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Review Of "Syntax And The Lexicon" By T. Stowell And E. Wehrli

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Review

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('Diglossia', Word 15.325–40, 1959) as characterizing diglossia: compared to CC, LC has superior prestige, possesses a long literary heritage, is standardized, has a more complex grammar and a more discriminating lexicon, and the position of the two varieties has been stable for at least 150 years. Nevertheless, according to the authors, the Czech case cannot be considered a classic diglossia: the difference between CC and LC does not prevent less educated speakers from understanding LC without first studying it, and as to function, even professional conversations may be and are carried on in CC.

As a distinct variety, CC was recognized and briefly described by Bohuslav Havránek in the mid-1930s, and it received increased attention after the war. And it may be of interest to note that many studies of spoken Czech have been published outside the home country; examples are those by Louise B. Hammer (e.g. Prague colloquial Czech: A case study in code-switching, Indiana University dissertation, 1985), Henry Kučera (e.g. The phonology of Czech, The Hague: Mouton, 1961), and Charles E. Townsend (e.g. A description of spoken Prague Czech, Columbus, OH: Slavica, 1990). Part of the reason is that foreigners who wish to understand spoken Czech and speak it informally must become familiar with its structure.

Variation in language is a competent work written for specialists. It would therefore not be of much use to anyone needing to gain a practical knowledge of CC. The manuscript was completed in 1988, but the book did not appear until 1992, three years after the change in government. Even so, the authors state in the Preface (dated May 1990) that they 'prefer to publish the text without any modifications, i.e. in the wording formulated before the political change' (vi). Whether or not such modifications would have been extensive, the authors should have justified their stated preference. The text is appended by notes to chapters (256-304), sample dialogues collected by Louise Hammer in 1985 (305-21), references (322-58), and indexes. [ZDENEK SALZMANN, Northern Arizona University.]

Syntax and the lexicon. Ed. by TIM STOWELL and ERIC WEHRLI. (Syntax and semantics, 26.) San Diego: Academic Press, 1992. Pp. xii, 298. Paper \$45.00.

These articles are the result of a workshop held at UCLA in winter, 1988, for the purpose of gathering together prominent scholars working on the lexicon in its relation to the syntax in an attempt to explore major theoretical controversies.

Following the editors' 'Introduction' (1–8), TIM STOWELL's 'The role of the lexicon in syntactic theory' (9–20) outlines predicate-argument structure (discussing alignment principles for mapping θ -roles into structural positions, and problems for such principles), theories of the structure of the lexicon (with focus on the morphology and syntax interfaces), and a selection of lexical rules that affect argument structure.

We then turn to two articles on the debate over whether syntactic NP movement exists. Adriana Belletti, in 'Agreement and case in past participle clauses in Italian' (21-44), argues for a movement rule that affects the alignment of θ -roles and structural positions. Joan Bresnan & Jonni M. Kanerva, in 'Locative inversion in Chicheŵa: A case study of factorization in grammar' (53-102), argue that these inversion constructions are best analyzed without movement by recognizing that a phrase can have dual status—for example as topic and subject (as the PP does), or as object and discourse focus (as the postverbal NP does). Tim Stowell comments on Belletti, showing how her analysis calls for syntactic movement in passives. PAUL SCHACHTER comments on Bresnan & Kanerva, challenging their version of the thematic hierarchy and the analysis of the PP as a subject. Bresnan & Kanerva respond to Schachter.

Two other articles deal with the relationship of lexical argument structure to syntactic structure. Malka Rappaport Hovav & Beth Levin, in '-er nominals: Implications for the theory of argument structure' (127-54), argue that agentive formation is sensitive to the presence of an external argument in the predicate-argument structure of the verb (the root of the agentive), but not to any particular θ -role. They say this supports their claim that θ -roles are not annotated in predicate-argument structure. RAY JACKENDOFF, in 'Babe Ruth homered his way into the hearts of America' (155–78), argues that the syntactic form of the way construction reverses the hierarchical relation between the conceptual main V and manner V, and that this is captured by mapping rules from conceptual into syntactic structure. ALEC MARANTZ comments on Jackendoff, giving an alternative analysis in which the direct object measures out the action it denotes, so that Jackendoff's mapping rules are not needed.

The final two articles concern binding theory and its relation to predicate-argument structure. Edwin Williams ('θ-Theory as Binding Theory', 189–210) argues that θ-roles are involved in binding relations. For example, when a V θ-marks its object, it coindexes the external and internal θ-roles, so the first binds the second. Maria Luisa Zubizarreta, in 'The lexical encoding of scope relations among arguments' (211–58), proposes that scope relations between arguments are set at a certain lexical structure level and preserved in syntactic structure. Kyle Johnson comments on Zubizarreta, challenging her theory and claiming that syntactic structure is the key to the scope dependency.

While no consensus was reached (nor should have been, given the developments in the controversies since then), the original goal of the workshop, as reflected in this volume, was admirably met. [Donna Jo Napoli, Swarthmore College.]

Speech perception, production and linguistic structure. Ed. by Yoh'ichi Tohkura, Erik Vatikiotis-Bateson, and Yoshinori Sagisaka. Burke, VA: IOS Press (Tokyo: Ohmsha), 1992. Pp. xiv, 463. Cloth 8.800 Yen.

These papers were presented in Japan in November, 1990, at a workshop coinciding with the International Conference on Spoken Language Processing. This volume will appeal most strongly to psycholinguists and phoneticians. The number of papers dealing with Japanese will please anyone concerned that our theories are biased towards English. The book is divided into two parts—twelve chapters on perception and nine on production and linguistic structure—and the chapters are arranged in six sections, each concluded by one to four commentaries. There is no general introduction.

In the first section, 'Contextual effects in vowel perception', Sumi Shigeno (3-20) and Masato Akagi (63-78) investigate the influence of categorical membership and temporal proximity in the perception of similar sounds. Robert Allen Fox (21-42) argues that knowledge of a language's morphophonemic rules affects perception, and Caroline B. Huang (43-

62) shows the importance of vowel trajectories in distinguishing similar vowels.

The second section is 'Perceptual normalization of talker differences'. Tatsuya Hirahara & Hiroaki Kato (89–112) look at the role of F_0 in vowel normalization; Howard C. Nusbaum & Todd M. Morin (113–34) suggest that we use two different techniques for normalizing, depending on the amount of variability in what we hear.

The papers in the third section, on 'Perception and learning of non-native language', address the questions stated by Howard C. Nusbaum & LEE LISA (265-74): 'Why is it so easy for children to learn the sounds of their native language? Why is it so difficult for adults to learn the phonology of a new language?' REIKO A. YAMADA & YOH'ICHI TOHKURA (155-74) and Scott E. Lively, David B. Pisoni, & JOHN S. LOGAN (175-96) focus on Japanese speakers' difficulties in distinguishing English /r/ and /l/. Winifred Strange (197-220) reviews recent research on the effect of language instruction on adults' perception of nonnative contrasts. Jacques Mehler & Anne Christophe (221–8) bring the area of language acquisition into the discussion of perception; they believe that, 'although there is a universal basis to language acquisition, the acquisition itself is different for different languages'. For me, the most interesting paper was by PATRICIA K. Kuhl (239-64), who shows that, within the first six months of life, a child has formed a primitive representation of the vowel system of the language it is hearing.

The second part of the book, on 'Speech production and linguistic structure', is introduced by two papers. John J. Ohala (297–312) comes at the issues from an unexpected angle, relating the methodology of spoken language research to that of historical linguistics. HIROYA FUJISAKI (313–28) presents a quantitative model of the production of pitch contours.

In the section 'Articulatory studies', Kevin G. Munhall, J. Randall Flanagan, & David J. Ostry (329–40) propose two- (as opposed to one-) dimensional measurement of articulatory activities. Erik Vatikiotis-Bateson & Janet Fletcher (341–58) consider the complexity of effects on prosody, and Mary E. Beckman & Jan Edwards (359–76) investigate different mechanisms of lengthening and stress.

In the final section, 'Acoustic studies', Nobuyoshi Kaiki & Yoshinori Sagisaka (391–402) and Nick Campbell (403–18) exam-