

CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	vii
1. Some theoretical and methodological preliminaries	1
1.1 Scope of the work	1
1.2 Time and language	2
1.3 Location in time	7
1.4 Tense as grammaticalised location in time	9
1.5 Tense and deixis	13
1.6 Basic and secondary meanings	18
1.7 Meaning and implicature	23
1.8 Tense, grammar, and discourse	26
2. Absolute tense	36
2.1 Present tense	36
2.2 Past tense	41
2.3 Future tense	43
2.4 Binary tense systems	48
2.5 Tenseless languages	50
2.6 Combinations of absolute tenses	53
3. Relative tense	56
3.1 Pure relative tense	56
3.2 Absolute-relative tense	64
4. Degrees of remoteness	83
5. Tense and syntax	102
5.1 Tense neutralisation	102
5.2 Sequence of tenses	104
5.3 Indirect speech in English and Russian	107

Contents

5.4 Future time reference in English subordinate clauses 117

6. Conclusion: Towards a formal theory of tense 122

6.1 Absolute tense 122

6.2 Relative tense 124

6.3 Combined absolute-relative tense 125

6.4 Degrees of remoteness 129

6.5 Tense combinations 129

6.6 Conclusion 130

References 131

Index of languages 134

Index of names 136

Index of subjects 138