

# CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	page	viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>		xi
<i>Transcription conventions</i>		xii
<b>1 Introduction: linguistic forms and functions</b>		<b>1</b>
1.1 The functions of language		1
1.1.1 <i>The transactional view</i>		1
1.1.2 <i>The interactional view</i>		2
1.2 Spoken and written language		4
1.2.1 <i>Manner of production</i>		4
1.2.2 <i>The representation of discourse: texts</i>		5
1.2.3 <i>Written texts</i>		6
1.2.4 <i>Spoken texts</i>		9
1.2.5 <i>The relationship between speech and writing</i>		12
1.2.6 <i>Differences in form between written and spoken language</i>		14
1.3 Sentence and utterance		19
1.3.1 <i>On 'data'</i>		20
1.3.2 <i>Rules versus regularities</i>		22
1.3.3 <i>Product versus process</i>		23
1.3.4 <i>On 'context'</i>		25
<b>2 The role of context in interpretation</b>		<b>27</b>
2.1 Pragmatics and discourse context		27
2.1.1 <i>Reference</i>		28
2.1.2 <i>Presupposition</i>		28
2.1.3 <i>Implicatures</i>		31
2.1.4 <i>Inference</i>		33
2.2 The context of situation		35
2.2.1 <i>Features of context</i>		36
2.2.2 <i>Co-text</i>		46
2.3 The expanding context		50
2.4 The principles of 'local interpretation' and of 'analogy'		58

## Contents

3	<b>Topic and the representation of discourse content</b>	68
3.1	Discourse fragments and the notion 'topic'	68
3.2	Sentential topic	70
3.3	Discourse topic	71
3.3.1	<i>Topic framework</i>	73
3.3.2	<i>Presupposition pools</i>	79
3.3.3	<i>Sentential topic and the presupposition pool</i>	81
3.4	Relevance and speaking topically	83
3.5	Speaker's topic	87
3.6	Topic boundary markers	94
3.6.1	<i>Paragraphs</i>	95
3.6.2	<i>Paratones</i>	100
3.7	Discourse topic and the representation of discourse content	106
3.8	Problems with the proposition-based representation of discourse content	114
3.9	Memory for text-content: story-grammars	116
3.10	Representing text-content as a network	121
4	<b>'Staging' and the representation of discourse structure</b>	125
4.1	The linearisation problem	125
4.2	Theme	126
4.3	Thematisation and 'staging'	133
4.3.1	<i>'Staging'</i>	134
4.3.2	<i>'Theme' as main character/topic entity</i>	134
4.3.3	<i>Titles and thematisation</i>	139
4.3.4	<i>Thematic structure</i>	140
4.3.5	<i>Natural order and point of view</i>	144
4.3.6	<i>Theme, thematisation and 'staging'</i>	148
5	<b>Information structure</b>	153
5.1	The structure of information	153
5.1.1	<i>Information structure and the notion 'given/new' in intonation</i>	153
5.1.2	<i>Halliday's account of information structure: information units</i>	154
5.1.3	<i>Halliday's account of information structure: tone groups and tonics</i>	155
5.1.4	<i>Identifying the tone group</i>	157
5.1.5	<i>The tone group and the clause</i>	159
5.1.6	<i>Pause-defined units</i>	160
5.1.7	<i>The function of pitch prominence</i>	164
5.2	Information structure and syntactic form	169

5.2.1	<i>Given/new and syntactic form</i>	169
5.2.2	<i>Information structure and sentence structure</i>	176
5.3	<i>The psychological status of 'givenness'</i>	179
5.3.1	<i>What does 'given' mean?</i>	179
5.3.2	<i>A taxonomy of information status</i>	182
5.3.3	<i>The information status taxonomy applied to data</i>	184
5.4	<i>Conclusion</i>	188
6	<b>The nature of reference in text and in discourse</b>	190
6.1	<i>What is 'text'?</i>	190
6.1.1	<i>'Cohesion'</i>	191
6.1.2	<i>Endophora</i>	199
6.1.3	<i>Substitution</i>	201
6.2	<i>Discourse reference</i>	204
6.2.1	<i>Reference and discourse representations</i>	206
6.2.2	<i>Referring expressions</i>	208
6.3	<i>Pronouns in discourse</i>	214
6.3.1	<i>Pronouns and antecedent nominals</i>	215
6.3.2	<i>Pronouns and antecedent predicates</i>	216
6.3.3	<i>Pronouns and 'new' predicates</i>	218
6.3.4	<i>Interpreting pronominal reference in discourse</i>	221
7	<b>Coherence in the interpretation of discourse</b>	223
7.1	<i>Coherence in discourse</i>	223
7.2	<i>Computing communicative function</i>	226
7.3	<i>Speech acts</i>	231
7.4	<i>Using knowledge of the world</i>	233
7.5	<i>Top-down and bottom-up processing</i>	234
7.6	<i>Representing background knowledge</i>	236
7.6.1	<i>Frames</i>	238
7.6.2	<i>Scripts</i>	241
7.6.3	<i>Scenarios</i>	245
7.6.4	<i>Schemata</i>	247
7.6.5	<i>Mental models</i>	250
7.7	<i>Determining the inferences to be made</i>	256
7.8	<i>Inferences as missing links</i>	257
7.9	<i>Inferences as non-automatic connections</i>	260
7.10	<i>Inferences as filling in gaps or discontinuities in interpretation</i>	265
7.11	<i>Conclusion</i>	270
	<i>References</i>	272
	<i>Subject index</i>	284
	<i>Author index</i>	286