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Book: Linking

Linking - how semantic arguments map to the syntax - is one of the challenges for theories of the syntax-semantics interface. In this new approach, Janet Randall explores the hypothesis that the positions of syntactic arguments are strictly determined by lexical argument geometry. Yielding novel - if sometimes surprising - conclusions, her Isomorphic Linking Hypothesis establishes the linking patterns of a wide range of verbs and, with those results, shows how to reason "backwards" from how a given verb's arguments link to what its lexical representation must be. Along the way, the investigation takes on thorny lexical issues - reformulating the Theta Criterion, revisiting the multiple lexical-entry debate, eliminating "indirect" arguments and redefining unaccusativity. It offers new insights into how arguments are represented, assembles a host of argument/adjunct diagnostics, and re-examines the relation between arguments and predicates. The result of this incisive study is a simple and consistent account of linking, integrated with a radical rethinking of the nature of arguments and argument structure.

Author: Janet H Randall

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Book: Secret Language

From the chat codes "PAW" or "Code 9" that teens use to let their friends know that parents are eavesdropping, to the high-powered, computer-driven encryptions used by governments to prevent foreign powers from stealing classified information, covert language is ubiquitous in our society. Now, in Secret Language, Barry Blake takes the reader on a fascinating excursion down

this mysterious trail of words, ranging across time and culture. With revelations on every page, and sample codes and puzzles for the reader to crack, it will entertain everyone with an urge to know more about the most arcane and curious uses of language. From backmasking to the Enigma Machine, from magic words to literary symbols, here is a lively, engaging tour of languages that hide their meanings from all but a chosen few. Blake explains the difference between ciphers and codes (Morse code, oddly enough, is not a code but a cipher) and shows how secret messages have been written--and broken--for almost two thousand years. He explores the history and uses of the slang and argot of schools and trades, tracing the stories of centuries-old cants such as those used by sailors and criminals--among them polari, the mix of Italian, Yiddish, and slang once spoken among strolling players and circus folk and most recently adopted by the gay community. He examines the sacred languages of ancient cults and religions, uncovers the workings of onomancy, spells, and gematria, considers the obliqueness of allusion and parody, and celebrates the absurdities of euphemism and jargon. Anyone who enjoys word games and riddles, who loves finding out the hidden meanings of slang or argot, or who delights in spy novels or real-life tales of espionage, will find this volume an endless source of fascination.

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Book: Multimodality and Genre

The volume "Multimodality and Genre" by John Bateman is a monograph that presents a framework for the page-based analysis of multimodal documents, such as magazines, books, web pages, newspapers and similar. Multimodal documents combine text, graphics and pictures in more or less complex layouts. Readers are shown an approach that breaks down multimodal documents into configurations of basic elements to uncover meaning. This approach was originally developed within the Genre and Multimodality (GeM) project. A major claim of the book is that there is a need of detailed empirical analysis in order to advance our understanding of the complex multimodal meaning processes involved in multimodal documents. The concept of genre is proposed as a crucial theoretical construct for exploring document meaning making. The book is suitable for genre analysts, discourse analysts, document designers, computational linguists and semioticians.

Author: John Bateman

Palgrave Macmillan

Book: Practical Language Testing

Practical Language Testing equips you with the skills, knowledge, and principles necessary to understand and construct language tests. This intensely practical book gives guidelines on the design of assessments within the classroom, and provides the necessary tools to analyze and improve assessments, as well as deal with alignment to externally imposed standards. Testing is situated both within the classroom and within the larger social context, and readers are provided the knowledge necessary to make realistic and fair decisions about the use and implementation of tests. The book explains the normative role of large scale testing and provides alternatives that the reader can adapt to their own context. This fulfills the dual purpose of providing the reader with the knowledge they need to prepare learners for tests, and the practical skills for using assessment for learning. Practical Language Testing is the ideal introduction for students of applied linguistics, TESOL, and modern foreign language teaching as well as practicing teachers required to design or implement language testing programs.

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Book: Complementation

This book is the third in the series "Explorations in Linguistic Typology" and so belongs to a suite of state-of-the-art volumes on cross-linguistic and typological studies produced or edited over the years by the two renowned linguists (now at James Cook University, Australia; Aikhenvald and Dixon are the general editors of the series and editors of the so far four published volumes). The present volume addresses the issue of complementation based on the examination of a number of languages, in particular the eleven languages treated in the case-study chapters. These chapters are all guided by the initial theoretical chapter written by Dixon, which also serves as an introduction to the co-edited volume. Beside the main chapters, the book also contains a table of contents, a preface, bio-sketches of the contributors, a list of abbreviations, and three indices for authors, languages, and subjects.

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Book: Language in Cognition

This textbook explores the ways in which language informs the structure and function of the human mind, offering a point of entry into the fascinating territory of cognitive science. Focusing mainly on syntactic issues, Language in Cognition is a unique contribution to this burgeoning field of study. Guides undergraduate students through the core questions of linguistics and cognitive science, and provides tools that will help them think about the field in a structured way. Uses the

study of language and how language informs the structure and function of the human mind to introduce the major ideas in modern cognitive science, including its history and controversies. Explores questions such as: what does it mean to say that linguistics is part of the cognitive sciences; how do the core properties of language compare with the core properties of other human cognitive abilities such as vision, music, mathematics, and other mental building blocks; and what is the relationship between language and thought? Includes an indispensable study guide as well as extensive references to encourage further independent study
 Author: Cedric Boeckx

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Book: Presuppositions and Discourse

'Take some more tea,' the March Hare said to Alice, very earnestly. 'I've had nothing yet,' Alice replied in an offended tone, 'so I can't take more.'

Alice in Wonderland, ch. VII

With her reply, Alice rejects something that her interlocutor seems to take for granted. Ever since Frege's and Russell's classical works on meaning and reference, such presuppositions have been a major theme in 20th century philosophy of language, with the existence and uniqueness expressed by definite descriptions like the King of France in focus. With the development of formal semantics in the 1970s, linguists have started to systematically explore this rich and pervasive phenomenon and particularly the way in which presuppositions depend on their environment. Although the role of context-dependence for their understanding has long been recognized, only the more sophisticated models of meaning representation such as Discourse Representation Theory, founded by Hans Kamp around 1980, opened the opportunity to account for their behaviour adequately and in full detail. The 10 studies collected in this volume, authored by some of the leading experts in the field, give a live view of the current state of the art of presupposition analysis and should therefore be of great value to anybody interested in the field of natural language semantics and cognition.

Editors: Rainer Bäuerle, Uwe Reyle and Thomas Ede Zimmermann

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Book: Meaning, Discourse and Society

Meaning, Discourse and Society investigates the construction of reality within discourse. When people talk about things such as language, the mind, globalisation or weeds, they are less discussing the outside world than objects they have created collaboratively by talking about them. Wolfgang Teubert shows that meaning cannot be found in mental concepts or neural activity, as implied by the cognitive sciences. He argues instead that meaning is negotiated and knowledge is created by symbolic interaction, thus taking language as a social, rather than a mental, phenomenon. Discourses, Teubert contends, can be viewed as collective minds, enabling the members of discourse communities to make sense of themselves and of the world around them. By taking an active stance in constructing the reality they share, people thus can take part in moulding the world in accordance with their perceived needs.

Author: Wolfgang Teubert

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Book: An Introduction to Sociolinguistics

This comprehensive new edition of Wardhaugh's textbook incorporates additional study features and numerous new and updated references to bring the book completely up-to-date, whilst maintaining the features that made the book so popular with lecturers and students: accessible coverage of a wide range of issues, clearly written, and with useful student study features. A fully revised new edition of Ronald Wardhaugh's popular introduction to sociolinguistics, which now includes over 150 new and updated references and new study features throughout. Features new "Explorations" sections in each chapter incorporating suggested readings, discussion sections, and exercises - all designed to encourage students to develop their own skills and ideas. Reflects new developments in the field, providing greater focus on ideas such as identity, solidarity, and markedness.

Provides balanced coverage of a range of topics, including: language dialects, pidgins and Creoles, codes, bilingualism, speech communities, variation, words and culture, ethnographies, solidarity and politeness, talk and action, gender, disadvantage, and planning. Comprehensive and accessible, it is the ideal introduction for students coming to sociolinguistics for the first time.

Author: Ronald Wardhaugh

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Book: Political Correctness

In this carefully researched, thought-provoking book, Geoffrey Hughes examines the trajectory of political correctness and its impact on public life. Focusing on the historical, semantic, and cultural aspects of political correctness, it will intrigue anyone interested in this ongoing debate. A unique and intriguing journey through the trajectory of political correctness and its impact on public life, focusing on the historical, semantic, and cultural aspects of what PC means. Explores the origins, progress, content and style of political correctness, discussing and analyzing around one hundred terms and lexical formations, from Chaucer and Shakespeare, Marlowe and Swift, to nursery rhymes, rap and Spike Lee films, David Mamet, J. M. Coetzee and Philip Larkin Offers a detailed semantic analysis of the way that key words have been exploited both to advance the agendas of political correctness and to refute them.

Author: Geoffrey Hughes

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Conference: Phonlex 2010 International Conference

Date: 08 to 10 September 2010

Location: Toulouse, France

Contact: [Chrisiane Soum Favaro](#)

Call Deadline: 16 April 2010

The Phonlex project (From Phonology to the Lexicon: liaison and cognition in contemporary French) brings together 4 linguistic and psycholinguistic research teams in Toulouse, Grenoble and Paris. These teams have been investigating various dimensions of French liaison: phonological and phonetic aspects, regional variation, the synchronic and diachronic dimension, oral developmental issues as well as liaison in written production. These topics will constitute the core of our conference. However, French liaison is not an isolated sandhi phenomenon within the languages of the world and we therefore welcome papers which discuss the wider issue of word-segmentation and adjustments at word-boundaries.

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Book: Language as a Local Practice

Language as a Local Practice addresses the questions of language, locality and practice as a way of moving forward in our understanding of how language operates as an integrated social and spatial activity. By taking each of these three elements - language, locality and practice - and exploring how they relate to each other, Language as a Local Practice opens up new ways of thinking about language. It questions assumptions about languages as systems or as countable entities, and suggests instead that language emerges from the activities it performs. To look at language as a practice is to view language as an activity rather than a structure, as something we do rather than a system we draw on, as a material part of social and cultural life rather than an abstract entity. Language as a Local Practice draws on a variety of contexts of language use, from bank machines to postcards, Indian newspaper articles to fish-naming in the Philippines, urban graffiti to mission statements, suggesting that rather than thinking in terms of language use in context, we need to consider how language, space and place are related, how language creates the contexts where it is used, how languages are the products of socially located activities and how they are part of the action. Language as a Local Practice will be of interest to students on advanced undergraduate and post graduate courses in Applied Linguistics, Language Education, TESOL, Literacy and Cultural Studies.

Author: Alastair Pennycook

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Book: Modality

Paul Portner's book is intended as a systematic survey of contemporary semantic theories of sentential modality, most of which were developed within the framework of possible world semantics. The book has five chapters, with Chapter 4 containing the biggest bulk of theoretical reviews and analyses. A self-contained monograph, it does not assume much familiarity on the reader's part with modal logic or any major theory of linguistic modality, so that those who have just started exploring modality will find the book very accessible and helpful. On the other hand, experts will find the book an excellent resource to turn to when they want to have a quick brush-up on one theory of modality or another. An authoritative figure on linguistic modality, Portner takes an unimposing position when presenting his own ideas (where applicable). Overall, the book is a great pleasure to read.

Author: Paul H. Portner

Oxford University Press

Book: Discourse, of Course

"Discourse, of Course" is a follow-up to Jan Renkema's introduction to "Discourse Studies" (2004) for undergraduate students. This new edited volume gathers twenty short papers written by distinguished and thoroughly-experienced discourse analysts, aimed at graduate courses. The present collection stands out from other similar attempts in that it introduces material for advanced programs in discourse studies, proposes research projects to prospective PhD students,

and presents synoptically, albeit spherically, recent advances in discourse studies. With a view to enabling students to self-study and design their own research, all contributions in the volume follow a predetermined format of seven sections:

introduction, the research challenge, examples, research methods, recent research, research proposal and practical relevance. In addition, they are thematically organized into eight distinct parts.

Author: Jan Renkema

John Benjamins Publishing Company

Book: Rethinking Universals

Universals of language have been studied extensively for the last four decades, allowing fundamental insight into the principles and general properties of human language. Only incidentally have researchers looked at the other end of the scale. And even when they did, they mostly just noted peculiar facts as "quirks" or "unusual behavior", without making too much of an effort at explaining them beyond calling them "exceptions" to various rules or generalizations. Rarissima and rara, features and properties found only in one or very few languages, tell us as much about the capacities and limits of human language(s) as do universals. Explaining the existence of such rare phenomena on the one hand, and the fact of their rareness or uniqueness on the other, is a reasonable and interesting challenge to any theory of how human language works. The present volume for the first time compiles selected papers on the study of rare linguistic features from various fields of linguistics and from a wide range of languages.

Editors: Jan Wohlgemuth and Michael Cysouw

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Book: Topicalization and Stress Clash Avoidance in the History of English

The book is concerned with the interaction of syntax, information structure and prosody in the history of English, demonstrating this with a case study of object topicalization. The approach is data-oriented, using material from syntactically parsed digital corpora of Old, Middle and Early Modern English, which serve as a solid foundation for conclusions.

The use of object topicalization underwent a sharp decline from Old English until today. In the present volume, a basic prosodic well-formedness condition, the Clash Avoidance Requirement, is identified as the main factor for this change. With the loss of V2-syntax, object topicalization led more easily to cases in which two focalized phrases, the topicalized object and the subject, are adjacent. The two focal accents on these phrases would produce a clash, thus violating the Clash Avoidance Requirement. In order to circumvent this, the use of topicalization in critical cases is avoided.

The Clash Avoidance Requirement is highly relevant also today, as experimental data on English and German show. Further, the Clash Avoidance Requirement helps to explain the well-known syntactic structure of the left periphery in Old English. An analysis positing two subject positions is defended in the study. The variation of these subject positions is shown to depend not on pronominal vs. lexical status of the subject but on information structural properties.

Author: Augustin Speyer

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Book: Wörterbuch zur Lexikographie und Wörterbuchforschung [Dictionary of Lexicography and Dictionary Research]

This four-volume dictionary is the first to register the specialist terminology of dictionary research in about 5,600 headwords, 7,200 reference headwords and 50,000 headword equivalents in nine languages, and thus forms the foundation for future lexicography. It is aimed at academics, students and translators and is intended as an aid both to reading and to composing and translating specialist texts. Apart from an introduction to the subject in both English and German, it provides bilingual definitions and contexts together with multilingual translations of the headwords.

Editors: Herbert Ernst Wiegand, Michael Beißwenger, Rufus H Gouws, Matthias Kammerer, Angelika Storrer and Werner Wolski.

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Conference: Creoles and Pidgins in Typological Perspective

Date: 11 to 14 November 2010

Location: Leipzig, Germany

Contact: [Susanne Michaelis](#)

Call Deadline: 30 April 2010

This conference has three goals: (i) To discuss some results from database of the APiCS (Atlas of Pidgin and Creole Language Structures) project in advance of publication (scheduled for 2011/2012), (ii) to present this project to interested linguists who are not participants of the project, and (iii) more generally, to discuss the properties of creole and pidgin languages against a typological background.

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Book: Semantics

The book "Semantics: An Introduction to Meaning in Language" as part of the series "Cambridge Textbooks in Linguistics" follows the layout and structure of a classical textbook. It can be used as a core reading for a fairly advanced course in Semantics or for individual study. It is aimed at senior graduate students and postgraduate students of linguistics, cognitive science, semantics, etc., as well as practicing linguists with or without a solid background in formal semantics. The book presents the dynamic developments in the formal paradigm of linguistic research in the past fifty years, as well as innovative current approaches that irrespective of their formal/functional/cognitive affiliations contribute to the understanding and adequate description of the dynamics of meaning creation and interpretation in natural languages. The book contains a preface, eight chapters, a bibliography and an index. Each chapter is supplemented with suggestions for further reading, impressive with their richness in terms of titles and with the specification of details which can be found in each recommended source. Practical tasks and exercises are interspersed into the body of the respective chapter, coming just before the summary reflections or at places where new features of the model or new analytical tools are introduced. If used as a course book it should be supplemented with exercises and problem-solving tasks.

Authors: Ronnie Cann, Ruth Kempson and Eleni Gregoromichelaki

Cambridge University Press

Book: The Handbook of Language Teaching

Bringing together an international and interdisciplinary team of contributors, this Handbook is a wide-ranging and invaluable reference guide to language teaching. A comprehensive reference work on language teaching, which combines the latest research findings, coverage of core topics, and examples of teaching experience from a variety of languages and settings. Provides a unique breadth of coverage, including: the psycholinguistic underpinnings of language learning; social, political, and educational contexts; program design; materials writing and course design; teaching and testing; teacher education; and assessment and evaluation. Offers a balanced evaluation of the major positions and approaches, including examining the increasingly important social and political context of language teaching. Written by an international and interdisciplinary group of authors from a dozen different countries; English is only one of the many languages used as examples throughout the volume.

Editors: Michael H Long and Catherine J Doughty

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Book: A Practical Guide for Translators

This is the fifth revised edition of the best-selling A Practical Guide for Translators. It looks at the profession of translator on the basis of developments over the last few years and encourages both practitioners and buyers of translation services to view translation as a highly-qualified, skilled profession and not just a cost-led word mill. The book is intended principally for those who have little or no practical experience of translation in a commercial environment. It offers comprehensive advice on all aspects relevant to the would-be translator and, whilst intended mainly for those who wish to go freelance, it is also relevant to the staff translator as a guide to organisation of work and time. Advice is given on how to set up as a translator, from the purchase of equipment to the acquisition of clients. The process of translation is discussed from initial enquiry to delivery of the finished product. Hints are given on how to assess requirements, how to charge for work, how to research and use source material, and how to present the finished product. Guidance is given on where to obtain further advice and professional contacts. This revised edition updates practices in the translation profession and considers the impact of web-based translation offerings. Industry and commerce rely heavily on the skills of the human translator and his ability to make intellectual decisions that is, as yet, beyond the capacity of computer-aided translation.

Author: Geoffrey Samuelsson-Brown

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