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Perspectives on Topicalization - John Hinds - 1987-01-01
Within the field of Japanese linguistics, few areas have generated as much controversy as the morpheme wa; traditionally described as a marker of old or contrasted information, its function as a discourse marker has also been studied. This work aims to deepen the understanding of wa through careful examination of the particle at both sentence and discourse levels in old Japanese as well as present-day Japanese. Previous studies have concentrated on syntactic analyses of wa. The contributors to this volume challenge the old approach and uncover new properties of wa. The four topics discussed are: ‘WA’ in Narrative and Expository Discourse; ‘WA’ and other Syntactic Phenomena; Historical Perspectives on ‘WA’ and Pragmatic Perspectives on ‘WA’.

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Information Structuring of Spoken Language from a Cross-linguistic Perspective - M. M. Jocelyn Fernandez-Vest - 2015-12-14
Information structure and the organization of oral texts have been rarely studied crosslinguistically. This book contains studies of the grammatical organization of information in languages from different areas (e.g. Amazonian, Finno-Ugric, South-Asian) from a variety of theoretical angles. It will be a valuable resource for researchers investigating the interaction of morphosyntax and discourse in familiar and less familiar languages.

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Japanese - Yoko Hasegawa - 2015-01-08
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New Perspectives in Role and Reference Grammar - Wataru Nakamura - 2011-09-22
New Perspectives in Role and Reference Grammar presents a broad picture of current developments in Role and Reference Grammar (RRG), a version of parallel structure grammar with an emphasis on typological adequacy. Since its inception, RRG has been applied to a wide range of languages, including Japanese wa. The present book is a continuation of this trend, presenting 13 papers which not only contribute to the further development of the theory, but also investigate controversial areas of linguistic theory including inferential and derivational morphology, verbal semantics and argument structure (anticausative and serial verb constructions), the argument-adjunct distinction, an extended typology of complex clauses, the syntax-information structure interface, and interactions between the lexicon and constructions. In addition, three papers illustrate how RRG may be applied to sign languages, language acquisition, and machine translation from Arabic to English.

Turn-taking in human communicative interaction - Judith Holler - 2016-05-09
The core use of language is in face-to-face conversation. This is characterized by rapid turn-taking. This turn-taking poses a number central puzzles for the psychology of language. Consider, for example, that in large corpora the gap between turns is on the order of 100 to 300 ms, but the latencies involved in language production require minimally between 600 ms (for a single word) or 1500 ms (for as simple sentence). This implies that participants in conversation are predicting the ends of the incoming turn and preparing in advance. But how is this done? What aspects of this prediction are done when? What happens when the prediction is wrong? What stops participants coming in too early? If the system is running on prediction, why is there consistently a mode of 100 to 300 ms in response time? The timing puzzle raises further puzzles: it seems that comprehension must run parallel with the preparation for production, but it has been presumed that there are strict cognitive limitations on more than one central process running at a time. How is this bottleneck overcome? Far from being ‘easy’ as some psychologists have suggested, conversation may be one of the most demanding cognitive tasks in our everyday lives. Further questions naturally arise: how do children learn to master this demanding task, and what is the developmental trajectory in this domain? Research shows that aspects of turn-taking, such as its timing, are remarkably stable across languages and cultures, but the word order of languages varies enormously. How then does prediction of the incoming turn work when the verb (often the informational nugget in a clause) is at the end? Conversely, how can production work fast enough in languages that have the verb at the beginning, thereby requiring early planning of the whole clause? What happens when one changes modality, as in sign languages – with the loss of channel constraints is turn-taking much freer? And what about face-to-face communication amongst hearing individuals – do gestures, gaze, and other
The current collection of expanded versions of selected research presented at the Cyprus Syntaxfest reflects a wide variety of approaches to these topics; it also provides a glimpse of the rich sample of cross-linguistic data that informed the discussions of syntactic peripheries and their interface interpretation. It offers eleven studies on clausal and nominal left-peripheral phenomena and their (role in) interpretation in a variety of typologically unrelated languages. More significantly, the contributions collected here underscore the by now established importance and theoretical interest of studying the edge of constituents, whether phasal or not. In every chapter, the blueprint of a general interpretive hierarchy driving and constraining syntax is also retracted throughout.

New Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence - Ken Satoh - 2008-02-12

The technology of artifical intelligence is increasing its importance thanks to the rapid growth of the Internet and computer technology. In Japan, the annual conference series of JSAI (The Japanese Society for Articial Intelligence) has been playing a leading role in promoting AI research, and selected papers of the annual conferences have been published in the LNAI series since 2003. This book consists of award papers from the 21st annual conference of JSAI (JSAI 2007) and selected papers from the four co-located workshops. Seven papers were awarded among more than 335 presentations in the conference and 24 papers were selected from a total of 48 presentations in the co-located workshops: Logic and Engineering of Natural Language Semantics 2007 (LENLS 2007), the International Workshop on Risk Informatics (RI 2007), the 5th Wo- shop on Learning with Logics and Logics for Learning (LLLL 2007), and the 1st International Workshop on Juris-informatics (JURISIN 2007). The award papers from JSAI 2007 underwent a rigorous selection process. Firstly, recommendations were made from three people (Session Chair, session commentator and one PC member) in each session, and then recommended - pers were carefully reviewed and voted for by PC members for ?nal selection.

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Thematics - Max M. Louwerse - 2002-05-29

Themes play a central role in our everyday communication: we have to know what a text is about in order to understand it. Intended meaning cannot be understood without some knowledge of the underlying theme. This book helps to define the concept of 'themes' in texts and how they are structured in language use. Much of the literature on Themes is scattered over different disciplines (literature, psychology, linguistics, cognitive science), which this detailed collection pulls together in one coherent overview. The result is a new landmark for the study and understanding of themes in their everyday manifestation.

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Using theoretical concepts of self, perspective, and voice as an interpretive guide, and based on the 1st International Workshop on the Phenomenon of Linguistic Creativity in Japanese Discourse and a volume that captures the phenomenon of linguistic creativity in Japanese discourse, i.e., the use of language in specific ways for foregrounding personalized expressive left peripheries in linguistic structures and (their) interface interpretation. question: how did such a system evolve? There seem to be parallels (analogies) in diachronic speciﬁcity, and inoidity, but there is little evidence of anything like this among the great apes. All this constitutes a neglected set of problems at the heart of the psychology of language and of the language sciences. This Research Topic contributes to advancing our understanding of these problems by summarizing recent work from psycholinguists, developmental psychologists, students of dialog and conversation analysis, linguists, phoneticians, and comparative ethologists.

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Selected Papers from the 2006 Cyprus Syntaxfest - KleaKholgreen - 2005-03-26

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historical factors that influence the development of languages, emotive, interpersonal, and rhetorical aspects of communication, encompassing broad meanings such as feelings of intimacy or distance, emotion, empathy, humor, playfulness, persona, sense of self, identity, rhetorical effects, and so on. Nine analysis chapters explore the meanings, functions, and effects observable in the indices of linguistic creativity, focusing on discourse creativity (style mixture, borrowing others’ styles, genre mixture), rhetorical creativity (puns, metaphors, metaphors in multimodal discourse), and grammatical creativity (negatives, demonstratives, first-person references). Based on the analysis of verbal and visual data drawn from multiple genres of contemporary cultural discourse, this work reveals that by creatively expressing in language we share our worlds from multiple perspectives, we speak in self’s and others’ many voices, and we endlessly create personalized expressive meanings as testimony to our own sense of being.

Using theoretical concepts of self, perspective, and voice as an interpretive guide, and based on the Place of Negotiation theory, this volume explores the phenomenon of linguistic creativity in Japanese discourse, i.e., the use of language in specific ways for foregrounding personalized expressive meanings. Personalized expressive meanings include psychological, emotive, interpersonal, and rhetorical aspects of communication, encompassing broad meanings such as feelings of intimacy or distance, emotion, empathy, humor, playfulness, persona, sense of self, identity, rhetorical effects, and so on. Nine analysis chapters explore the meanings, functions, and effects observable in the indices of linguistic creativity, focusing on discourse creativity (style mixture, borrowing others’ styles, genre mixture), rhetorical creativity (puns, metaphors, metaphors in multimodal discourse), and grammatical creativity (negatives, demonstratives, first-person references). Based on the analysis of verbal and visual data drawn from multiple genres of contemporary cultural discourse, this work reveals that by creatively expressing in language we share our worlds from multiple perspectives, we speak in self’s and others’ many voices, and we endlessly create personalized expressive meanings as testimony to our own sense of being.

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Japanese is well known for its array of argument encoding types - but how is speakers’ choice of encoding types to be described? This book investigates the encoding of subject and direct object in conversational Japanese and attempts to explain Japanese argument encoding as a unified system. Qualitative and quantitative analyses of a bank of conversation are provided, with the emphasis on speakers’ use of the encoding types rather than their acceptability for given arguments.

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Japanese/Korean Linguistics: Volume 1 - Center for the Study of Language and Information (U.S.) - 1990
"The annual Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference provides a forum for presenting research that will broaden the understanding of these two languages, especially through comparative analysis. The sixteenth Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference, held in October of 2006 at Kyoto University, was the first in the history of the conference to be held outside of the United States. The thirty-six papers in this volume encompass a variety of areas, such as phonetics; phonology; morphology; syntax; semantics; pragmatics; discourse analysis; and the geographical and historical factors that influence the development of languages, sociolinguistics, and psycholinguistics." -- Book Jacket.

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The ‘Noun Phrase’ across Languages - Tsuyoshi Ono - 2007-07-13
The ‘NP’ is one of the least controversial grammatical units that linguists work with. The NP is often assumed to be universal, and appears to be robust cross-linguistically (compared to ‘VP’ or even ‘clause’) in that it can be manipulated in argument positions in constructed examples. Furthermore, for any given language, its internal structure (order and type of modifiers) tends to be relatively fixed. Surprisingly, however, the empirical basis for ‘NP’ has never been established. The chapters in this volume examine the NP in everyday interactions from diverse languages, including little-studied languages as well as better-researched ones, in a variety of interactional settings. Together, these chapters show that cross-linguistically, the category NP is not as robust as has been assumed: in the context of temporally unfolding human interaction, its structural status is constantly negotiated in terms of participants’ evolving social agendas.

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Korean Particles [마] and [여] Explained - - 2017-09-17
Most Korean learners struggle with particles [마] and [여]. Few Korean teachers properly explain these particles and even advanced learners will misuse them. Many learners consider [마] and [여] to be the most difficult aspect of learning Korean. These particles are essential for creating sentences and using the wrong particle produces an inappropriate sentence. How can something so basic be so difficult? Why do even advanced learners get confused about these particles? Because particles [마] and [여] have not been taught the wrong way. Most Korean teachers/textbooks will incorrectly define these particles as ‘topic’ and ‘subject’ markers. This book explains how [마] isn’t really a topic particle and how [여] is not a subject particle. It will teach you these particles and their associated grammar in a logical way. Beware that this book is not suitable for beginners who cannot yet make basic Korean sentences. It is written for high-beginner level students and upwards. This book also explains interesting features of Korean which most teachers/grammar books ignore. Even advanced learners will benefit from what’s inside.

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Perspectives on Sentence Processing - Charles Clifton, Jr. - 2015-12-22
One of the liveliest forums for sharing psychological, linguistic, philosophical, and computer science perspectives on psycholinguistics has been the annual meeting of the CUNY Sentence Processing Conference. Documenting the state of the art in several important approaches to sentence processing, this volume consists of selected papers that had been presented at the Sixth CUNY Conference. The editors not only present the main themes that ran through the conference but also honor the breadth of the presentations from disciplines including linguistics, experimental psychology, and computer science. The variety of sentence processing topics examined includes * how evoked brain potentials reflect sentence comprehension * how auditory words are processed * how various sources
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**The Fictions of Language and the Languages of Fiction** - Monika Fludernik - 2003-12-16

Monika Fludernik presents a detailed analysis of free indirect discourse as it relates to narrative theory, and the crucial problematic of how speech and thought are represented in fiction. Building on the insights of Ann Banfield's *Unspeakable Sentences*, Fludernik radically extends Banfield's model to accommodate evidence from conversational narrative, non-fictional prose and literary works from Chaucer to the present. Fludernik's model subsumes earlier insights into the forms and functions of quotation and aligns them with discourse strategies observable in the oral language. Drawing on a vast range of literature, she provides an invaluable resource for researchers in the field and introduces English readers to extensive work on the subject in German as well as comparing the free indirect discourse features of German, French and English. This study effectively repositions the whole area between literature and linguistics, opening up a new set of questions in narrative theory.

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**Split Auxiliary Systems** - Raúl Aranovich - 2007-03-22

The alternation between the auxiliaries BE and HAVE, which this collection examines, is often discussed in connection with generative analyses of split intranstitivity. But this book's purpose is to place the phenomenon in a broader context. Well-known facts in the Romance and Germanic language families are extended with data from lesser studied languages and dialects (Romanian, Paduan), and also with experimental and historical data. Moreover, the book goes beyond the usual language families in which the phenomenon has been studied, with the inclusion of two chapters on Chinese and Korean. The theoretical background of the contributors is also broad, ranging from current Generative approaches to Cognitive and Optimality-Theoretical frameworks. Readers interested in the structural, historical, developmental, or experimental aspects of auxiliary selection should profit from this book's comprehensive empirical coverage and from the plurality of contemporary linguistic analyses it contains.

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**Linguistic Emotivity** - Senko K. Maynard - 2002-07-26

Linguistic Emotivity explores expressive and emotive meanings in Japanese from the perspective of the Place of Negotiation theory. The Place of Negotiation theory provides a framework for understanding how linguistic signs function in the place of communication (in cognitive, emotive, and interactional places). The theory finds the indexicality of a sign fundamental and views meanings as being negotiated among interactants who share not only information but, more significantly, feelings. Using analytical tools recognized in conversation and discourse analyses, the book analyzes emotive topics (vocatives, emotive nominals, quotative topics, etc.) and emotive comments (da and ja-nai, interrogatives, stylistic shifts, etc.) in contemporary Japanese discourse. It argues for the importance of emotivity in Japanese, in the context of the Japanese culture of pathos. Linguistic Emotivity challenges the traditional view of language that privileges logos, form, information, and abstraction, and instead, it proposes a philosophical shift toward pathos, expression, emotion, and linguistic event/action.

**Linguistic Emotivity** - Senko K. Maynard - 2002-07-26

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**Deixis and Alignment** - Fernando Zúñiga - 2006-01-01

This book proposes a notion of deixis that differs from two widespread positions found in descriptive and typological studies (one of them restrictive and structure-oriented, the other broad and function-centered). This third stance put forward here takes both grammar and pragmatic functions into account, but it also relates the opposition between direct and inverse verbs and clauses to an opposition between deictic values, thereby achieving two advantageous goals: it meaningfully circumvents one of the usual analytic dilemmas, namely whether a given construction is passive or inverse, and it refines our understanding of the cross-linguistic typology of inversion. This framework is applied to the description of the morphosyntax of eleven Amerindian languages (Algonquian: Plains Cree, Miami-Illinois, Ojibwa; Kutenai; Sahaptin: Sahaptin, Nez Perce; Kiowa-Tanoan: Arizona Tewa, Picurãs, Southern Tiwa, Kiowa; Mapudungun).

**Pragmatics of Word Order Flexibility** - Doris L. Payne - 1992-01-01

For some time the assumption has been widely held that for a majority of the world's languages, order of subject and object relative to the verb, and that when combined with other facts of the language, the "basic" order constitutes a useful way of typologizing languages. New debate has arisen over varying definitions of "basic," with investigators encountering languages where bringing a particular order of grammatical relations as basic yielded no particular insightfulness. This work asserts that it is distinguished behind word order variation go beyond the syntactic and are to be found in studies of how the mind grammaticizes forms, processes information, and speech act theory considerations of speakers' attempts to get their hearers to build one, rather than another, mental representation of incoming information. Thus three domains must be distinguished in order to account for syntactic, cognitive and pragmatic. The works in this volume explore various aspects of this assertion.


This volume brings together 18 original papers dealing with voice-related phenomena. The languages dealt with represent both typological and geographic diversity, ranging from accusative-type languages to ergative-type and Philippine-type languages, and from Australia to Africa and Siberia. The studies presented here open up many possibilities for theorizing and offer data inviting formal treatments, but the most important contribution they make is in terms of the insights they offer for a better understanding of the fundamentals of voice phenomena.

**Subordination in Native South-American Languages** - Rik van Gijn - 2011

Printbegrössinger: Der kan printes 10 sider ad gangen og max. 40 sider pr. session.

**Reciprocal Constructions** - Vladimir P. Nedjalkov - 2007-11-06

This monograph constitutes the first comprehensive investigation of reciprocal constructions and related phenomena in the world's languages. Reciprocal constructions (of the type The two boys hit each other, The poets admire each other’s poems) have often been the subject of language-particular studies, but it is only in this work that a truly global comparative picture emerges. Nine stage-setting chapters dealing with general and theoretical matters are followed by 40 chapters containing in-depth descriptions of reciprocals in individual languages by renowned specialists.
perspectives-on-topicalization-the-case-of-japanese-wa-typological-studies-in-language

**Typology of Resultative Constructions** - Vladimir P. Nedjalkov - 1988-01-01
This volume, originally published in Russian, combines data from a wide range of languages, meticulously analyzed, with a sophisticated theoretical apparatus capable of isolating the most important syntactic and semantic parameters and of drawing those generalizations that are most significant from a cross-linguistic perspective. Many ideas which are at best only hinted at in earlier literature - such as the precise relation among resultative, perfect, and stative, or correlations between resultative and passive voice - are here for the first time stated precisely and given a firm foundation by means of detailed exemplification from a wide range of languages.

**Deconstructing Creole** - Umberto Ansald - 2007-06-22
Deconstructing Creole is a collection of studies aimed at critically assessing the idea of creole languages as a homogeneous structural type with shared and peculiar patterns of genesis. Following up on the critical discussion of notions of 'creole exceptionalism' as historical and ideological constructs, this volume tests the basic assumptions that underlie current attempts to present 'creole structure' as a special type, from typological as well as sociohistorical perspectives. The sum of the findings presented here suggests that careful empirical investigation of input varieties and contact environments can explain the structural output without recourse to an exceptional genesis scenario. Echoing calls to dissolve the notion of 'creolization' as a special diachronic process, this volume proposes that theoretically grounded approaches to the notions of simplicity, complexity, transmission, etc. do not warrant considering so-called 'creole' languages as a special synchronic type.

**Xp-Adjunction in Universal Grammar** - Ayesha Kidwai - 2000-05-04
One of the most hotly debated phenomena in natural language is that of leftward argument scrambling. This book investigates the properties of Hindi-Urdu scrambling to show that it must be analyzed as uniformly a focality-driven XP-adjunction operation. It proposes a novel theory of binding and coreference that not only derives the coreference effects in scrambled constructions, but has important consequences for the proper formulation of binding, crossover, reconstruction, and representational economy in the minimalist program. The book will be of interest not only to specialists in Hindi-Urdu syntax and/or scrambling, but to all students of generative syntax.

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"The annual Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference provides a forum for presenting research that will broaden the understanding of these two languages, especially through comparative study. The sixteenth Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference, held in October of 2006 at Kyoto University, was the first in the history of the conference to be held outside of the United States. The thirty-six papers in this volume encompass a variety of areas, such as phonetics; phonology; morphology; syntax; semantics; pragmatics; discourse analysis; and the geographical and historical factors that influence the development of languages, sociolinguistics, and psycholinguistics." - Book Jacket.

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While there are languages that code a particular grammatical role (e.g. subject or direct object) in one and the same way across the board, many more languages code the same grammatical roles differentially. The variables which condition the differential argument marking (or DAM) pertain to various properties of the NP (such as animacy or definiteness) or to event semantics or various properties of the clause. While the main line of current research on DAM is mainly synchronous the volume tackles the diachronic perspective. The tenet is that the emergence and the development of differential marking systems provide a different kind of evidence for the understanding of the phenomenon. The present volume consists of 18 chapters and primarily brings together diachronie case studies on particular languages or language groups including e.g. Finno-Ugric, Sino-Tibetan and Japonic languages.

**Diachrony of differential argument marking** - Ilja A. Serzant - 2018
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Natural Language Generation in Artificial Intelligence and Computational Linguistics - Cecile L. Paris - 2013-03-14

One of the aims of Natural Language Processing is to facilitate the use of computers by allowing their users to communicate in natural language. There are two important aspects to person-machine communication: understanding and generating. While natural language understanding has been a major focus of research, natural language generation is a relatively new and increasingly active field of research. This book presents an overview of the state of the art in natural language generation, describing both new results and directions for new research. The principal emphasis of natural language generation is not only to facilitate the use of computers but also to develop a computational theory of human language ability. In doing so, it is a tool for extending, clarifying and verifying theories that have been put forth in linguistics, psychology and sociology about how people communicate. A natural language generator will typically have access to a large body of knowledge from which to select information to present to users as well as numerator of expressing it. Generating a text can thus be seen as a problem of ways denotation units (IUs) as basic units of discourse production and information flow in spoken communication. It addresses various research topics: clause vs. phrase centrality, relationship between IUs and clauses, functions of independent NPs, preferred argument/clause structure and transitivity, interrelationship among functional components, and the role of new and interactional information in the shaping of IU syntax. Overall, it tries to elucidate not only the preferred IU structures that are typical of the way Japanese speakers talk in connected discourse, but also possible relationships between the structures and their implications. Besides three main chapters discussing the results of quantitative and qualitative analyses, it also includes an introductory chapter comprehensively covering key issues in research on information flow in spoken discourse in general. Thus the book will be useful to all students and researchers of functional linguistics and discourse analysis.

Intonation Units in Japanese Conversation - Kazuko Matsumoto - 2003-10-31

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Describing Morphosyntax - Thomas E. Payne - 1997-16-05

Of the 6000 languages now spoken throughout the world around 3000 may become extinct during the next century. This guide gives linguists the tools to describe them, syntactically and grammatically, for future reference.

Defining Pragmatics - Mira Ariel - 2010-06-24

Research surveys in Linguistics in large domains of theoretical and empirical linguistics, scholarly communication needs are directly comparable to those in analytical and natural sciences. Conspicuously lacking in the inventory publications for linguists, compared to those in the sciences, are concise, single-authored, non-textbook reviews of rapidly evolving areas of inquiry. Research Surveys in Linguistics is intended to fill this gap. It consists of well-chosen volumes that focus on topics of significant theoretical interest on which there has been a proliferation of research in the last two decades. The goal is to provide an efficient overview and entry into the primary literature for linguists - both advanced students and researchers - who wish to move into, or stay literate in, the areas covered. Series authors are recognized authorities on the subject matter as well as clear, highly organized writers. Each book offers the reader relatively tight structuring in sections and subsections and a detailed index for ease of orientation. Although there is no shortage of definitions for pragmatics (context-dependence, nontruthconditional, implicitness, etc.), the received wisdom is that "pragmatics" simply cannot be coherently defined. In this approach, challenge is to redefine the prominent definitions of pragmatics, as well as the widely held assumption that specific topics - implicatures, deixis, speech acts, politeness - naturally and uniformly belong on the pragmatics turf. She reconstitutes the field, defining grammar as a set of conventional codes, and pragmatics as a set of inferences, rationally derived. The book applies this division of labor between codes and inferences to many classic examples, from both phenomena, and even to phenomena considered "beyond pragmatics." Surprisingly, although some of these turn out pragmatic, others actually turn out grammatical. Additional intriguing questions addressed in the book include: Why is it sometimes difficult to distinguish grammar from pragmatics? Why is there no grand design behind grammar or behind pragmatics? Are all extragrammatical phenomena pragmatic? Includes a basic introduction to the main topics in pragmatics Shows how different approaches to pragmatics can be integrated with each other Based on natural, attested examples, from many languages Extra examples are available online at www.cambridge.org/ariel "In a masterful confrontation with decades of received wisdom, Mira Ariel redefines the proper task of pragmatics in a simple, crystal-clear way. An essential read." -Arie Verheugen, Leiden University Centre for Linguistics "A new way to unify the field of linguistic pragmatics. Ariel critically surveys ten criteria for defining pragmatics, and argues for equating it with inferential as opposed to encoded meaning. She then shows how to apply the definition to the complete range of topics taken to constitute pragmatics in a broad sense." -Nancy Hedberg, Simon Fraser University

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**Formal Evidence in Grammaticalization Research** - An Van Linden - 2010

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**Creoles, Their Substrates, and Language Typology** - Claire Lefebvre - 2011-01-01

Since creole languages draw their properties from both their substrate and superstrate sources, the typological classification of creoles has long been a major issue for creolists, typologists, and linguists in general. Several contradictory proposals have been put forward in the literature. For example, creole languages typologically pair with their superstrate languages (Chaudenson 2003), with their substrate languages (Lefebvre 1998), or even, creole languages are alike (Bickerton 1984) such that they constitute a definable typological class (McWhorter 1998). This book contains 25 chapters bearing on detailed comparisons of some 30 creoles and their substrate languages. As the substrate languages of these creoles are typologically different, the detailed investigation of substrate features in the creoles leads to a particular answer to the question of how creoles should be classified typologically. The bulk of the data show that creoles reproduce the typological features of their substrate languages. This argues that creoles cannot be claimed to constitute a definable typological class.

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**Passivization and Typology** - Werner Abraham - 2006-09-20

Is the passive a unified universal phenomenon? The claim derived from this volume is that the passive, if not universal, has become unified according to function. Language as a means of communication needs the passive, or passive-like constructions, and sooner or later develops them based on other voices (impersonal active, middle, reflexive), specific semantic meanings such as adversativity, or tense-aspect categories (stative, perfect, preterit). Certain contributors review the passives in various languages and language groups, including languages rarely discussed. Another group of contributors takes a novel approach to the classification within a broad typological perspective. Among the languages discussed are Vedic, Irish, Mandarin Chinese, Thai, Lithuanian, Mordvin, and Ngonasan, next to almost all European languages. Various theoretical frameworks such as Optimality Theory, Modern Structuralist Approaches, Role and Reference Grammar, Cognitive Semantics, Distributed Morphology, and Case Grammar have been applied by the different authors.

**The Syntax of American Sign Language** - Carol Jan Neidle - 2000

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