my cost, can’t he? which are acceptable to speakers of Fillmore’s dialect but are rejected by others. I also discuss language background along with some other extralinguistic characteristics which seem to define the alternate dialect group.

Fillmore, Charles. (1966) Deictic categories in the semantics of forms in The Habit). I address these problems about for which deixis cannot fully explain the transfer of relevant factors. For example, the reversal of the IE infinitive from a nominalization of a verbal root in PIE to a full member of the verbal system in most daughter languages has heretofore not been adequately described. This study identifies syntactic features of Vedic Sanskrit and Old Irish which may preserve archaisms inherited from the pre-verbal period. I give examples which show that nominial case marking allowed indeterminacy to arise with embeddment of verbs which have no objective argument in infinitive, which is a feature of infinitive subject and with purpose clauses so that direct objects were sometimes indistinguishable from subject equi clausal and dative of goal from purpose clausal. This indeterminacy allowed multiple analyses which led to reanalysis of the action noun as an infinitive. I also discuss what the effects of reanalysis were on infinitive morphology and syntax in the rest of IE and suggest that contrary to previous studies which claim that the infinitive was a post-PIE development, complements to subject equi verbs and purpose clauses can be reconstructed for PIE.
Joseph F. Romes, University of California, Los Angeles

A Bar Notation Formalism and a Raising Transformation for English Auxiliaries

This paper resolves the issue of how English auxiliaries are in category V without being main verbs. Among new data presented is the fact that passive get is "leave" a main verb than passive be, in that what follows get never acts as VP. 

Michael A. Feldman, University of California, Los Angeles

Bartenders can not be hired here, and hired here he surely will be/set.

This behavior, when examined in detail, is shown to parallel that of being in the passive progressive, as studied in Akeeljim and Assoum (Linguistic Analysis, 1975). Get is in fact like perfective French avoir, and all forms of être 'be' with respect to VP tests. A sharp contrast is shown between these and English perfective have and be, being what follows the latter (as widely noted in the literature) in VP.

The paper proceeds to from these and other arguments: that perfective have and all forms of be (save being) are raised out of their VP, on-origin; and that the base position of auxiliaries is in the VP but not as head of VP. An elegant bar notation rule, A(→(A)A)=1, here A

Carrie Anne Estill, University of Wisconsin

The Semantics of the Hittite Verbs in -nu-

This paper will examine the semantics of the -nu- suffixed class of Hittite verbs. While these verbs have traditionally been termed "causatives" by scholars such as Edgar Starkevitt and Johannes Friedrich, only a few of these verbs are causatives to transitive verbs. The majority of these verbs are formed from nouns or are transitive verbs formed from intransitives. A few verbs in the -nu- class also have autonomous semantics and these will be discussed. The connections between the Hittite -nu- class and the Sanskrit type in -pati will be considered also.

Alice Faber, University of Texas

Agent Markers in Hebrew and Some Related Languages

Hebrew marks passive agents with the preposition al yedeq (lit. 'on the hands of'). This preposition is related to 'next to' al yedeq (lit. 'on the hand of'). Because Hebrew is the only Semitic language to mark passive agents, it is reasonable to assume that it developed the construction relatively late (perhaps around the beginning of the Christian era). This assumption is strengthened by the typological observation that there are languages with agentless passives and no full ones, but no languages with full passives and no agentless ones. In this paper, I discuss the development of al yedeq from a loc/inst. preposition to an expression of passive agency. I also discuss several "dead end" agent markers in one related Canaanite dialects. In these dialects, the preposition b-, ordinarily a loc., is used with the agent of a passive sentence. In one of these dialects, Moabite, b- is shown to mean 'by means of,' as evidenced by its use in an active sentence: krt '7 'marb' yrd,' yrd and the tenses fixed. A few of the transitive verbs in Moabite, b- is not a true agent marker but rather expresses a connection between the NP it occurs with and the act described in the passive sentence. Visser (p. 2176, ff.) states that various prepositions were used in this way in earlier stages of English, until by was finally settled on. The paper concludes with a discussion of whether use of a particular preposition to mark agents is an idiosyncratic enough development that differences about sub-grouping within a language family can be made on the basis of shared agent markers.

Deborah Fallows, University of Texas and Center for Applied Linguistics

Experimental Data on Syllabification and Syllable Structure

Experimental data were collected from native speakers of English on syllabification of English words. The evidence suggests modifications on two major issues of current syllabic theory: the nature of syllabification and the defining characteristics of the syllable. The experiment involved 25 children in two age groups, 5-yr-old pre-readers and 10-yr-olds, and 70 words of varying structure. The children were asked in separate tasks, to double the first and later the last parts of the words (e.g., chip-chipmunk, chipmunk-munk). A factor analysis of the results suggests that syllabification depends on the structure of syllable more than the shape of an unstressed one; speakers syllabulate at the expense, if necessary, of the unstressed one. We preferred these results are at odds with the theory of Pulgram, Bailey, Hoard, and more closely to those of Rooper, Rudes and Kahn because of their provisions of syllabification of certain words with respect to stress.

Edward Finegan, University of Southern California

The Significance of Syntactic Arrangement for Readability

The two most popular devices for predicting readability, those of Flesh and Dale-Chall, typify other formulas by relying chiefly, if not exclusively, on indirect measures of syntactic complexity, which is assumed to be a direct cause of difficulty. On the other hand, the results of certain constituent types such as preposition

Douglas E. Fideli, Colorado State University

Processing Descriptive Prose

Kintsch and van Dijk (1975) have proposed several hypotheses concerning the processing of narratives. Subsequent empirical investigations by Kintsch (1977) have essentially supported these hypotheses. In the study reported in this paper prose is used. The context for the generalization, and construction rules for the results are presented for experimental purposes. Through the evidence is presented that adult performance on the tasks is consistent with our proposed theoretical hypotheses. Performance by children can be predicted by processing hypotheses. Data are analyzed by means of variable rules methodology originated by Labor (1969) and further developed by Cederstrom and Kintsch (1974).
Laura Bell Ford, University of Pennsylvania

The Function of Are in Informal Japanese Discourse

The Japanese deictic pronoun are has been recognized for its use in anaphora function in spoken and written Japanese as a reference to
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Laura Bell Ford, University of Pennsylvania

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Female-Male Differences in Conversational Interactions: A Development Study

Studies of same-sex and mixed-sex conversations involving adults indicate definite and patterned differences in the mechanisms regulating language usage in these types of interactions (e.g., Zimmerman and West, 1975). This paper examines the conversational behavior of a group of 20 children (10 male, 10 female) in same-sex and mixed-sex dyads at four age levels: 5; 6, 6; 2, 12, and 15 years old. The dyads were recorded and later transcribed. The transcriptions were coded for various characteristics: frequency and length of pauses, distribution of silences, frequency and nature of interruptions of overlaps, frequency and distribution of topics raised, percentage of topics taken up, and frequency of minimal responses (e.g., mm, yeah, etc.). Results show that although some features predictably differentiate between same- and mixed-sex usage patterns, the patterns do not begin to appear regularly until interactions involving twelve-year-olds. These patterns are almost fully formed in the productions involving interactions of different age levels. This suggests that early adolescence is the period during which these patterns of conversational interaction are established as well as when differences between same-sex and mixed-sex usage patterns are maximized.

Susan Gass, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Second Language Acquisition and the Accessibility Hierarchy

We have conducted and successful universal investigation of relative clauses is that of Keenan and Comrie (1972, 1977). They proposed that relative clause formation (RCF) is subject to the following Accessibility Hierarchy: (where  >  means 'more accessible than')

In 1975 Keenan further suggested that RCF is more natural or easier on the higher end of the hierarchy than on the lower end. That is, it was hypothesized that the accessibility hierarchy is not an end. That is, it was hypothesized that the hierarchy is maximized.

The paper examines overlaps, frequency and distribution of silences, frequency and nature of interruptions of overlaps, frequency and distribution of topics raised, percentage of topics taken up, and frequency of minimal responses (e.g., mm, yeah, etc.). Results show that although some features predictably differentiate between same- and mixed-sex usage patterns, the patterns do not begin to appear regularly until interactions involving twelve-year-olds. These patterns are almost fully formed in the productions involving interactions of different age levels. This suggests that early adolescence is the period during which these patterns of conversational interaction are established as well as when differences between same-sex and mixed-sex usage patterns are maximized.

Susan Gass, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Gregory, Locating efficiently describes the facts. The sociolinguistic studies of face nonoccurrence of an expected segment which logical rules. This paper variable phonetic deletion rule, or the fact the correct one.

Lacking conjunctions, many Papuan languages join clauses by means of medial verbs, which often indicate omission of a syntactic number agreement rule. I will argue that in certain cases both rules must be variable, and the seemingly "inefficient" solution is in fact the correct one.

John Haiman, University of Manitoba

Medial Verbs and the Grammar of Coreference in a Papuan Language

Lacking conjunctions, many Papuan languages join clauses by means of medial verbs, which often indicate omission in a subject that co-occurs with its own subject. In Hua, the medial verb has two sets of endings, (I) agreeing apparently with the subject of the medial verb (SUM) and (II) agreeing with the subject of the following verb (SUM). Where SUM is lacking, Apparented verb is deflective: a consideration of cases where SUM and SUF are neither coreferential nor distinct (i.e. where one is a subset of the other) reveals that the medial verb may lack an antecedent or it may occur with (I) - in which case (II) refers to (SU-F-SUM). In contrast to (II) with its invariable presence but shifting reference, (I), which is not always present in a medial verb, is variable relative to SUM. Consequently, no verb ever appears to lack a morpheme agreeing with its own subject, superficial morphology to the contrary notwithstanding.

In this way, a language-particular morphological fact (the absence of (I) rather than of (II) in like-subject medial verbs) is reconciled with a syntactic universal (verbs agree with their own subjects first).

John W. Harris, Linguistic Institute of Ireland & University of Chicago

Opposite Effects of Context on Immediate Structural and Lexical Processing

The testing of a number of hypotheses about the effect of hearing a prior context sentence on immediate processing of a subsequent target sentence is described. According to the standard deep structure model (Todor, Pepper & Garrett, 1974) higher processing (e.g. syntactic interpretation, integration of context-target information) does not occur immediately as speech is heard but is delayed until an initial deep structure analysis has been conducted. In (1976) states that processing processes at all levels simultaneously, implying that the presence/absence of prior context should affect immediate processing. Two experiments confirm that context has a significant effect on both immediate structural (syntactic/semantic) and lexical processing, supporting the on-line interactive view. A newly-developed on-line, short-latency sentence continuation task (mean 600-700 msec) measured changes in the complexity of structural processing while word monitoring latency provided an index of lexical processing. Results also supported a number of new hypotheses that not only did the context have opposite effects on immediate structural and lexical processing. While the addition of a prior context sentence always facilitated lexical processing, it either increased or decreased the complexity of structural processing at different points in the sentence depending on whether incoming material contained 'old' or 'new' information in relation to the context sentence.

Lucinda Hart-Gonzales, Georgetown University

Spanish Influence in the Quechua of Quechua-Spanish Bilinguals

Increasing Spanish influence in Quechua, particularly in bilingual urban areas (Albi 1971, 1974) may be due in part to the Quechua language use of Spanish-dominant bilinguals, who represent the higher prestige group. Differences in the language use of a Spanish-dominant (S) and a Quechua-dominant (Q) bilingual from the city of Cochabamba, Bolivia were examined from recorded free conversation on the marketplace, a situation marked by code-mixing (Albi, 1974). Preliminary study shows that the Q bilingual uses more S loan words, e.g. panton 'panta' vs cha pajinas 'cloth' (inventoried form). The S bilingual more regularly replaces Q logical connectors and avoids forms which contrast in number (e.g. Para el-tiempo yuana mana-kiti 'but' (S) if-embed, now mana manta 'but' (Q)). Similar phenomena are seen in Quechua (Hart-Gonzales, To appear) and Yauqui (Kintzfeld, 1971). Thus both S- and Q-dominant bilinguals have introduced vocabulary, which may be responsible for innovations in logical connection, although loan words are a major force of S influence, shown in word lists (Lastra, 1960; Perroud & Chavars, 1970; Hille, Vallojo, & Troika, 1969). Further study of surface structure differences in logical connection may serve Spanish-teaching programs.

Osip M. Hawkins, University of North Carolina

Overseas Influence on American English

The use of "Spanish" loans among speakers of American English, particularly in traditional referential categories, has long been studied. Consideration of the range of functional uses of loan words, e.g. "Yo, un amigo" are consistent with the hypothesis that the use of loan words is a marker of bilingualism. This is particularly true of the plural pronouns me, you and they. Each of these pronouns is used to express an overlapping range of possible referents. In our transcripts the use of a reflexive pronoun is sometimes expressed with different pronouns in close conjunction. For example, in one long sentence me, you and they were all used to refer to the same group.

Nabara P. Hoefn, Stanford University

Reference vs Social Functions of Pronouns in the Speech of Upper Class Women

Personal pronouns have traditionally been classified according to person/number distinctions or their inclusion of speaker/hearer/other as referent. We have analyzed data from interviews with ten members of a socially exclusive women's auxiliary group. Topics included attitudes toward membership in the group and their roles as women and as members of society. In 1976 we found that these classifications were based on traditional referential categories is difficult because the boundaries are fuzzy. This is particularly true of the plural pronouns me, you and they. Each of these pronouns is used to express an overlapping range of possible referents. In our transcripts the use of a reflexive pronoun is sometimes expressed with different pronouns in close conjunction. For example, in one long sentence me, you and they were all used to refer to the same group.

A. Shepherd, Stanford University

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A. Shepherd, Stanford University
Generic Sentences in English and French

Previous accounts of 'generic' have been either too broad (e.g. including habitual or any other sentences) or too narrow (e.g. defining 'generic' to mean only the abstract case). Because every generic sentence may also have a non-generic interpretation, it is impossible to derive a unique underlying source of generating rules for generic sentence interpretation. This paper proposes that the interpretation of a sentence may be generic if the noun is unmarked for reference and the verb is unmarked for tense and aspect. Thus, generic sentences do not constitute a class apart, but are at the abstract pole (1) of a connotative dimension while the concrete pole (2) is the non-generic sentence.

Evidence Becaus e every generic sentence is also a class in itself, the noun, or the verb alone; isolating (3) this bever is building (4) is a
terms from the difference between the definite (3) is a function of the semantic distinction between the 'universal' (a set) and the 'particular' (an example to be generalised), and that this distinction has syntactic correlates with respect of discourse phenomena (use of eg. ethincal datives and affective adverbials).

Theodore V. Higgins, Pennsylvania State University

Spanish Personal as: A Grammaticalization of a Relationship Between Speaker and Event

Traditional accounts of the syntax and semantics of Spanish Personal a have been limited to incomplete or contradictory notions, e.g. "definitive" direct-object NP's, and "definite" pronouns, and are really lists of attested occurrences. Some accounts also note that even with definite NP's, usage may be optional. No mention is made of Personal a with clear and narrow semantic, or the event or speaker and the behavior of Personal a. Crucial examples include pairs such as Vi a un hombre que le 
un libro, versus a la mujer que ley
un libro, both of which (a) mean "I saw a man reading a book," and (b) have a definite direct-object phrase --- as shown by the indicative mood in the relative clause. In contrast, Es difícil encontrar una persona que de verdad sea buena 'it's hard to find a person who is truly good' has a Personal a event or speaker and the behavior of speaker and the event.

Craig Hoffman, University of Connecticut

Particle Movement as a Stylistic Rule of Heavy NP Shift

Chomsky and Lasnik (1977) suggest that a class of stylistic rules comprises a separate component of the grammar, but so far little research has been done on this topic. Assuming the transformational component defined in Lasnik and Kupin (in press), I argue that rules of the stylistic component account for surface stringa not generated by these transformational rules and show that surface alternations traditionally attributed to a Particle Movement transformation are more simply explained in the stylistic component. In terms of Chomsky's transformational system, I argue that in a rule of the form NP >> NP' the event or speaker and the behavior of Personal a with normal NP's, as well as its behavior with indefinite pronouns and generic nouns, with one well-motivated principle of analysis.

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A phonological peculiarity of Lac Simon Algonquin is that, while all initial (and final) obstruents must be voiceless, all medial obstruents must be voiced just in case the voicing of the word-initial obstruent is voiceless. Kaye argues that this situation calls for a “word structure constraint” suggesting that initial obstruents are voiced “stratum” to the effect that all (phonetically voiceless) initial obstruents are voiceless, even in non-alternating forms. Because a constraint in underlying representation, even in non-alternating forms, will ultimately account for both the presence of alternating voiceless medials and the integration of English loans with otherwise inexplicable voiceless medials. But the phonetically false representation of Algonquin word-initial obstruents voiceless when word-medial if and only if they may appear word-initially in other derivations. Specifying the relative position of a morphone may occupy in a word is necessary in phonological word formation and determination of voice alternations among morpheme-initial obstruents in Lac Simon Algonquin.

Roderick A. Jacobs, University of Hawaii

Relativization and topicalization in the Trukic branch of Micronesian are very similar. A subset of the determiners serves as relativization markers. Topicalization is indicated by an intonation break and a topic marker. Topic markers are homophonous with the determiner marker subset except for an additional initial topic marker. Topicalized sentences are shown to be a type of equative sentence, i.e., a sentence with an NP subject and an NP predicate. There is clear evidence that -i is a prefix marking an asserted predicate NPs. The CV(C) following is thus a determiner marker introducing the asserted NP. Remove the -i and you have a sentence looking just like a relative clause with an NP subject and an NP predicate. References thus can be seen as differing from assertive predicate noun phrases in lacking the -i which marks the NP following as being asserted. Relatives are NPs which are presupposed predications rather than asserted predications. i.e., the head-plus-predicate construction in Trukic is an NP immediately dominating two NPs, a relativization construction. Relatives therefore suggest that a purely syntactic description of the environment of contraction is more likely to succeed than a prosodic one. Furthermore, since dummy is, to our knowledge, the first positive contraction noted for English, it widens the data to be accounted for in a typology of English contractions.

Stephanie W. Jamison

On the Agentive Passive in Vedic and Indo-European

Contrary to common opinion (e.g., Lehmann, FIE Syntax, 1974), the passive with instrumental agent is well established in Vedic Sanskrit (approx. 200 examples in the Rig Veda). It occurs in all finite and participial verb forms in passive use in the Rig Veda. It yields two distributional observations with important implications for 12 syntactic studies. 1) Agents are rare with finite forms but common with participles. This suggests that the agentive passive was an embedding device, allowing economical incorporation into a matrix clause whose object is common in participles with a noun phrase in the matrix clause. E.g., Skt. 'He, being praised by the Aghas, spits. 'Yala.' 2) With the 'i- past stem ending, a participial, agentive phrasing of type sāṣ-ava 'implied by Savitri' with athematic instrumental are in distribution with compounds of type instrumental,'impelled by Indra' with thematic first gen case. Comparative data from Homeric Greek suggests that this distribution may be of Indo-European date.

Jay H. Jaszko, Cornell University
Perception of Vowel Length in Czech and English

Studies in speech perception often use a categorization task, in which people are asked to apply language-specific labels to a continuum of stimuli ranging in small acoustic steps over two or more values of a phonetic dimension. In most cases listeners divide the acoustic continuum into discrete categories at a particular stimulus value with an abrupt shift from one category to another. It has been assumed that such sharp category boundaries reflect "phonemic" contrasts in a language, but it is unclear whether these are underlyin g or surface phenomena. The present study addresses this question by comparing Czech and English listeners' labeling responses to continua of real-word bisyllables differing only in the duration of the first vowel. In Czech, vowel length is distinctive as well as surface forms, while in English it is distinctive only on the surface. For Czech, expect labels such as /a/ and /a:/ to be used for two discrete categories, with a sharp boundary between them. To determine if the shift occurs in the case of surface contrast only, English listeners are asked to respond /t/ or /t:/ to stimuli which vary not in consonant voicing but in duration of the vowel before a medial flap. The results from Czech and English are compared to determine what level of contrastiveness, underlying or surface, is tapped in a categorization task.

Wha-Chun Kung, University of Maryland

A Note on Coreference in Japanese

The purpose of this paper is to study how different types of coreferential relations are expressed by the two pronominal types in Japanese -- zibun 'he, him, she, her, self' and koto/kanwo 'he, him, she, her'. Although the former has been referred to traditionally as a reflexive and the latter, as nonreflective; the significance of their distinction lies in how they express obligatory and/or optional coreference and obligatory noncoreference. Since it is inadequate to analyze zibun with the basic assumption that it is a reflexive pronoun, since it parallels the English reflexive only in a simple sentence and even here, only when it refers to a subject of the sentence. The Japanese nonreflective, zibun will be shown to have a different distribution. It can refer to an anaphor outside of its sentence boundary.

John wa nasmakemo da. Peter mo zibunw, joko o so o ittewa.

John is a lazy bone is also him/self gen. AM was saying

In cases of ambiguous reference, zibun will be shown to have preferred readings. An analysis will be presented within the interpretive framework of Chomsky's Extended Standard Theory for the above pronominals.

Emily Klenin, Harvard University

Conditions on Object Marking

The paper discusses a wellknown example of the marking of certain objects, namely the development of genitive-marked accusatives for certain nouns and pronouns in East Slavic, implying that the marking developed under different conditions for the three nouns, anaphoric pronouns, and personal pronouns, and that the chronology of the three sets is: anaphoric pronouns first, personal pronouns second, and the three types are treated as an expansion or reanalysis of another type. The present study examines this hypothesis by subject/object interaction, but that the different conditions on noun and sentence-features; conditions of implementation of the rule for nouns and pronouns respectively are a consequence of the different semantic characteristics of these parts of speech. The special conditions on each rule provided a categorically acceptable scale along which the innovation could be implemented gradually.

The Hebrew University of Mexico

Language and Language Death: Some Universals of Form and Function

This paper will discuss universal alterations to language form and function that are brought about by the rapid replacement of one language by another. For the most part examples will be taken from mesoamerican Indian languages; Aztec, Zapotec, Mixtec and Tepehuano which are being rapidly replaced by Spanish throughout Mexico. Though these languages are quite distinct from one another; being members of three language families, they all show similar patterns of replacement. Marked forms are strictly determined by syntactic, semantic and phonological criteria. Simply by taking into account these processes it is possible to predict on the basis of texts both the rate of language replacement and the degree of language change that is the direct result of language death. This project is the result of three years of survey work with rapidly disappearing Mexican Indian languages. In addition data will be presented from Yiddish, Ladino and Baquel speaking communities in Mexico City that suggest the possibility that the processes observed in Mexican Indian languages are in fact universal in the process of language death.

Jan Koster, University of Amsterdam

Locality Principles in Syntax

Locality Principles limit the application of syntactic rules to narrowly defined portions of phrase structure. Examples: Subjacency, the strict cycle, Superiority, Specified Subject Condition (SSC), Intervention Constraint, Minimal Distance Principle (MDP). A theory incorporating all these principles is extremely redundant. Fortunately it is possible to reduce the number of locality principles to two. The first principle, the Bound Condition, is a condition on anaphors in the sense of Chomsky's "On Binding" (1978). It replaces Subjacency and stipulates that all anaphors (tracees, PRO) must be bound in every phrase in which they occur. The second principle, the Locality Principle, generalizes over the bounds of the MDP. Invariance, and many other principles of this kind. The two principle have the following forms:

\[ \text{Bound Condition: } \gamma \text{ cannot be free in } B = \{ X \} \]  

\[ \text{Locality Principle: } \text{no rule involves } a_{(k)} \gamma \text{ in: } \ldots a_{(k)}\ldots \]  

[null anaphor]

William Labor, University of Pennsylvania

The Role of Women in Linguistic Change

Sociolinguistic studies of urban societies show that women tend to use conservative variants more than men; yet the majority of the sound changes in progress examined so far show women in advance of men by approximately one generation. Results of quantitative studies of sound changes in Philadelphia indicate a resolution of this apparent contradiction. Women appear to be more sensitive to social prestige in both cases: in the correction of stigmatized variants, it is national prestige; in the early stages of change from below, it is local prestige, as indicated by the social distribution of more advanced forms within local neighborhoods.

Of twelve sound changes studied, one is more advanced among men; the pattern is repeated in a random sample of telephone users as well as the neighborhood studies. Together with previous findings, these results suggest that women are more advanced in sound changes that follow unidirectional principles of chain shifting: the cases favored by men are all contrary movements of individual vowels. In general, sound changes favored by women move more rapidly, as might be predicted by the asymmetrical roles of male and female parents in the early stages of language acquisition.

The University of Pennsylvania

(SAT AM: GR)
Rebecca Lährus, Stanford University

The Use of be and be in Two Early Middle English Texts

In Old English (OE) relative clauses could be introduced by an indeclinable relative particle ba or by the demonstrative an, which was declined according to the gender and number of its antecedent; a, according to its own role in the relative clause. In Early Middle English (EME) only two relativisers, be and bat', are used to introduce relative clauses; in later ME be has vanished as a relativiser, and only bat is used. In general it has been assumed that ba and bat were still able in EME. In this paper, we have shown that ba and bat were in fact not in free variation in EME times. Examination of two late texts of the period—Ancrene Wisse and Sages Maistre—reveals that choice of ba or bat was generally dependent upon the animacy of the antecedent. Further discussion concerns the possible origins of this animacy restriction; in this connection, the relationship between ba and bat, and be and bat be and bat are discussed. Finally it is noted that there is not absolute adherence to the animacy restriction. Explanations are offered for some exceptional cases. The consistent use of bat, rather than the expected be, with antecedents such as God, Queen, Tony might reflect a concept of the Deity as a neutral, not truly animate, being. Other exceptional cases have been handled assuming that animacy restriction involved the operation of a variable rather than an obligatory rule. Support for this viewpoint is given based upon changes occurring in the English language during late OE and EME.

William Ladusaw, University of Texas

A Syntax and Semantics for Two Uses of Quantifiers

In this paper I give a syntactic analysis of quantifiers and numeral words in English in both their determiner use (as in (1a)) and in partitive uses (as in (1b)) and provide a Montague-type semantic interpretation for it. The syntactic analysis is similar to the (1a).

(a) [NP all bicycles] (1b) [NP all of [NP the bicycles]]

one given in Jackendoff 1978 (Syntax, Chapter 5). My semantic analysis allows the quantifiers in question to be interpreted uniformly and the way in which the lower NP of the partitive construction must contribute to the meaning of the whole NP suggests a semantic motivation for the restriction of the determiner in the lower NP to objects (cf. Chomsky's Partitive Constraint). The analysis incorporates a selection mechanism to represent the inherent number relation between the quantifier and its head. Finally, a treatment of Null Head Anaphora (as in (2a)) and One(s) Anaphora (as in (2b)) semantically (with no syntactic deletion of lexical material) is presented.

(2a) Some of the boxes contained apples and some — contained oranges
(2b) The orphanage bought four bicycles and three blue ones

Martha Laferrriere, Southeastern Massachusetts University

Gender Differences in the Application of Phonetic Rules

An experiment involving American English words with post-stressed medial /s/ variants (silent) yielded marked differences in men's and women's speech. 3 men and 3 women read a list of 250 words (total-3000 tokens) with medial /s/ in several phonetic environments. The data yielded the following results: 1) the durations of voiceless consonants, and /s/ were in general shorter; 2) the consonants for the women than the men; 2) men and women tended to produce different phonetic realizations of the sequences /rj/ (e.g., silent). Female speakers showed a marked tendency to produce the form [s] more frequently than the form [ʃ]. Male speakers, on the other hand, produced 96% of the latter forms, and considerably less than half (57%) of [ʃ]. That is, male speakers tended to utilize the phonological processes of nasalization, nasal deletion, and flapping, whereas female speakers virtually never did. These two results accord well with the observation of sociolinguists that women tend to articulate in such a way that the identity of segments in both unambiguous, and "correct" in that the segments are relatively long and correspond most closely to underlying canonical forms before phonetic rules have applied. These results are of importance for the formulation of phonetic rules in English and as input for automated speech recognition systems.

Nancy S. Levin, Ohio State University

Constraints of the Two-constituent Limit on Gapping

A standard presumption about the nature of Gapping is that it must leave behind just one (contrastive) remnant constituent. Thus, 'Animal House' offended Kyle,... and Blazing Saddles', Leo is OK, but "...but not Blazing Saddles' Leo is out, because the addition of a polarity contrast to two argument contracts creates three contrasts between the antecedent and target clauses. Less transparently, an S like *[S][I stole Joe, paper clips] is bad for the same reason: the second clause of a comparative construction is not covered by the interpretation of the absolute form, (Norm, 1978; Jespersen, 1917), and there are already two pairs of contrasts, a further contrast allowed. I show that the two-contrastive-constituents principle extends to Gapping, and allows for either (1) one contrasting pair of arguments (Kyle... and Sue, too), (2) two such pairs (. . .and Blazing Saddles', Leo), or (3) a contrastive pair (Kyle... and Blazing Saddles', Leo) in contrast with a polarity contrast. But not me ....

William R. Leben, Stanford University

Semantic and "Floating" Tones

This paper points out a new consequence of representing tone on a level distinct from lexical or phonemic, as in Goldsmith's autosegmental framework. Sometimes a tonal morpheme is manifested only by its effects on the lexical material, e.g. the L- between subject and verb in Hende /ækWdWAI/ [æ][WdWAI] merely conditions the interpretation of the morpheme. We describe this marker as L, where the bar blocks any input for automated speech recognition systems. Similarly, tag is our analysis of a word with phonemic downstep, normally symbolized /t/. Earlier analyses of tag have accounted with late tones by first allowing them to occur in some conditions of the output downdrift, then deleting them. We avoid this ordering by eliminating the deletion, permitting rules never apply to entities like [3 pitch], commonly realized as the output of downdrift. This is why phonological rules always interact with the parse tree during the syntactic parse, and why the tonal rules must always be before any phonological rule that follows downdrift. This is why phonological rules never apply to entities like [3 pitch], commonly realized as the output of downdrift. A process like Kikuyu ndiririrwe-kang'we — ndiririrwe-kang'we, described by Clemen and Mbatia might reflect a concept of the Deity as a neutral, not truly animate, being. Other exceptional cases have been handled assuming that animacy restriction involved the operation of a variable rather than an obligatory rule. Support for this viewpoint is given based upon changes occurring in the English language during late OE and EME.
The Role of Phonetic Features in the Elicitation of Spoonerisms

Speech error data (usually consisting of naturally observed spoonerisms) have been interpreted as showing support for various linguistic structures, including phonetic features. Fromkin (1971) suggested that error occurrence data might provide a clear basis for determining whether, for example, the number of features shared by two segments affects their tendency to spoonerize. Recent techniques for eliciting spoonerisms have made possible the experimental control of the linguistic features affecting the tendency to spoonerize. One can now ask if word pairs for which the initial consonants differ on features shared by the two segments does affect their tendency to spoonerize. This paper presents the results of experimental research on the role of phonetic features in the elicitation of spoonerisms and interprets these results in the context of the speech plans available to the speaker.

Anatoly Liberman, University of Minnesota (SAT AN: ABC)

Definitions in Scandinavian Accentology

Scandinavian accentology deals with acc. 1, acc. 2, sted, no-sted, circumflex, the West Jutland (WJ) sted, oralized stads, and lengthened consonants; the latter are often taken for a grave accent. All of these are generally defined in diachronic terms; e.g. acc. 1 is historically a monosyllabic accent, and so is sted; circumflex is the accent of apocope, etc., but in synchronic descriptions, Scandinavian prosodies are usually defined from a phonetic point of view: acc. 1 and circumflex are musical features, while acc. 2, sted and oralized stads are musical features, but these are also governed by the nature of the WJ sted.

Traditionally, most scholars have taken the view that there are two peaks, etc., in the origin of Scandinavian accentuation is also represented by most scholars as a purely phonetic definition of a phonetic feature: acc. 1 and 2 are tones defined from a phonetic point of view. In literary terms, e.g., the accent of a morpheme within a language— and concludes: Such a definition seems to me to be the only conceivable basis for internal reconstruction.

Robert E. Longacre, University of Texas, Arlington (THURS FM: OR)

Discourse Constraints on Variation in Quotation Formulas

It is evident that in such a language as English there is considerable variation in the placement and nature of formulas of quotation. Thus, a formula such as "John said/said John" can occur proposed to the quotation, postposed, or intercalated. Conditioned word order variation occurs so that "John said" is proposed and "said John" is intercalated and postposed. Variation in the nature of the quotation formula includes specification of speaker, of addressee, or of both. Avoidance of specification of the speaker is possible by placing a formula such as "John said/said John" in a recent way to make it seem that all these variations are subject to discourse constraints, these constraints have not been worked out for English. Such constraints have, however, been worked out for Totonac (Michoacán) by Alleen Kofod. This paper presents the results of experimental research on the role of phonetic features in the elicitation of spoonerisms and interprets these results in the context of the speech plans available to the speaker.

R. Christian Latta, Ohio State University (FRI AM: ABC)

Paradigmatic Allomorphy and Internal Reconstruction

In his landmark article, Chafe (1959:478) defined 'internal reconstruction (IR) as 'the identification of a part of the history of a language from material available for a synchronic description of the language, and from that alone.' He immediately noted, however, that most historical work involves the comparison of cognate forms—in the case of Slavic phonetic feature and so serves two functions: (1) it divides its basis into two syllables, and its definition depends only on this function and not on the type of pitch contour or number of dynamic peaks.

Nicholas J. Macari, University of Texas (THURS AM: BB)

First Language Learning by Informant

Assuming a definition of learnability which he called 'identification in the limit', and distinguishing two information presentation schemes (text and informant), E.M. Gold showed that learnability is a property of a class of grammars within the Chomsky hierarchy of types is learnable from text. This result has been seen as paradoxical for two reasons: 1) Every normal child succeeds at language acquisition; 2) Information about non-sentences over the target language—(that is to say, the informant presentation scheme) has not been thought to be available to the child (of K. Wexler, P. Culicover, & N. Hamburger, "Learning Theoretic Foundations of Linguistic Universals, Theoretical Linguistics,1975,p.220). The approach of these later individuals to resolving this paradox has been to make a number of strong assumptions, and using these assumptions prove learnability. The present paper develops a rather different point of view, viz, that by assuming the innateness of a quite commonly utilized psychological strategy and assuming he can apply it, at some level, to interpret an extremely common feature of his speech milieu, specifically one type of hesitation event, one is able to conclude that the child in fact receives an informant presentation sequence. The problem has not been that the child never hears instances of non-sentences but with the labeling of them as such. What is shown here is how non-instances are (correctly) labeled. Learnability then follows from Gold's results with no need for complex assumptions.
The frequency of occurrence of processes in Brazilian Portuguese utterances, according to instrumental data I will present, is of a certain rhythmic structure. Specifically, certain reductive or assimilative processes vary inversely with the number of stressed syllables between major stresses. For example, when comparing sentences with stressed syllables by other research of mine), the words and (2) 'pessima universali'dade terribile (1) me'hor universali'dade 'best university' and (2) 'pessima universali'dade 'terrible (1) me'hor universali'dade 'best university' and (2) 'pessima universali'dade 'terrible (1) me'hor universali'dade 'best university' and (2) 'pessima universali'dade 'terrible (1) me'hor universali'dade 'best university'".

The application of these processes would facilitate isochrony. There is a tendency toward isochrony (determined by syllable structure). Words and nonsense syllables...--that these processes in terms of American English. The date come from a corpus of 120 interviews recorded in 1977 in Eastcoast, New York, where informants were interviewed personally by three age strata and two socioeconomic levels. Sociolinguistic analysis has shown that tense choice is determined by social, linguistic, and even temporal factors. Examination of inscriptions shows that these factors are constant suggests that the preterit is used without a loss of temporal nuance because the adverb and the context together carry the 'perfect' meaning. Consider the following examples: A. "Let's have lunch." B. "He didn't eat rice yesterday." This interpretation is consistent with the theories of Gerard Vanneck (1978), who claims that Americans blur the distinction between the two tenses by using the preterit where the perfect is traditionally expected. The findings of this study are that this syntactic variation is essentially sociolinguistically based and that the two forms carry the same tenses.

This paper assesses the role of meaning in the variation between the preterit and the present perfect with already and yet in spoken American English. The data come from a corpus of 120 interviews recorded in 1977 in Eastcoast, New York, where informants were interviewed personally by three age strata and two socioeconomic levels. Sociolinguistic analysis has shown that tense choice is determined by social, linguistic, and even temporal factors. Examination of inscriptions shows that these factors are constant suggests that the preterit is used without a loss of temporal nuance because the adverb and the context together carry the 'perfect' meaning. Consider the following examples: A. "Let's have lunch." B. "He didn't eat rice yesterday." This interpretation is consistent with the theories of Gerard Vanneck (1978), who claims that Americans blur the distinction between the two tenses by using the preterit where the perfect is traditionally expected. The findings of this study are that this syntactic variation is essentially sociolinguistically based and that the two forms carry the same tense.


Robert May, Rockafeller University

Sat Comp-to-Cmp Movement Be Stipulated? (FRI AM: SW)

It is known that successive applications of wh-movement, pre-CMP movement and wh-movement, e.g., deriving (2) as the surface structure of the ungrammatical (1), is 

\[
\begin{align*}
(1) & \quad \text{Who decided Bill would hit } \\
(2) & \quad \text{Who decided } [\text{Bill would hit } e_1] \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[\text{generation.} \]

Chomsky (1973) notes that this derivation does not violate the Tensed-S, Specification and the Scope of Wh-movement Conditions. Thus, movement of a phrase in COMP into a non-CMP position is prohibited by stipulation. In this paper we reconsider this problem with respect to properties of structures at Logical Form; cf., Chomsky (1976), May (1977). Following Chomsky (1976), we assume that if all non-negators are assigned a referential index, an integer, and an anaphoric index, a set of

\[\text{NP} \cdot [\ldots] \text{[a referential index is construed as disjoint in reference from NP, NP, \ldots]}\]

When indices are assigned to the logical form associated with (2), it is seen to contain an NP with an index of the form (e, i). An NP assigned this index must be construed as referential distinct from its own referent. Taking any structure containing an NP with this contradictory index as ill-formed, the ungrammaticality of (1) follows independently from the impossibility of associating it with a well-formed logical representation. Parallel examples involving pronouns will also be discussed.

Thurs PM: BU

The Role of Meaning in the Use of the Preterit with already and yet (FRI AM: SW)

This paper assesses the role of meaning in the variation between the preterit and the present perfect with already and yet in spoken American English. The date come from a corpus of 120 interviews recorded in 1977 in Eastcoast, New York, where informants were interviewed personally by three age strata and two socioeconomic levels. Sociolinguistic analysis has shown that tense choice is determined by social, linguistic, and even temporal factors. Examination of inscriptions shows that these factors are constant suggests that the preterit is used without a loss of temporal nuance because the adverb and the context together carry the 'perfect' meaning. Consider the following examples: A. "Let's have lunch." B. "He didn't eat rice yesterday." This interpretation is consistent with the theories of Gerard Vanneck (1978), who claims that Americans blur the distinction between the two tenses by using the preterit where the perfect is traditionally expected. The findings of this study are that this syntactic variation is essentially sociolinguistically based and that the two forms carry the same tense.


Robert May, Rockafeller University

Sat Comp-to-Cmp Movement Be Stipulated? (FRI AM: SW)

It is known that successive applications of wh-movement, pre-CMP movement and wh-movement, e.g., deriving (2) as the surface structure of the ungrammatical (1), is
John J. McCarthy, 3rd, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Metrical Structure and Bounding in Phonology

This paper presents an analysis of Tiberian Hebrew phonology based on the metrical theory of stress of Liberman and Prince (1977). It shows that their theoretically constructed foot is a bounding domain for several rules affecting stress. These three rules -- the Foot Rule (foot vs. off foot), Consecutive Stress Retreat (off foot vs. next foot), and Secondary Stressing (human. human) -- share the property of assigning stress to a particular foot. The proposed rule of the foot as the string associated with the left-branching tree where the leftmost branch dominates an open syllable but no internal right-branch dominates an open syllable. Therefore the Foot Rule and Consecutive Stress Retreat withdraw the stress to the first syllable in the same foot, whereas stress is assigned to each foot dominated within it according to an S-F labelling convention. This limitation of the movement and distribution of stress to within the foot is a reflex of bounding, a notion familiar from poetic metri.s. The foot constitutes bounding domains of the three rules so they are each formulated without reference to open and closed syllables at all.

An incidental result is the observation that superheavy (OTC) syllables behave like disyllabic sequences with respect to these three rules. This is shown to result from the internal metrical structure of superheavy syllables.

Marlys McClaran, UCLA and University of Samao

Syntactic and Lexical Influences on Patterns of Inference in Samaon

Three major Samaon word orders and 6 interpersonal verbs were studied in terms of their effects upon the inferred generality of the behavior described within the schema Person A X'd Person B. A sentence of one of the three orders was used as evidence and speakers (N=40) asked which of a pair of related sentences was more likely also to be true. The results indicated that some verbs (e.g. alofa 'love', fa'alavele 'hinder') are more subject dominated than the subject was systematically exhibited to other objects, while other verbs (as 'hit', tu'u'1 'blame') tended to be object dominated in that the object was expected to exhibit that behavior toward other objects, while other verbs (as 'hit', tu'u'1 'blame') tended to be object dominated in that the object was expected to exhibit that behavior toward other objects. The sentences were either direct or indirect forms of subject domination, but the verbs accounted for the majority of the variance. Within attribution theory some psychologists have studied perceived causality as a function of characteristics of the subject, situation, and other. Some have studied effects of lexical differences on patterns of inferred generality. This study expands this work and applies it to a non-Indo-European language. Within linguistics it begins to address questions about the pragmatic functions of word order and topicalization.

Lise Menn, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Time Course of Fundamental Frequency Variations in Parent-Child Discourse

Fundamental frequency (F0) of five parent-child conversations in a laboratory playroom were studied with a computer F0 extraction program. For each clause in these conversations, F0 was scored with an analysis of variance across clauses and across speakers, and a minimum value (usually the end-point in a falling-contour sentence) which we have termed the peak. A second analysis was an F0 extraction program. For each clause in these conversations, the F0 with a logaritmic score normalization of clause-peak F0 to permit cross-speaker comparison of the degree of pitch excursion for each clause: each clause-peak F0 is expressed on a logarithmic scale in terms of the number of standard deviations that it lies above or below the (logarithmic) mean of the distribution of clause-peak F0 across speakers. Thus the changes in F0 between successive clause peaks can be plotted commensurably for both speakers of a pair over the whole discourse. This normalized variation in F0 peaks appears to reflect the semantic and pragmatic relations between successive clauses. Speakers. We find 1) introduction of new topic usually occurs with sharp change in peak F0, either a rise or a fall; 2) a sharp fall in peak occurs on simple yes/no questions; 3) consecutive clauses pursuing the same objective have very similar peak F0; 4) peak F0 drops on repetitions, in agreement with known results within speaker (O'Shahkeyne 1976). Results 1) and 3) cannot be explained simply by the hypothesis that a constituent containing new information receives higher pitch.
Pamela Munro, University of California, Los Angeles

The Three Yuman Passives

Three separate verbal suffixes are used to form passives of various sorts in the languages of the Yuman family of the Southwest: -t (from Proto-Yuman -p in most languages), -s (in Mojave and Yavapai-York, at least, and probably more widespread, see above), and -s (as in Pima). All of these suffixes follow main verbs, and for a small number of main verbs, there is an additional suffix with auxiliaries: -sh (in an auxiliary of the verb "to be"). It was killed; 'it was shrunken" (the final suffix here marks tense).

In Italian clitic pronouns sometimes appear on the entire utterance and not just an isolated sentence must be considered here as indicators of semantic dominance. The notion of clitic climbing as a syntactic mechanism to bring the syntax of an existential sentence containing a definite noun phrases is frequently encountered in many types of passives, there are fairly significant morphosyntactic and, especially, semantic differences among them—some may argue, for instance, that -t and -s passives must be handled in the lexicon. A large body of evidence, however, appears to be that the above -t, -s, and -s can be used in various Yuman languages to follow the first (and lower) of two verbs with the same subject within a complex sentence. This fact, in turn, recalls many more familiar passive structures, which have a participle (embedded-form) verb: -s, -s, and -s.

Dona Jo Napoli, Georgetown University

The Semantics of Clitic Climbing in Italian

In Italian clitic pronouns sometimes appear on the V of which they are a complement in the DS and other times on the V of a higher clause. This positioning is not free. Instead, it is sensitive to semantics in the following ways: A clitic may climb only out of a semantically dominant infinitival clause and only when the V to which it is climbing serves semantically as an auxiliary to the embedded V. This notion of "semantic control," as it is sometimes called by Erteshik (1977), should be considered here as an indicator of semantic dominance. The notion "semantic control" is defined here for a particular case, as is semantic auxiliary to a second it serves as a semantic auxiliary to a second it.

Geoffrey S. Nathan, University of Hawaii

A Functional Constraint on Three-Insertion

A characteristic of English existential sentences is the so-called definiteness restriction. This restriction refers to the fact that existential sentences containing definite noun phrases are frequently ungrammatical. For instance, "There is the cat washing its face." Most modern theoretical accounts of this fact present it as an edge case of the transformation called There-Insertion. Mrs. S., in his dissertation, and Rando and Napoli in a recent issue of Language attempt to provide principled accounts but their explanations fail to explain large classes of exceptional cases. A major discourse function for a structure asserting the existence of the noun phrase in question is to serve as a reminder—this is that of a major source for definites in existentials. Another special context is within a relative clause such as "a person who is not a minor character in another existential sentence which is a position excluding new information. Within relative clauses there are no restrictions on noun phrases. Thus the discourse-oriented concept of new information clarifies a previously mysterious restriction on a construction.

Larry Neely, American University in Cairo

A Developmental "Reversal" in the Acquisition of English Stress

The two sets of made-up words which end in vowels (e.g., raing) were presented to 3rd graders, 7th graders, and adults in Austin, Texas. One set (Set I) represented a majority pattern for vowel-final words and was expected to receive mainly penultimate stress (P); the other set (Set II) represented a minority pattern and was expected to receive primary antepenultimate stress (A). All four groups of speakers had a largely P response for the Set I words, as predicted. However, for the Set II words, 3rd graders had a P response, 7th graders an A response, and 6th graders and adults a P response again (the differentiator is gender for children, third person for adults).

I propose that the 3rd graders had a P response for Set II words because they had not yet learned the special A response for these words. The 7th graders clearly had learned the A response. Finally, adults lost the A response for this minority set, in the majority of the major P response, through the influence of Spanish words and place names in Austin. The claim for an adult regional dialect receives some support from responses of non-Texans speakers in other studies.

Such a reversal is exceedingly rare in language acquisition, (e.g., it is not the case that after a certain age, adults go back to saying [pam] for spoon). It seems to be due to a combination of a late acquired pattern and local dialect properties.

Hills Wornog, University of Washington

The Status of Heavy NP Shift as a Transformational Rule

Heavy (Complex) NP Shift, as discussed by Ross, Postal, Ramo, Brennan, etc., is a process that shifts a sufficiently heavy or complex non-subject NP to the end of its clause. Most investigators have considered non-commital regarding the status of Heavy NP Shift in the grammar. They have considered it not as a "rule," or "transformational" one of the sort, others have relegated it to a position outside the syntax or grammar proper, suggesting that it belongs to the area of performance, stylistics, or perception.

The purpose of this paper is to argue against the latter assumption and to provide evidence that Heavy NP Shift is a valid transformational element. First, we have rethought the configuration and the syntactic classes of the non-sentential Heavy NP Shift class. Instead, we have postulated that the Heavy NP Shift is a transformational rule whose output is a set of transformed sentences that are similar in form and function to the original sentence in a number of ways. The Heavy NP Shift is a transformational rule whose output is a set of transformed sentences that are similar in form and function to the original sentence in a number of ways.

Lorraine Ohler, Boston VA Hospital

Speech and Language in Dementia

While the patterns of aphasic language resulting from cortical brain damage are well described and classified, language changes in various demyelinating diseases remain largely unexplored. In this paper we analyze the spontaneous speech, narrative, and naming abilities of a 64 year old retired physician suffering from a progressive demyelinating condition, with particular attention to the effects on his speech of parkinsonism, HD, and dementia.

We taped and analyzed the patient's responses, before and after medication, to the battery we employ to elicit narrative and naming speech from healthy and demyelinating elderly individuals. Despite his much-muddled speech and short phrase length, the patient exhibited complex sentence and discourse structures, sophisticated vocabulary, and humor. In certain aspects (e.g., naming strategy, digression) his speech shared elements we have found characteristic of healthy elderly individuals. In other aspects (e.g., concrete proverb interpretation, assuming linear ordering, verbal paraphasias) his speech resembled that of posterior aphasic. Medication resulted mainly in increased articulatory intelligibility, and shorter phrase length. Motor timing, we conclude, may be crucial to speech intelligibility.

Subcortical brain damage may mimic some aphasic symptoms, but the configuration of language deficits in dementia remains distinct.
In this paper two proposals are made for a metrical analysis of stress in certain languages. In many languages word-stress appears on the heavy syllable closest to a word boundary, or on a specified light syllable if there are no heavy syllables (e.g., E. Chevel). The distinction between syllable types and a specification for locating the stress syllable have been characterized by the theory of metrical phonology. All heavy syllables are given a branching structure, and light syllables are non-branching. Tree-drawing and node-labelling conventions then locate the designated terminal element, which is stressed. There exist some languages with a heavy/light dichotomy in PG, and both are preferred over CV for stress assignment. Arabic contrasts extra-heavy with heavy syllables, the latter being unstressable word-finally. One solution is to use the metrical foot for locating the stress syllable in PG. The analysis can be extended to cover such cases by assigning a stress syllable plus all light syllables to its right. Only extra-heavy syllables branch. Tree-drawing and labelling conventions then locate the stressed syllable. Another approach is to use "projections" of each stress syllable, contrasting heavy syllables with extra-heavy ones on one projection and all heavy syllables with light ones on the other projection. These two solutions will be compared and discussed, with examples from several languages.

Arthur L. Palacas, University of Akron

Paraphrase Meaning: Pragmatic Reconstruction

A coherent paragraph has a unified meaning, one not given by simple amalgamation but by reconstruction of the semantic subordination and coordination pattern of the sentence. If a person said to you, "I love fruit. Apples especially are my favorites," the person would be justifiably mystified if you replied, "Do you mean apples as in example fruit?" If the person said, "My car got stuck in the snow," I left the window open in the storm," you replied, "Because you left the window open?" In discourse there is no need to overtly specify the semantic linkage between sentences under a general theory of discourse containing a principle. For each sentence in a paragraph a semantic link is assigned to each adjacent sentence or group of sentences by one of a small set of sentence-anaphoric linkage functions (including addition, contrast, causation, exemplification), and a Surface Linkage Ellipsis Principle (SLEP) is adopted. The SLEP is a processing principle (Hinds 1978, "Towards a theory of ellipsis in Japanese," ms.), not a deletion rule.

Michel Paradis, McGill University

Bilingual Linguistic Memory: Neurolinguistic Considerations

Two mutually exclusive hypotheses concerning the way a bilingual stores information have been formulated in the literature: One is that all information is kept in a common store, and that the subject has access to it equally with both languages (McCormack, 1977). The other is that information is stored linguistically in separate stores (Kolers, 1977). "Linguistic memory" has been properly defined and is a very important component of a computational model. The assumption is that information has been distinguished from conceptual memory, and once it has been distinguished from conceptual memory, and once the nature of bilingual memory has been specified, it is possible to propose a third hypothesis: that both languages are distinguished, and that the same conceptual-experiential information store is associated with each language. On the one hand it is necessary to postulate a conceptual memory store independent of language (and hence of languages) as best illustrated by the work of LeCours and Joanette (1977), and on the other hand it is necessary to postulate an independent memory store for each language of a bilingual subject, as demonstrated in cases of selective recovery from aphasia (Whitaker, 1976). However, to a certain extent the two systems of the linguistic system of the two languages overlap, either because of semantic, cultural or other identity between them, or because the bilingual subject erroneously uses a similar pattern (syntactic, morphological or phonological) in both languages, psychological tests of the free association type, or of free recall will give partially similar results in both languages, compatible neither with a one-store nor with a two-store hypothesis (Kolers, 1968), but accounted for by the proposed alternative.

Frank Parker, University of British Columbia

Acoustic Cues, Syllable Structure, and Sound Change

Attempts to explain sound change in terms of acoustic cues leave residue that can be explained by other factors. E.g., Parker (3-Phen. 5/3) proposed that the significant cue for word stress after maanai is release. When unreleased at the stop has no cue, and thus is not perceptible. This accounts for the absence of a stop release cue in English and in English. The theory of metrical phonology. All heavy syllables are given a branching structure, and light syllables are non-branching. Tree-drawing and node-labelling conventions then locate the designated terminal element, which is stressed. There exist some languages with a heavy/light dichotomy in PG as in CV, and both are preferred over CV for stress assignment. Arabic contrasts extra-heavy with heavy syllables, the latter being unstressable word-finally. One solution is to use the metrical foot for locating the stress syllable in PG. The analysis can be extended to cover such cases by assigning a stress syllable plus all light syllables to its right. Only extra-heavy syllables branch. Tree-drawing and labelling conventions then locate the stressed syllable. Another approach is to use "projections" of each stress syllable, contrasting heavy syllables with extra-heavy ones on one projection and all heavy syllables with light ones on the other projection. These two solutions will be compared and discussed, with examples from several languages.
The occurrence of code-switching (CS), or the seemingly random alternation of two languages, both between and within sentences, has been shown (Gumperz 1971, Hant2 1977) to be governed by both extra-linguistic and linguistic factors. For the balanced bilingual, CS appears to be subject to an "equivalence constraint" (Poplack 1978) i.e., it tends to avoid points in discourse where juxtaposition of L1 and L2 elements does not violate a surface syntactic rule of either language. If correct, the equivalence constraint on CS may be used to measure degree of bilingual ability. It was hypothesized that equivalence would either be violated by non-fluent bilinguals, or that switch points which are "tricky" in terms of syntactic well-formedness (e.g., intra-sentential CS) would tend to be avoided altogether.

To test this hypothesis, I analyzed the speech of 20 Puerto Rican residents of a stable bilingual community, exhibiting varying degrees of bilingual ability. Preliminary results indicate that while fluent bilinguals switch codes "grammatically" in such intimate intra-sentential environments as between AUX and verb, non-fluent bilinguals tend to switch inter-sententially, avoiding production of ungrammatical utterances.

These results suggest that CS is a skill requiring competence in two languages, and that the CS mode proceeds from that area of the bilingual's grammar where the surface structures of L1 and L2 overlap.

Ellen F. Prince, University of Pennsylvania

Left-Dislocation: It Makes Life Simpler

This paper studies left-dislocated (L-D) sentences in naturally-occurring discourse ('This one lady, she lives about 30 yds from the street', 'The road, a horse could travel it') and argues that: (A) L-D subjects differ from L-D nonsubstantives in that the former tend to represent some information while the latter generally reintroduce old info. (B) Those are not contradictory functions: in the simplest type of info-packaging, subjects are given, i.e., assumed to be in the hearer's mind (contra Chafe 1976), while nonsubstantives may be given or new; LD in both cases yields this pattern. (C) Contra Gombert 1974, Keenan 1976, LD items are specific, not indefinite or universal only when they are subjective. (D) Previous analyses do not account for the fact that LD is colloquial rather than literary. This, however, is not accidental but follows from the facts of information packaging and dislocation, and L-D sentences ('language') having LD sentences will always be more colloquial than their non-L-D counterparts, since the tendency to adhere to the Given-New pattern is not a 'rule' but a means of making the hearer's work as easy as possible. Another prediction that follows and which is supported by the data is that LD and those constructions that make the hearer work, e.g., sentential subjects, will not co-occur in a (consistent) discourse (save in example sentences in linguistic articles). Other phenomena that are functionally related are compared, e.g. existential-there, deletion of subject relative pronouns, certain types of 'run-on' sentences.

Gilbert Rappaport, University of California, Los Angeles

Noun Phrase Accessibility and Coreference Control in Russian

It is argued that a hierarchy of Noun Phrase accessibility (NPA) determines the control of several coreference operations in Russian, i.e., the subject interpretation of adverbial participles and certain instances of infinitives, as well as reflexivization. The hierarchy, a list of possible controllers in order of decreasing controller strength, is the following: grammatical subject, logical subject of passive, direct object, indirect object, possessive locative phrase, indefinite reflexive. The controller list is the highest on the hierarchy, 17% of sentences to which this is related. Participles and reflexives are controlled by surface subjects. Furthermore, the relevant infinitives, never systematically investigated, are seen to utilize the same control structure as adverbial participles and reflexives, a result which should make it clear why the corresponding noncausative proposition is claimed to be more descriptively adequate than two plausible alternatives. A syntactic alternative generalizes the traditional notion of subject control by appealing to the existence of an underlying subject different from the surface subject. A non-syntactic alternative is based exclusively on functional discourse analysis.

Sanne Ronderveld Richards, University of Chicago

Are There Certain Certain NPs Which Are Not Referential?

It has on occasion been assumed, with little or no discussion, that NP's containing certain possessives were not referential in the sense of Donnellan (1966) or Fodor, (1975). Some usage do seem to be referential, in that if I ask the speaker what a certain object is, he will point to it. However, I will also discuss briefly a usage where certain NPs are used as an indefinite quantifier, and questions of referentiality and specificity are irrelevant.


Harvey Rosenbaum, Southwest Regional Laboratory

Relative Clause Structures in Informal Conversation

Keenan (1975) and Farber (1977) find that the frequency of occurrence of English relative clauses occurring in prose texts and formal speech is consistent with the relative clause Accessibility Hierarchy (AH) proposed by Keenan and Comrie (1977). i.e., within a text the distribution of the relativized NP from most to least frequent is: Subj > Obj > Direct >> Indirect >> Genitive. However preliminary analysis of the relative clauses of informal conversational speech by college students (collected by Carterette and Jones, 1974) suggests a different pattern. There the proportion of relativized subjects and direct objects are consistently more frequent than the genitive. This is due to the high percentage of indefinite, dummy, and relative clause heads found in these conversations (e.g., everything he says, the one you want, careful what you say). Thirty-seven percent of the relative clause heads are of this pro form type and predominately take a relativized object: Pro form head: S (142%)

Other (52)

Definite noun head: S (582)

Other (212)

Relative clauses with definite head nouns relativize according to AH, but those with pro form heads do not. The hypothesis that the AH ordering reflects ease of perceptual processing is only one of the factors determining the distribution of the relative clauses. Syntactic and lexical properties of the relative clause head also play a role in determining this distribution in informal speech.

Anuradha Saksena, University of California, Los Angeles

Generalizations on Cause Case Marking

Causative agents in Hindi may be marked by either the dative-accusative case marking -ko, or by the instrumental case marking -se. This paper shows that this contrast is grammatically significant, with many well-defined correlates. (1) The contrast correlates with the semantic property of 'affected vs instrumental' in the sense that the instrumental case marking is used in noncausative sentences. (2) Only -ko cases have equivalents that are subjects of intrasentential sentences. (3) Only -ko cases have equivalents in noncausative sentences that can co-occur with agent adverbials. (4) Only causatives with -ko case marking permit negation of the corresponding noncausative proposition. (5) Only causatives with -ko case marking can be viewed as a single event, and develop subsequent ideoncycry.

(6) Only -ko cases permit the Direct and Indirect causal suffixes -as and -ves to contrast, -se cases do not permit this.
A Quantitative Analysis of Dyirbal Ergativity

Sue Schiffrin-Savo, University of Texas

Ergative languages, most notably the Australian language Dyirbal, have proved problematic for language-independent accounts of grammatical relations. Recently, D. Dowty has shown how grammatical relations and relation-changing rules can be given language-independent characterisations in the modified version of categorial grammar developed by Montague, Thomason, and others. In this paper, I show how this framework allows one to maintain the description of Dyirbal as "syntactically ergative" with out positing any new descriptive apparatus on the one hand or special syntactic strictness on the other. My analysis treats absolutive NPs as syntactically parallel to subjects (NP's that combine with intraverb phrases to form sentences) and subjects as parallel to direct objects (NP's combining with post-verbal phrases to form intransitive verb phrases); this approach yields the expected results with respect to the Keenan-Comrie Accessibility Hierarchy. The difference between Dyirbal and English is that in English a strictly semantic one (this variability among languages being predicted by the existing framework), a conclusion which argues for caution in using criteria like "agency" as diagnostics for "subjecthood." The paper includes an explicit syntax and model-theoretic semantics for the Ergativity of Dyirbal, focusing on understanding the much-debated "syntactively ergative" construction.

Deborah Schiffrin-Savo, University of Pennsylvania

A Quantitative Analysis of the Historical Present Tense in Narrative

This paper presents the results of a quantitative analysis of the historical present tense (HP) in English. The tokens of HP in narrative clauses are referentially equivalent to their past tense alternates in 1,648 text samples. The 'he' he's, then, s/he picks up the card. So I walked in here, he smiled at me, he picked up the card. It is also said to have social correlates, e.g. social class (Ladd 1971) and speaker-hearer intimacy (Wolfson 1976).

A variable analysis of data from stories told by Philadelphia in sociolinguistic interviews provides empirical support for some of the suggestions of earlier analyses. It also shows that various grammatical and expressive constructions integrate the clause into the temporal frame of the narrative and thus encode all the time information. The results are the basis for a larger study of the history of narrative and discourse will be briefly noted. Louns, G. 1971, Meaning and the English Verb. Longman Group, London.

Jonathan Seely, University of Arizona

The Ergative Case in Lakota: Silverstein's Hierarchy in Reverse

Michael Silverstein* has shown that the ergative case occurs in a scaled hierarchy, extending from a minimal presence marking only inanimate nouns to an extended ergative use throughout most of the pronoun system. We can draw a hierarchy that is based on a good candidate of a transitive verb. In contrast, the first person singular pronoun appears most commonly in an ergative context. There is the most likely to occur with nonparticipant ergative and ergative-absolutive case configurations.

On Transformationally Derived Adjectives

The paper distinguishes between 'basic' and 'derived' adjectives (cf. Dixon, 1977) and shows that derived adjectives retain some of the characteristics of the categories from which they are derived and are subject to the same constraints which those sources hold. For instance, there are passives in English which need an adverbal extension, their by NPs are deleted (my phone was stolen vs. He was stolen in Chicago). The adjectives derived from these passives have premodifier adverbs (my phone was stolen vs. a well-brought-up child: an owned house vs. a jointly-owned house). A basic adjective need not necessarily be adjectival, e.g. a red door, a red car, but also a red carpet, a red floor, the white sand-covered sandy ground. An ad adjective derived by passivization must have only patient NPs as head nouns whereas other ad adjectives may have other NPs as head nouns (flower-brown plants vs. rotten fruit). The paper aims at refuting Breman's claim (1978) that syntactic transformations 'do not play a role in word formation' and that transformations involving the relabeling of syntactic categories should be excluded from the class of possible transformations. It argues that Breman's approach is not able to explain the ambiguity of adjectives as well as (in 'soft-shelled crabs vs. carefully shelled peanuts'). Nor is it able to explain the role of NPs such as 'beauty' (as in 'soft-shelled crabs') vs. 'ugliness' (as in 'ugly shells') as well as 'beauty' (as in 'soft-shelled crabs') vs. 'ugliness' (as in 'ugly shells').

Marco Schütz, University of Puerto Rico

Spanish Word Order, Context, and the Intuitionist Paradigm

Sixty-six Spanish sentences were constructed from 4 sentences of the form 'Subject-Verb-D.O.-Instrument' by varying the order of these 4 elements. The resulting rank is charged with the acceptability judgments of 31 native speakers: (1) a strong constraint relative to word order and use of D.O., pronouns (2) a weak constraint against verb-finitial order, (3) a strong constraint for SVO order except when it would cause a violation of (1). Except for (1), there was no much agreement on acceptability, or did some results form a squish. In the subquestion of a subset of the 31 informants, it was found that no sentence which did not violate (1) could be found which would not be accepted, given a suitable context and/or intonation. These data lend support to recent approaches on the kind of research which uses reports of intuitions as the sole basis for syntactic analysis. It is argued that in many cases, speakers have no such intuitions and must use alternative strategies in which possible contexts are imagined, in order to respond to a request for syntactic judgment. The results also cast further doubt on approaches which consider sentences in isolation and on models which consider a language to be a set of sentences. Alternative approaches are discussed.

Meryl E. Solberg, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Investigating the Ontogenetic Contribution to Language Change: A General Paradigm

Beginning with the Neogrammarians, theories of language change have typically incorporated an ontogenetic component. The putative relationship between ontogenetic and historical diachrony has not been tested directly, however, because developmental data with adequate time depth is not available in any language. We describe a research strategy which permits us to distinguish between the two. Applying the method to a specific case of sound change, we focus on the constraints problem. We present the results of a twenty-month diachronic investigation of phonological development in the conservative dialect. Cross-child invariants and differences are found at several structural levels. When we compare these results with evidence for change in eight other dialects, we observe systematic relationships which support the hypothesis that ontogenetic change is part of the system, while different dialects selected distinct subsets of these possibilities. Two classes of constraints which are identified in ontogenetic diachrony appear to function similarly in historical diachrony.

Anjali Kumar Sinha, University of Chicago

The Reference(ial) Function of Multiple Markers in American Sign Language

Previous research has established that in American Sign Language (ASL) pronominal reference can take a variety of forms, many of which are crucially related, in their use of physical space, to the visual nature of the language. The present paper discusses one component of pronominal reference in ASL, multiple markers (Mandel, 1977), in which the fingers of one hand serve as reference locations (Lacy, 1974). A signer can use multiple markers of the left hand (as in 'left hand') to incorporate a noun, e.g., the head, to form a pronoun. By using multiple markers, the signer can specify the physical location of the noun (left hand), extending the conventional use of pronominal reference in ASL beyond the limits of the head and the body. The configuration of the hand in a multiple marker can vary according to the size of the group and the group's relationship to the signer, as well as the number of markers being used. Since multiple markers are normally made with the non-dominant signing hand, they can be retained during long stretches of discourse while other signs are being performed by the dominant hand, sometimes with the multiple marker being substituted for the normal base hand configuration. Although in some instances this seems to be an unintentional articulatory phenomenon, in others it clearly serves a referential function.

Brent F. Stasev, University of Chicago

Three Types of if-Clauses in English

English has 2 categories of noun if-Clauses, distinguishable from adversial if's by the following criteria: (1) They are not islands. (2) They can be the focus of a wh-cleft, (3) They can be extraposed from initial (subject) position. The 2 noun categories can be distinguished by 2 further tests: (d) Type 1, like its close paraprase with whether, cannot be vacuously empty. (e) Type 2, like a that-clause, can. (2) occurs only with non-factives; only with factives

Boca Strozinsa, MIT and Yale University

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Marcia Steurop, University of Minnesota
**Deep Syntactic Evidence for Spontaneous Demotion**

Perlmutter (1978) and others' proposed constraint against spontaneous deletion has so far been countered only with surface evidence from impersonal passives (Comrie 1977). This paper provides deep syntactic evidence—based on the behavior of a Kannada impersonal construction with respect to 'subjective objects' in general, showing that the underlying subject has been 'spontaneously' denoted without consequent promotion of another NP.


**Propositional Conditions on Wh-Phrase Causativization**

The wh-phrase is a complement rather than that of the COMP. The argument is that the category of the wh-phrase must match the category of the containing phrase. On the basis of data from among other languages, German it is argued that such matching effects are due to *subjective factors* in particular when the wh-phrase, which sometimes does and sometimes does not satisfy both the requirements of the relative clause and the matrix clause. To account for this situation we propose that the wh-phrase is in COMP rather than in the A operator, and that the partial matching effect is due to the fact that the COMP sometimes is and sometimes is not accessible to syntactic rules operating in the matrix clause. We argue, furthermore, that the observed variation within and across languages is attributable to a parameter associated with matching effect producing rules such as case marking. The parameter involves a binary choice between requiring or not requiring that the affected category be lexically filled. This solution has interesting consequences for the theory of syntactic markedness in that one value on the parameter may be marked for one type of rule but the other value for another type.


**Matching Effects in Free Relatives**

In recent work on free relatives (cf.,esp. Brennan & Grimshaw *The syntax of free relatives in English*; Li to appear) is argued that the wh-phrase occupies the position to which the COMP is blocked rather than that of the COMP. The argument is that the category of the wh-phrase must match the category of the containing phrase. On the basis of data from among other languages, German it is argued that such matching effects are due to *subjective factors* in particular when the wh-phrase, which sometimes does and sometimes does not satisfy both the requirements of the relative clause and the matrix clause. To account for this situation we propose that the wh-phrase is in COMP rather than in the A operator, and that the partial matching effect is due to the fact that the COMP sometimes is and sometimes is not accessible to syntactic rules operating in the matrix clause. We argue, furthermore, that the observed variation within and across languages is attributable to a parameter associated with matching effect producing rules such as case marking. The parameter involves a binary choice between requiring or not requiring that the affected category be lexically filled. This solution has interesting consequences for the theory of syntactic markedness in that one value on the parameter may be marked for one type of rule but the other value for another type.


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**Mid Vowel Inversion in Certain Romance Dialects: A Case of Exchange Rule?**

The stressed vowel system which historically underlies the majority of the Romance languages consists of seven phonemes distributed across four levels of height, opposing a relatively higher to a relatively lower set of mid vowels. This paper provides deep syntactic evidence—based on the behavior of a Kannada impersonal construction with respect to objective objects in general, showing that the underlying subject has been 'spontaneously' denoted without consequent promotion of another NP.


**Two Conditions on the Use of Existential Sentences in Discourse**

Past treatments of existential there sentences have tended not to deal with their use in discourse. In this paper I discuss two conditions on existential sentences which must be met for their occurrence in discourse to be felicitous. First, the speaker asserts that the referent of the displaced subject is not in the addresser's current knowledge base and uses the existential to assert its existence (see current knowledge base and uses the existential to assert its existence (see Milner's thesis 1979)). A second condition determines when existence must be asserted and cannot be presupposed as in (1): the subject can be displaced by an assertive and cannot be presupposed as in (2):

1. a. A dog tried to attack him and he died of fright.
   b. ?There was a dog who tried to attack him and he died of fright.

   "There was a dog who tried to attack him and he died of fright."

   1. a. A dog tried to attack him and he died of fright.
   b. ?There was a dog who tried to attack him and he died of fright.

   "There was a dog who tried to attack him and he died of fright."
This paper for the first time brings together semantic and syntactic information about adverative passive constructions—those which portray the subject as the sufferer of some unfortunate action—in geographically proximate yet genetically unrelated languages of the Pacific Rim and Australia, including Japanese, Chinese, various continental SE Asian languages, and Austronesian languages of Indonesia and the Philippines. The languages are typologically separated into groups according to how their adverative passive elements are typically used in the Asian language family. In this study they are compared with other voice constructions, and the different overt means of marking adverative passives are pointed out in numerous cited examples. Two further adverative passives are related; and the two suggest areal diffusion as an explanation of at least some of the current distribution of Orientad adverative passives.

Karen L. Waltensperger, Wayne State University

Robert K. Herbert; Michigan State University

Schizophrenia: Case Study of a Paranoid Schizophrenic's Language

The various descriptions of schizophrenic language have concentrated on a structural treatment of the schizophrenic's spoken or his written language, and/or an elucidation of the relationship between linguistic and cognitive disturbances (Rochester et al. 1977). Many researchers, including Kintsch, have sought to establish the existence of a thought disorder based on contextual/situational inappropriateness. The structural treatments in fact often focus on the structure of schizophrenic discourse (e.g. circunstantiality, flight of ideas, etc.) rather than on grammatical structure. Two further problems with many studies is a failure to consider the phonetic and number agreement of the schizounic subject(s) and/or the linguistic generality to "schizophrenic language" on the basis of a single type. In this paper, this linguistic performance of a chronic schizophrenic, paranoid type (DSM II-295.3) will be examined in a large corpora of continuous spoken and written narrative texts collected over a two year period. Although it has been noted that there is no necessary parallelism between schizophrenic speaking and writing, one interest of this present case is a striking agreement in the data in such features as the types of grammatical errors that occur and extreme perseveration. The data reveal similarities and important differences with the six characteristics of schizophrenic language noted by Chaitla (1974). If time permits, a comparison will be made with aphasic and similar neurolinguistic disturbances suggesting organicity.

William Washabaugh, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Defact and Hearing Signs on Providence Island

The advancement of sign language syntactics has been stymied by the problem of interference from the oral languages which dominate manual languages. No one is quite sure which sign regularities are attributable to constraints endogenous to sign languages and which are attributable to exogenous constraints, from the dominant oral languages, which have been unconsciously internalized by the deaf.

This problem of distinguishing constraints exists wherever a community aims to internalize a system of communication through education, to acquire the means of the oral language. But there are communities in which the integration of the deaf is facilitated by the acquisition of a sign language. In such communities, one can distinguish endogenous from exogenous factors in sign language syntactics, which are collected from 30 hearing and 7 deaf signers. Comparison of the sentences suggests that the deaf employ a vernacular dialect among themselves which differs syntactically from the ancillary dialect employed in deaf-hearing interaction. PSI is "bi-lateral" though not "diglossia".

Calvert Watkins, Harvard University

The Oldest Hittite Nominative-accusative Plural Neuter

For the Hitt. gd. *-a-ku 'good' the neut. nom.-acc. plural is given in the handbooks as *-a-ku-u-wa /-ama.s/a. For the substantivized *-a-ku-u-wa /-ama.s/a, both are attestated only in Neo-Hitt. compositions. The handbooks give the form *-a-ku-wa /-ama.s/a, but are attested in 2x in 5 Middle Hitt. compositions and 4x in 4 Hitt. phonetic. The latter is an O-Hitt. phonetic. The former, *-a-ku-wa /-ama.s/a, is a neut. nom.-acc. plural. It can then be immediately equated with the regular unattested genitive accusative plural, *-a-ku-u-wa /-ama.s/a, as a neuter plural. This makes the neuter adjective *-a-ku wu-wa /-ama.s/a suggest a possible etymology for the thematic *-a-ku-wa /-ama.s/a, as an explanation of *-a-ku-wa /-ama.s/a.

Robert C. Atkinson, University of Tennessee

The Use of Prosody in Silent Reading

An experiment to establish the presence of prosody in phonetic coding by fluent readers utilized homographs such as produce, conduct, in which stress varies with syntactic role, words of various syntactic classes for the amphoteric factors. Stress was constant within the list in an attempt to minimize the effect of differences between the listeners' native language/ scripts involved. Results indicate that the word stress of the members of the list occurred in the mental representation of the critical homographs, which occurred at the end of each sentence. Responses indicated that the word stress of the members of the list occurred in the mental representation of the silent word. Previous studies have found that word stress is associated with phonetic encoding of written material in tasks involving word memory. The data also suggest that not only the code but also the phonetic markers used to encode the material are heavily understated. Thus, the code and its phonetic usefulness to readers are so far largely unknown. To investigate this, the deaf and hearing subjects were asked to read text aloud, results indicated that the deaf employ a vernacular dialect among themselves which differs syntactically from the ancillary dialect employed in deaf-hearing interaction. PSI is "bi-lateral" though not "diglossia".
Margaret Weithgott, University of Texas

The Environment of Aspirate h in French

The characterization of aspirate h in French (h-aspiré) has long intrigued linguists because of its apparently arbitrary nature. In recent times it has been cited as a case of abstractness while correlates, which assign morphophonological features to allophonic variations in the lexicon, such as in (1) above. An extensive Generative analysis of J. Kisseberth's (1973) data (cf. Emends 1977a,b) has revealed that the distribution of h in Old French and of *h* in French is phonetically predictable only in a phonetic environment of aspirate h. It is phonetically predictable in each of the six environments but recruits to either the phonetic or the syllabic structure of each word. Evidence of such distribution is presented here. It is also shown that social factors such as status are required in the synchronic analysis, and thus data taken from Old French as well as from Standard French.

D. S. Whalen, Yale University

Effects of Native and Non-native Vowels on the Perceived English s/s Boundary

Experiments by Kuniski and Fujisaki (1977) show that the nature of a following vowel shifts the boundary between s and p. Although they assume that the effect is due to fricative-vowel overlapping, the results are obtained from native speakers who do not discriminate between the two in Old French and of *h* in French and predict which new forms will be acceptable. The phonetic intensity of the initial syllable is shown to result from the phonetic structure of each word. Evidence of such distribution is presented here. It is also shown that social factors such as status are required in the synchronic analysis, and thus data taken from Old French as well as from Standard French.

Another Look at Tonkawa Phonology

This paper will attempt to show that the analyses of the phonology of Tonkawa proposed by Kisselberth (1970) and Phillips (1975) are too complex in that they over-emphasize the occurrence of certain rules and unnecessary application of conditions. First, while many of the rules are followed in both native and non-native speech, the conditions which motivate the rules towards the face-value generalizations are different. For example, for any word in Tonkawa, all initial and final s's are replaced by p's. However, the rule which replaces s's with p's is open to some of them. Furthermore, the rules towards the face-value generalizations are different. For example, for any word in Tonkawa, all initial and final s's are replaced by p's. However, the rule which replaces s's with p's is open to some of them. Furthermore, the rules towards the face-value generalizations are different. For example, for any word in Tonkawa, all initial and final s's are replaced by p's. 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abstracts

of colloquium papers
We present a model-theoretic semantics for natural language which incorporates the major innovations of Montague Grammar, but which is formally and linguistically more revealing. In our system, expressions of a logical language very similar to natural English are directly interpreted, rather than translated into a formal intensional logic. This is made possible in part by providing a fully general algebraic means of interpreting and, or, and not, regardless of the grammatical category of the item(s) they combine with. This algebraic approach also enables us to give a uniform treatment of transitive and intransitive verbs. We outline our basic innovations below.

Consider first the category we call Determined Noun Phrases (DNP; = Montague's Terms). Syntactically, DNPs include Proper Nouns (John) and quantified noun phrases (every man who left early). Following Montague's insight, a proper noun will be interpreted not as an element b of the universe of discourse U, but rather as the set of all those functions from U into the set of truth-values which assign b the value true. We call functions from U to the truth-values properties on U. Given b in U, we call this set an individual, and represent it as I_b; the I_b's are in 1-1 correspondence with the b's. Note that I_b is a set of properties. The interpretation of a quantified noun phrase will also be a set of properties. Thus, interpreting a common noun like student as a property, every student will be interpreted as the intersection of the individuals (I_s) that contain the student-property. In fact, this intersection is the set of properties that all the students have in common. Other quantified NPs are interpreted similarly as set-theoretic (boolean) combinations of individuals. We take the type for DNP (that is, the set of possible interpretations of DNPs) to be the set of those sets of properties which can be formed from the individuals by the various set-theoretic (boolean) operations (intersection, union, and complementation). We prove that, in fact, any set of properties can be so formed, and so the type for DNP is the full set of sets of properties, as in Montague Grammar. We interpret and, or, and not as applied to DNPs by means of the boolean combinations of the interpretations of the component DNPs. For example, John and Mary is interpreted as the intersection of the individual which interprets John with the individual which interprets Mary. The interpretation of and, or, and not for DNPs is only a special case of a completely general approach. If C is any category whose members can be combined by means of and, or, and not, the type for C will possess a boolean structure, and and, or, and not will be interpreted as the boolean operations in that type. For example, formulas (FMs) will have as type the set of truth-values (we call them 1 (= true) and 0 (= false)); boolean combinations of these are given by the standard truth-tables. Other categories which allow combinations with and, or, and not (and whose types are therefore boolean algebras) are Verb Phrases (VPs; Montague's IVs), Transitive Verb Phrases (TVPs), Adjective Phrases (APs), etc.

Consider next the category of Verb Phrases (e.g., walks, walks in the park, walks and talks). Verb Phrases (VPs) combine with DNPs to form Formulas (FM), so it is natural that the type for VPs consist of functions from the DNP-type into the FM-type. But a VP cannot be an arbitrary such function. For example, the function that walk is interpreted as must be such that whenever it assigns true to the property-set that interprets John and Mary, then it must also assign true to the property-sets for John and for Mary. Analogous claims hold for or and not. Thus, a VP is interpreted as a function from one boolean algebra (the DNP-type) to another (the FM-type) which preserves the boolean operations. Such functions are called homomorphisms.

To take the type for VP as exactly the set of homomorphisms is further supported by the following two facts: (i) the set of homomorphisms from the DNP-type into the FM-type is exactly the same as the set of those functions from the DNP-type into the FM-type which determine a property, in the sense that, given such a function, there exists a unique property contained in the individuals to which that function assigns the value true, and not contained in the individuals to which that function assigns the value false; and (ii) a homomorphism is completely determined by giving its values on the individuals. This latter fact corresponds to the idea
that, in ordinary first-order predicate calculus, the interpretation of a predicate is determined by giving its values for each value of the argument-variable, which ranges only over members of the universe of discourse.

Since VP's can be combined with and, or, and not to form other VP's, boolean operations should be defined on the VP-type. In fact, there is a natural set of boolean operations on the VP-type, whose definition we present in the paper but omit here for lack of space.

The method of defining the VP-type as homomorphisms is a method which generalizes naturally to the case of any category which is interpreted by means of functions from the DNP-type into a boolean algebra. For example, transitive verbs syntactically combine with DNP's to form VP's. Hence, they are naturally interpreted as functions from the DNP-type into the VP-type. Again, arbitrary functions will not do. For example, kiss John and Mary should be interpreted by the same VP function which interprets kiss John and kiss Mary, and similarly for or and not. Thus, we take the type for transitive verbs to be the set of homomorphisms from the DNP-type into the VP-type.

One advantage of taking the type for transitive verbs as the set of homomorphisms from the DNP-type into the VP-type is that this set is in a natural 1-1 correspondence with the set of two-place relations on the universe of discourse. The following numerical illustration demonstrates the extent to which this restricts the possible interpretation of a transitive verb. If the universe of discourse has two members, there are 16 homomorphisms from the DNP-type into the VP-type, corresponding to the 16 two-place relations definable on the universe of discourse. If we had taken the transitive verb type to be the full set of functions from the DNP-type into the VP-type, a given transitive verb would have 2^16 = 65,536 possible interpretations for a two-member universe of discourse.

A more general advantage to taking the transitive verb type as a set of homomorphisms is the strong similarity between the VP-type and the transitive verb type which results. Both types consist of homomorphisms with domain the DNP-type. This permits us to treat raising (to subject or object), equi, and preposition-adjunction in a uniform way, since the processes can be defined to operate on homomorphisms which have the DNP-type as domain, without having to further specify whether a VP or a transitive verb is being considered.

A final advantage of this approach we take is that a conjunction-reduction mechanism is not needed in the syntax. Not only are the semantic effects of conjunction reduction automatically represented, but the cases in which conjunction-reduction should not apply are also correctly interpreted. For example, our system correctly predicts that John sings and John dances are logically equivalent, but that no student sings and dances and no student sings and no student dances are not. In addition, since we have a passive operator in the system, Mary was hugged and kissed is correctly interpreted as logically distinct from Mary was hugged and Mary was kissed (the former requiring at least one single individual to have both hugged and kissed, the latter not.)
that a monostratal theory of passives yields an ad hoc account of the 3rd-Advance ment marker found in Tzotzil, Indonesian, and certain Bantu languages. Finally, a class of arguments based on the 1-Advancement Exclusiveness Law [Perlmutter and Postal (to appear)] is briefly mentioned. It is shown that the monostratal theory of passives fails to account for the incompatibility (in a given clause) of passivization and other advances to 1.

The second step of the overall argument consists of showing that certain proposals concerning passivization that have been made in other frameworks are equivalent to the monostratal relational theory in relevant respects.

First, it is shown that Freidin's (1975) transformational proposal, Bresnan's (1978) realistic transformational grammar proposal, and Starosta's (to appear) lexicase proposal, to the extent that they make empirical claims at all, are equivalent to the monostratal relational theory and must be rejected for the same reasons.

Second, it is shown that Langacker and Munro's (1975) and Wasow's (1977) proposals share some, but not all, features of the monostratal theory and it is pointed out which of the arguments against that theory are also arguments against these proposals.

Finally, I consider three proposals which are not monostratal, but under which the equivalents of initial and final grammatical relations are drawn from different sets of relations. These proposals are those of Fillmore's (1968) case grammar, Foley and Van Valin's role and reference grammar, and Dik's (1978) functional grammar. It is pointed out which of the arguments against the monostratal theory of passives are also arguments against these proposals.

It is concluded that of the various proposals considered, only the bistratal relational theory of passivization is empirically adequate.

The paper concludes with a summary of the empirical claims of the bistratal relational theory of passivization.

*(1977) and Schachter's (1977)*

References


Deictic Orientation and Spider-Man

The writer of a work of imaginative literature constructs an instant world in which the reader must be contextually anchored for a full understanding of the text. Deictic orientation, manifest in the speech acts of the encoder (persona or character X) - decoder (reader or character Y) axis, helps to establish context. Comic books utilize both visual and textual material for contextual orientation. Social deixis (exophoric), reinforced (endophoric), plays a key role in establishing roles within the text of the June 1978 issue of Peter Parker, The Spectacular Spider-Man.

Bruce T. Downey, University of Minnesota

Formally and Informally Acquired English: Contrasts in Vietnamese-English Bilinguals

A formal and statistical analysis was conducted of the English speech of two groups of Vietnamese-English bilinguals. One group consists of (relatively uneducated) individuals whose English was acquired largely through informal contacts with American military personnel. The second group studied English in Vietnamese schools and had sufficient formal education to achieve an American university degree. Differences between the two groups, particularly in fluency and syntactic and morphological structures, are described. Essentially, the "naive" group shows greater fluency and greater simplification and native language interference. The educated group produces more hypercorrections and errors not attributable to interference. Among the factors which may account for these differences are the nature of the English modeled for the learners and the aims of learners in the different speech situations. Particularly useful in understanding these differences is Krashen's 1977 "Monitor Model": the acquired English of these educated speakers, but not that of the "naive" group, is influenced, through an internal monitoring mechanism, by the grammatical prescriptions learned through formal instruction. Implications for assessing the instructional needs of adult second language students are discussed in conclusion.

Douglas A. Flahive, Colorado State University

The Recognition of Point of View Conflicts in Narrative

Theoretical arguments concerning the relationship between empathy and syntax advanced by Kuno (1974, 1975) have recently been empirically tested by Scinto (1976). Through a series of comprehension and production experiments, they have presented evidence that both adults and children are able to judge short dialogues with point of view conflicts as ill-formed and are able to compensate for these errors. The results of the study whose results are reported in this paper is to determine whether children can recognize point of view conflicts and faulty point of view shifts when such conflicts are embedded in short narratives. Thirty subjects ages 5 through 7 were presented with narrative-5 without a point of view conflict and 5 with specific types of point of view conflicts. Through a series of experimental procedures outlined in this paper, further evidence is presented that point of view is a linguistic phenomenon whose development is relatively complete by the age of 7 and that this phenomenon is related to the onset of advanced, non-linguistic cognitive functions. Possible implications of this study for the teaching of reading and writing are briefly discussed.

Barbara F. Freed, University of Pennsylvania

Functional Use of Language and the Second Language Classroom

Several recent studies have analyzed the ability of speakers of all ages to adjust their speech according to variables of a communicative event (Labov, 1975; Shatz & Schallman, 1975; Newport, Gleitman, Gleitman, 1977). These speech modifications include syntactic and phonological adjustments as well as adjustments in functional uses of language. A recent, clear, discourse analysis has shown that the functional meaning in context of an utterance may vary with perceived attributes of the listener. A recent study of Foreign Talk (Freed, 1978) has identified 10 functional categories used by native speakers (NS) in naturally occurring conversation with other NSs and with foreign speakers. Since these NSs have been shown to use language functionally to direct behavior, provide emotional support, correct, confirm, clarify and report upon speech and request and exchange information, it is assumed here as elsewhere (Rivers, 1976, Paulston, 1976) that the L2 students need to develop similar competencies. The work to be reported upon will provide a detailed description of these functional categories and how they can be applied in the second language classroom.

Philip Jones, University of Illinois

Modality Interference with the Writing of English

Many deaf people whose first language is ASL encounter problems when communicating in a system based on the spoken word. Specifically, I find that many deaf college students have problems writing non-technical prose. Oftentimes, the writing level is such that a native English speaker has difficulty understanding the basic meaning of what is being expressed. I feel that one of the reasons for the writing level exhibited by these deaf students is due to phenomena not found when a hearing person writes in another hearing person's language. ASL signs communicate in a multichannel system. Unlike in oral languages where there is basically a single channel (i.e., vocal, sign language utilize non-manual as well as manual channels. Some ASL learners are not aware that their language is multichanneled, and as one consequence they tend to write linguistic content from what they believe is the primary or sole channel, the manual component.

I believe that one way to improve the deaf students' writing is to dissuade them from thinking in terms of English words equivalent to ASL manual signs and to persuade them to think in terms of the equivalences in meaning between English discourse and ASL utterances. This method would ensure that the deaf students include all the information, manual and non-manual, he wishes to express in his writing.

Robert B. Kaplan, University of Southern California

Contrastive Rhetorics

The study of contrastive rhetorics has yielded some useful results in terms of materials production, methodology, and testing with respect to the teaching of reading and writing to non-native speakers of English at the advanced levels. Recent research has demonstrated that a serious area of problem relates to the ability of the learner to discover topic and focus in expository prose; that is, speakers of other languages are unable to identify and focus either through the mechanisms available in their respective native languages or through sometimes naive methodologies suggested by ESL teachers (e.g., topic always occurs in the initial sentence). This report contains a review of the pertinent literature. A study was designed to determine the extent to which non-native speakers do identify topic and focus, and the extent to which they fail to do so. Several hypotheses were possible--the reasons for failure; e.g., the presumption that topic does inevitably occur in the first sentence of a text, and a set of methodological suggestions for dealing with the problem in the classroom. The methodological suggestions involve a re-examination of the teaching of certain clause structures and the rules for embedding them from the point of view that such embeddings are in fact in large part a matter of moving information into and out of the listless. The methodological suggestions pertain to those items directed primarily at reading, those directed at writing, and those appropriate to both areas. The report of the experimental results will avoid extended statistical analysis.
Emily Kleinin, Harvard University

Object and Person in a Lyric Text

In current work on subject and object, attention is being focused on characteristics of direct objects; in two conflicting theories, the object is assigned relatively low status in animacy/person hierarchies (Comrie), or else is treated as high in these hierarchies (Thompson-Hopper). The present paper offers an analysis of a lyric poem in which subject and object interact crucially with animacy and personhood. It is shown that demotion from subject to object is an important element of text dynamic, and that this demotion is correlated with dissociation of the referent from animacy and personhood. This result tends to confirm Comrie’s theory of object. More generally, it illustrates application to poetic analysis of a syntactic theory based on grammatical relations.

Cecil Nelson, University of Illinois

Intelligibility in Non-Native Varieties of English

This paper explores the concept of the cline of intelligibility introduced by Kachru (1976). In particular, a study is made regarding the hypothesis that speakers of South Asian languages impose syllable-timed rhythm on English (natively stress-timed), to the detriment of intelligibility across varieties. Instrumental data are adduced bearing on the nature of the rhythms of Hindi, Indian English, and American English. Such data lend the author the strength of an exception, both on formal and empirical grounds, to Bolinger’s claims (1976) regarding the basis of rhythm in English.

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James S. Nohlit, Cornell University

Compensation and Catastrophe: The Problem of Motor Equivalence in Vowel Production

A survey of the quantitative literature in acoustic phonetics indicates that multiple articulatory configurations are capable of producing nearly identical perceptions in vowel identification. This presents a problem for applied linguistics, as it is difficult to express the mechanisms of articulatory compensation as long as articulatory configurations are viewed as invariant. This paper suggests that a qualitative grasp of the quantitative data can be effectively demonstrated through the application of Thomian catastrophe theory. Specifically, the mapping of acoustic data onto articulatory states can be achieved through a simple cusp catastrophe, a geometric model which relates a control surface to a behavioral surface in such a way as to demonstrate empirically observable bifurcation in behavior. The paper will present evidence to show that this model may be applied directly to the teaching of phonetics.

Ellen Schaeber, Northwestern University

Pragmatics in a Model of Literary Competence

A sophisticated model of a reader’s ability to understand literature will need to include three separate but interrelated systems: an autonomous linguistic system, a sociolinguistic system, and a system of literary conventions. A native speaker has internalized the first two; a competent reader must also learn the third. While Jonathan Culler’s suggested analogy between linguistic and literary competence is useful (Structuralist Poetics, 1975), our experience has shown that it is insufficient to explain fully how a reader understands a literary text. We propose a model which allows us to see how the reader uses the various codes he controls. Furthermore, our investigation of the interfaces among the three systems has shown that there is one point at which conflict can occur. The fourteenth-century Middle English allelougy Pearl provides an example of what can happen when the conventions of the different codes cannot simply be added together to form a richer interpretative competence. Pearl demands that the reader contend with meanings which are irreconcilable; the point of the conflict is between some of the meanings derived from the sociolinguistic system and some of those which are derived from the literary system.

Thomas Scovel, University of Pittsburgh

The Relationship between the Ability to Perceive Musical Pitch and Linguistic Pitch: Psycholinguistic Experiments with Neurolinguistic Ramifications

It is popularly believed that there is a direct and positive correlation between the ability to perceive musical pitch and linguistic pitch, especially in the learning of a tone language, but at least one experimental study examining this phenomenon has found no such interrelationship (Thomartin). An experiment was undertaken to study the relationship between these two perceptual skills in greater detail by comparing the results of the Tone Measure of Musical Talent with a perception measure of tones in Thai using two different populations of subjects: native speakers of English and native speakers of Chinese. Despite some differences in the results of this experiment, no significant correlation is found between musical and linguistic pitch perception. The results of this experiment will be discussed in terms of their relevance to psycholinguistic theories of L2 acquisition (e.g. Krashen) as well as to the current interest in hemisphericity explanations for certain behavioral functions (e.g. Ornstein). Although important differences may exist in the neurological processing of pitch between music and language, it will be argued that the perception of pitch is essentially a holistic cognitive activity.
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