

LANGUAGE

JOURNAL OF THE LINGUISTIC
SOCIETY OF AMERICA

VOLUME 79, NUMBER 4

DECEMBER 2003

The Editor's Department: Looking ahead, looking back— past, present, and future	<i>Brian D. Joseph</i>	679
Grammar is grammar and usage is usage	<i>Frederick J. Newmeyer</i>	682
Referential density in discourse and syntactic typology	<i>Balthasar Bickel</i>	708
Stems and paradigms	<i>James P. Blevins</i>	737
Obituary:		
Victoria A. Fromkin	<i>Peter Ladefoged</i>	768
Reviews:		
Andersen (ed.): Actualization: Linguistic change in progress	<i>E. C. Traugott</i>	772
Cravens: Comparative historical dialectology: Italo-Romance clues to Ibero-Romance sound change	<i>R. Wright</i>	775
É. Kiss: The syntax of Hungarian	<i>M. den Dikken & A. Lipták</i>	777
Emonds: Lexicon and grammar: The English syntacticon	<i>R. Hudson</i>	781
Lahiri (ed.): Analogy, levelling, markedness: Principles of change in phonology and morphology	<i>J. C. Salmons</i>	783
Soames: Beyond rigidity: The unfinished semantic agenda of naming and necessity	<i>T. Wasow</i>	786
Wischer & Diewald (eds.): New reflections on grammaticalization	<i>J. F. Eska</i>	788
Book Notices (see back cover)		792
Recent Publications		846
Index to Volume 79		850

Abstracts:

GRAMMAR IS GRAMMAR AND USAGE IS USAGE

Frederick J. Newmeyer

University of Washington

A number of disparate approaches to language, ranging from cognitive linguistics to stochastic implementations of optimality theory, have challenged the classical distinction between knowledge of language and use of language. Supporters of such approaches point to the functional motivation of grammatical structure, language users' sensitivity to the frequency of occurrence of grammatical elements, and the great disparity between sentences that grammars generate and speakers' actual utterances. In this article I defend the classical position, and provide evidence from a number of sources that speakers mentally represent full grammatical structure, however fragmentary their utterances might be. The article also questions the relevance of most corpus-based frequency and probability studies to models of individual grammatical competence. I propose a scenario for the origins and evolution of language that helps to explain why grammar and usage are as distinct as they are.

REFERENTIAL DENSITY IN DISCOURSE AND SYNTACTIC TYPOLOGY

Balthasar Bickel

University of Leipzig

Narrative production experiments reveal systematic crosslinguistic differences in the preferred ratio of overt to possible argument NPs (called here the REFERENTIAL DENSITY value) between three pro-drop languages of the Himalayas (Belhare, Maithili, Nepali). These differences can be accounted for by the degree to which morphosyntactic features of NPs, especially case features, are relevant for syntactic processing. This degree is the higher the more there are pivots or controllers of syntactic rules (e.g. verb agreement) that are defined not only on the basis of a thematic role hierarchy but also by a case feature (as when, for example, verb agreement is blocked by quirky case on the thematically highest argument)

STEMS AND PARADIGMS

James P. Blevins

University of Cambridge

This article presents an analysis of the conjugational systems of West Germanic that highlights the central role of two basic stem types and suggests some consequences for the description of inflectional systems in general. The analyses distinguish morphomic stems, which underlie morphosyntactically distinct word forms, from inflectional stems, which realize tense and mood features and provide the input to regular agreement rules. It is argued that the recognition of these stem types simplifies the description of West Germanic conjugations, supports a general realization-based approach, and suggests a reinterpretation of current realizational models.

BOOK NOTICES IN THIS ISSUE

Abraham & Zwart (eds.): Issues in formal German(ic) typology.....	<i>K. K. Grohmann</i>	827
Bangura & Muo: United States Congress and bilingual education.....	<i>E. Battistella</i>	828
Barbiers et al. (eds.): Modality and its interaction with the verbal system	<i>J. Gutiérrez-Rexach</i>	828
Baron et al. (eds.): Dimensions of possession	<i>L. M. Dobrin</i>	829
Bertolo (ed.): Language acquisition and learnability.....	<i>L. DeWaard Dykstra</i>	792
Blake: Case. 2nd edn.	<i>D. Golumbia</i>	830
Boucher (ed.): Many morphologies	<i>K. Fudeman</i>	792
Boxer: Applying sociolinguistics: Domains and face-to-face interaction	<i>B. Li</i>	831
Brosziewski: Syntactic derivations: A nontransformational view.....	<i>K. K. Grohmann</i>	832
Butt & King (eds.): Argument realization	<i>L. Kulikov</i>	832
Bybee: Phonology and language use	<i>M. Krug</i>	793
Bybee & Noonan (eds.): Complex sentences in grammar and discourse: Essays in honor of Sandra A. Thompson.....	<i>E. J. Vajda</i>	833
Camps & Wiltshire (eds.): Romance syntax, semantics and L2 acquisition.....	<i>J. Gutiérrez-Rexach</i>	834
Cannon & Kaye: The Persian contributions to the English language: An historical dictionary	<i>M. A. Btoosh</i>	835
Carroll: Input and evidence: The raw material of second language acquisition	<i>L. DeWaard Dykstra</i>	794
Cathey: Old Saxon	<i>J. F. Eska</i>	836
Cenoz & Genesee (eds.): Trends in bilingual acquisition.....	<i>B. Li</i>	836
Chun: Discourse intonation in L2: From theory and research to practice.....	<i>T. L. Face</i>	795
Comrie & Corbett (eds.): The Slavonic languages.....	<i>E. J. Vajda</i>	795
Cruse et al. (eds.): Lexikologie/Lexicology: Ein internationales Handbuch zur Natur und Struktur von Wörtern und Wortschätzen. Vol. 1.....	<i>J. M. Jeep</i>	796
Crutchfield: English vocabulary quick reference: A comprehensive dictionary arranged by word roots.....	<i>L. Oliver</i>	797
Dombrowsky-Hahn: Phénomènes de contact entre les langues Minyanka et Bambara (Sud du Mali).....	<i>A. Harrison</i>	837
Dressler et al. (eds.): Morphological analysis in comparison.....	<i>M. Maxwell</i>	797
Dueñas González & Melis (eds.): Language ideologies: Critical perspectives on the Official English Movement. Vols. 1–2.	<i>E. Battistella</i>	798
Falk: Lexical-functional grammar: An introduction to parallel constraint-based syntax	<i>M. Miller</i>	800
Flaux & van de Velde: Les noms en français: Esquisse de classement.....	<i>J. Holeš</i>	838
Gao: The physical foundation of the patterning of physical action verbs: A study of Chinese verbs.....	<i>K. S. Chung</i>	800
Gardner: When listeners talk: Response tokens and listener stance	<i>B. Li</i>	801

Gass et al. (eds.): Pedagogical norms for second and foreign language learning and teaching	<i>M. d. P. García Mayo</i>	802
Gelber: Speaking back: The free speech versus hate speech debate	<i>M. A. Btoosh</i>	803
Givón: Syntax: An introduction	<i>E. J. Vajda</i>	803
Görlach: Still more Englishes	<i>J. S.-Y. Park</i>	838
Haiman: Talk is cheap: Sarcasm, alienation and the evolution of language	<i>I. Checa-García</i>	839
Hellinger & Bussmann (eds.): Gender across languages: The linguistic representation of women and men. Vol. 2	<i>C. Xie</i>	804
Hickey: A source book for Irish English	<i>J. F. Eska</i>	839
Hróarsdóttir: Word order change in Icelandic: From OV to VO	<i>B. Wald</i>	805
Hulk & Pollock (eds.): Subject inversion in Romance and the theory of universal grammar	<i>K. K. Grohmann</i>	805
Irigaray: To speak is never neutral	<i>C. Xie</i>	806
Janson: Speak: A short history of languages	<i>Z. Salzmann</i>	807
Jones: Antonymy: A corpus-based perspective	<i>M. L. Murphy</i>	840
Kato & Negrão (eds.): Brazilian Portuguese and the null subject parameter	<i>K. K. Grohmann</i>	807
Kaye & Tosco: Pidgin and creole languages: A basic introduction	<i>E. G. Winkler</i>	808
Kenesei: Argument structure in Hungarian	<i>K. K. Grohmann</i>	841
Kövecses: Metaphor: A practical introduction	<i>I. Checa-García</i>	809
László: Cognition and representation in literature: The psychology of literary narratives	<i>A. S. Bruflat</i>	810
Lebeaux: Language acquisition and the form of the grammar	<i>K. K. Grohmann</i>	810
Lombardi (ed.): Segmental phonology in optimality theory	<i>A. Nevins</i>	811
Lüdeling: On particle verbs and similar constructions in German	<i>G. H. Toops</i>	812
Maslova (ed.): Yukaghir texts	<i>E. J. Vajda</i>	813
Müller & Sternefeld (eds.): Competition in syntax	<i>B. Wald</i>	841
Neale: Facing facts	<i>J. Gutiérrez-Rexach</i>	813
Nichols (ed.): Actes du trente-deuxième Congrès des Algonquistes	<i>D. Golumbia</i>	814
Niemi et al. (eds.): Language contact, variation, and change	<i>A. Moody</i>	842
Ohta: Second language acquisition processes in the classroom: Learning Japanese	<i>J. Hondo</i>	815
Ooi (ed.): Evolving identities: The English language in Singapore and Malaysia	<i>J. S.-Y. Park</i>	815
Palmer: Mood and modality. 2nd edn.	<i>G. H. Toops</i>	816
Pan et al.: Professional communication in international settings	<i>M. Shappeck</i>	817
Panagiotidis: Pronouns, clitics and empty nouns: 'Pronominality' and licensing in syntax	<i>J. Gutiérrez-Rexach</i>	843
Poyatos: Nonverbal communication across disciplines. Vols. 1–3	<i>C. Xie</i>	818
Preyer & Peter (eds.): Logical form and language	<i>J. Gutiérrez-Rexach</i>	819

Satterfield et al. (eds.): Current issues in Romance languages	<i>T. L. Face</i>	820
Selting & Couper-Kuhlen (eds.): Studies in interactional linguistics.....	<i>B. Li</i>	820
Smith: Language, bananas & bonobos:		
Linguistic problems, puzzles and polemics	<i>S. Knape</i>	821
Sproat: A computational theory of writing systems	<i>T. Miyamoto</i>	822
Vanséveren: «Prodige à voir» Recherches comparatives sur		
l'origine casuelle de l'infinitif en grec ancien	<i>A. M. Byrd</i>	823
Voeltz & Kilian-Hatz (eds.): Ideophones	<i>E. J. Vajda</i>	823
Wardhaugh: An introduction to sociolinguistics. 4th edn.	<i>Z. Salzmänn</i>	824
Weigand & Dascal (eds.): Negotiation and power in dialogic interaction	<i>B. Li</i>	825
Zagona: The syntax of Spanish.....	<i>S. Robinson</i>	825
Zeller: Particle verbs and local domains.....	<i>B. Wald</i>	826
Sun (ed.): New found minority languages in China series	<i>G. Thurgood & F. Li</i>	843