Abstracts of 23 addresses given at the Sixteenth Annual Conference on Linguistics are presented in this report. The papers given at the conference deal with French, American English, English, Japanese, Cantonese, Latin, and Proto-Indo-European and cover a wide variety of topics, including dialectology, form classes, grammar, and semantics. The complete program of the conference is also included. (RL)
PROGRAM

Sixteenth Annual
Conference On Linguistics

Sponsored by
THE INTERNATIONAL LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION

March 13-14, 1971

Saturday
9:00 A.M. to 5:15 P.M.

Sunday
9:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

CARNEGIE INTERNATIONAL CENTER
345 East 46th Street (Between 1st and 2nd Avenues)
NEW YORK CITY

Admission Fee: $2.00
Students: $1.00

Conference Committee: James Macris, Chairman
John P. Hughes    Paul M. Lloyd    Maurice P. Riedman
First Session — Saturday, 13 March 1571, 9:00 A.M.

Opening Remarks . . . Eugenio CHANG-RODRIGUEZ, Queens College, City University of New York
President of The International Linguistic Association

1. Dorothy BRODIN, Herbert H. Lehman College, City University of New York
   Tu or Vous? (10 min.)

2. Mary Margaret HEISER, Brown University
   A Diasystem of Four Southcentral French Dialects (20 min.)

3. J. L. DILLARD, Yeshiva University
   Lay My Isogloss Bundle Down: The Contribution of Black English to American Dialectology (15 min.)

   Articulatory Phonetics: Problems of Classification (20 min.)

5. Patrice L. FRENCH, Vanderbilt University
   Toward an Explanation of Phonetic Symbolism (20 min.)

6. Yutaka KUSANAGI, University of Hawaii
   A Functor-Argument Approach to the Japanese Morpheme wa (15 min.)

7. Diana L. KAO, The City College, City University of New York
   Measure Words in Cantonese (20 min.)

8. David H. KELLY, Montclair State College
   Tense in the Latin Independent Optative (20 min.)

Second Session — Saturday, 13 March, 1:45 P.M.

9. L. G. HELLER, The City College, City University of New York, and James MACRIS, Clark University and College of the Holy Cross
   Structuralism: Implicit, Explicit, and Multiplicit (20 min.)

10. Jeff SEGALL, Long Island City High School, New York City
    A Contribution to Parametric Theory (15 min.)

11. Robert L. ALLEN, Teachers College, Columbia University
    On Linguistic Metafunctions (20 min.)

12. Sayo YOTSUKURA, Arlington, Virginia
    Deep Structure in Tagmemics (20 min.)

INTERMISSION — FREE COFFEE SERVICE
13. Ralph L. WARD, Hunter College, City University of New York
   Thirteen, Fourteen, and Eighteen
   in American English (10 min.)

14. Roger W. WESCOTT, Drew University
   Proto-Indo-European Color Terms (15 min.)

15. B. ROCHET, University of Alberta
   A Sociocultural Solution to a Linguistic Puzzle (20 min.)

16. Jang H. KOO, University of Alaska
   Language Universals and the Acquisition of an
   Unfamiliar Sound (15 min.)

Banquet — Saturday, 13 March 1971, 8:00 P.M.

   Presidential Address
   E. venio CHANG-RODRIGUEZ, Literature and Linguistics

Third Session — Sunday, 14 March 1971, 9:00 A.M.

17. William A. COATES, Kansas State University
   Foreign Language in My Dreams (20 min.)

18. B. Hunter SMEATON, University of Calgary
   Morphemicity, Prosody, and Communication (20 min.)

19. Paolo VALESIO, Harvard University
   On Metrical Theory (20 min.)

20. Carlos H. MONSANTO, University of Houston
   The Dramatic Usage of Popular Language in the
   Plays of Antonio Acevedo Hernandez (20 min.)

21. Adrienne LEHRER, University of Rochester
   Static and Dynamic Elements in Semantics (20 min.)

22. Richard E. BOSWELL, State University of New York at Binghamton
   Toward a Grammaticosemantics (20 min.)

23. Daniel E. GULSTAD, University of Missouri
   Toward a Grammar of Discourse: A Revised
   Generative Model (20 min.)
BOOK EXHIBIT

All those attending the Conference are invited to examine the books on language and linguistics displayed in the exhibit area. Among the firms participating in the current book exhibit are the following: A.M.S. Press; Cambridge University Press; Center for Curriculum Development; Educators Publishing Service; Four Continent Book Corporation; Harper & Row; McGill University Press; Ohio State University Press; Penguin Books; Saint Martin's Press; Southern Illinois University Press; Springer-Verlag New York; University of Alabama Press; University of Chicago Press; University of Michigan Press; University Press of Virginia; University of Texas Press; and Yale University Press.

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Meetings: Regular afternoon meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month, October through May, at the Carnegie International Center, 345 E. 46th St., New York City. In addition, the Annual Conference provides a broader forum for the reading of papers and exchange of ideas.

Publications: The journal WORD, three issues per year, with occasional supplements. Address manuscripts to James Macris, I.L.A., Department of English, Clark University, Worcester, Mass. 01610.

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TU OR VOUS?

Dorothy Brodin, Herbert H. Lehman College, City University of New York

The use of *tu* in French has always been extremely complex. Going far beyond what can be easily described in grammars and textbooks, it has important cultural and sociological implications. Although its use today is much more widespread than it was even twenty or thirty years ago, it remains a form of address to be used carefully, especially by non-French speakers.
In his 1954 article "Is a Structural Dialectology Possible?", Uriel Weinreich criticizes the lack of structural linguistic methods in dialectology. He is concerned with dialect studies in which the phonetic differences in dialects are studied and compared without reference to, or analysis of, the phonemic systems which these phonetic elements comprise. Yet, at the same time, Weinreich is aware of the limitations and complications of structural linguistics when its procedures are applied to the investigation of different systems. Hence, he proposes the diasystem as a way to compare related phonemic systems. In this paper I use a modified and expanded notion of the diasystem to present an overall phonological description of four discrete but related dialects in the Massif Central area of France. Paralleling the phonemic and allophonic levels of any one dialect are the diaphonemic and diaphonetic levels of a higher abstract nature. The diaphonemic level establishes whether the four varieties of speech do or do not have parallel sets of phonemes, and the diaphonetic level examines the physical realizations of the phonemes of the diasystem. This graphic representation of the four dialects brings to prominence the phonological homogeneity and diversity among them.
Because, until recently, dialectology has been virtually limited to dialect geography, Black American English has been gratuitously denominated a "Southern" dialect. Recent research shows, however, that it was in the North as early as—or even earlier than—in the South. The failure of dialect geography to provide for this variety suggests that the whole concept of dialect geography—at least as applied to a situation like that of the United States—is faulty. The Linguistic Atlas seems to have constructed artificial speech communities in order to be able to identify them by purely geographic procedures. Labov's Social Stratification showed that those procedures would not work in the cities; but even Labov tried, initially, to make the same indices serve for the New York City working class and for Blacks. Pidgin- and Creole-derived varieties in general exhibit this "failure" to fit the regional-becomes-social dialect pattern, and thus seem to prove that such pattern is not adequate in terms of generality.
ARTICULATORY PHONETICS: PROBLEMS OF CLASSIFICATION

Marshall D. Berger, The City College, City University of New York

In the teaching of articulatory phonetics, one discovers that students are frequently exposed to widely varying approaches to physiological description and classification. Handbooks and textbooks in the field derive their articulatory schemata from highly diverse vantage points: traditional continental European and British phonetics, American speech (normative and therapeutic) phonetics, and various linguistic (phonemic and phonological) approaches. Each one of these seems to have been developed in splendid isolation from the others, with its own elaboration of the physiological facts and its own underlying assumptions and goals. One consequence has been steadily increasing chaos in the areas of nomenclature and terminology. In this paper I undertake to clarify some of the more important issues and to unify many of the existing approaches under a single phonological rubric.
TOWARD AN EXPLANATION OF PHONETIC SYMBOLISM

Patrice L. French, Vanderbilt University

An attempt is made to explain the consistent and repeatable results of phonetic symbolism experiments executed by the Sapir method in terms of linguistic opposition, forced choice testing, crossmodal association, and the association behavior of nonsense syllables. A group of phonetic symbolism, synesthetic, and semantic differential studies produced two groups of semantic qualities which were internally coherent and mutually exclusive. Because other similar studies not utilized in the synthesis of these clusters also coincided almost exactly and none disagreed notably, a semantic factor influencing responses indirectly in phonetic symbolism experiments was postulated and specific psychological mechanisms suggested.

In order to test this hypothesis, a new phonetic symbolism test was administered by the author, using novel stimulus words whose phonetic appropriateness was predicted by semantic similarity to the clusters. Results were according to prediction.
In Japanese, there are two different "case markers" appearing in the position of subject:

(1) watakusiga iku 'I will go'
(2) watakusiwa iku 'I will go'

The choice of one over another is one of the most difficult tasks for non-native speakers studying Japanese, because it seems to be complicatedly conditioned by meaning and environment. Native speakers know the distinction between the above two sentences intuitively, but they normally fail to explain it. Moreover, the wa substitutes for, or is added to, some other case markers.

This paper reveals that the appearance of wa is strictly conditioned by (1) the speaker's attention to a specific part of the sentence, (2) the negation of a particular part of the sentence, and (3) the interrogation of one part of the sentence. I present the results of an analysis using the notions of functor, argument, and value.
MEASURE WORDS IN CANTONFSE

Diana L. Kao, The City College, City University of New York

Measure words are noun-like forms used commonly in modern Chinese in number expressions for humans, animals, places, things, and events. Somewhat similar words exist in English, such as the word sheet in "a sheet of paper" and the word head in "a head of cabbage," though they are not as extensively used in English as in Chinese.

The use of measure words in Chinese varies somewhat from one dialect to another. The present paper deals exclusively with the measure words in Cantonese, based on data collected a few years ago.

Measure words, in general, may be divided into two classes:
1. nominal measures—for expressing units of humans, animals, places, and things, and 2. verbal measures—for expressing frequency of events or activities. In the first class, a measure is used in connection with a noun; in the second, with a verb. The two classes of measure words with subcategories under each will be presented with examples. The semantic implication in each case will be explained.

In addition to the distribution of measure words in number expressions, I will explore the criteria for the selection of certain measures to go with certain nouns and verbs. In doing so, I hope to analyze the underlying semantic features of various classes of nouns and verbs, and to gain a structural perspective in the semantic classifications of nouns and verbs based on the use of measure words in Cantonese.
Latin subjunctives in subordinate clauses have traditionally been explained through parataxis: subordination is a later development than the independent use of the subjunctive. Generative grammarians, on the other hand, in their work with abstract verbs speculate that independent subjunctives themselves function as clauses embedded in higher predicates.

By permitting the semantic category TENSE to occur with the abstract predicate VEL, we can explain the four tenses found in the independent optative in Latin. Contrast for example: valeant cives mei 'may my fellow citizens fare well' and utinam te di prius perderent quam periisti e patria tua!'would that the gods had made away with you before you were lost to your country.' Both clauses are embedded in a higher predicate VEL; they are complements in the object position.

The temporal standpoint of the speaker becomes crucial to the difference in actual tenses. An association of [PAST] with VEL and of [FUTURE] with PERDERE according to the customary rules of sequence of tenses will generate the imperfect perderent. Similarly a [PRESENT] and a [FUTURE] will result in valeant. Comparable arguments can account for the perfect and pluperfect subjunctives of the independent optative.
STRUCTURALISM: IMPLICIT, EXPLICIT, AND MULTIPLICIT

Louis G. Heller, The City College, City University of New York
James Macris, Clark University and College of the Holy Cross

We intend to show that the concept, and thereby the treatment, of structuralism has been extremely shallow. The early "syntactic structuralists" of the 1940s contrasted their own approach with what they viewed as the nonstructuralism of the Graeco-Latin grammarians. Actually, as seen from a broader perspective, they were contrasting explicit structuralism not with nonstructuralism but rather with implicit (intuitive) structuralism. In more recent times, generative-transformationalists have attacked the so-called "structuralists." In actuality, however, they themselves are structuralists, but structuralists of a sometimes different kind. Indeed, we maintain that all of the modern linguistic orientations are structural.

This paper discusses the general types of structuralism which are prevalent, as well as the fact that unidimensional structuralism is now giving way to multidimensional (multiplicit) structuralism, as exemplified by parametric theory. As we achieve this depth of structural description, we reach the fringes of a science that is not purely a descriptive methodology but that has inherent in it the predictability factor.
A CONTRIBUTION TO PARAMETRIC THEORY

Jeff Segall, Long Island City High School, New York City

An enlargement of the theory of parametrics in linguistics is proposed. It is argued that where a systemic imbalance occurs, filling in of holes or the elimination of parameters is not all there is to be said. The phoneme causing the imbalance may be eliminated while retaining all the parameters which it manifests. The main example cited is loss of /s/ in Spanish in all but intervocalic or initial position. The maintenance of /s/ in the system is not well supported since there is no contrastive /z/, while the pairs /p/ ~ /b/, /t/ ~ /d/, and /k/ ~ /g/ form voiced - voiceless oppositions.

It is further argued that morphological factors are overridden by phonological ones, as is clearly seen when we note that /-s/ is (or was) of extreme importance in noun, adjective and verb morphology, and yet is vanishing in certain dialects of Puerto Rican Spanish.
ON LINGUISTIC METAFUNCTIONS

Robert L. Allen, Teachers College, Columbia University

The tagmeme has been described as a functional point at which a set of items and/or sequences occur. But in my Verb System I suggest that certain functions (such as nominals) involve not only sets of items but sets of functional points as well. For such functions I propose the label metafunctons. Thus MODIFICATION is a metafunction: the modifier of a noun may either precede it (as in the red-haired boy) or follow it (as in the boy with red hair).

The primary use of modification appears to be for identification--that is, to distinguish between two or more items, as in "I want the long pencil" (as opposed to "the short pencil"). The primary use of PREDICATION is to provide new information (about some nominal in the sentence); it, too, can be manifested in different positions and by different forms, as exemplified by the underlined units in the sentence "Looking out of the window, Mrs. Carter, the owner of the house, saw a man jump from the roof."

There is one metafunction which has been traditionally classed under modification but which is probably closer to predication--but predication about non-nominal units. In the sentence Bill is shy around girls, for example, the phrase around girls adds new information about Bill's shyness: that is, around girls forms what I call a CONSOCIATION with shy. Proof that shy around girls is all one construction is to be found in the fact that we can modify it with the word too: Bill is too shy around girls to catch a wife.

The recognition of these and other metafunctions makes possible the analysis of such linguistic phenomena as "topic-comment" sentences, "stylistic devices," and shifts in stress patterns.
DEEP STRUCTURE IN TAGMEMICS

Sayo Yotsukura, Arlington, Virginia

Walter A. Cook proposed the use of Fillmore's case grammar as a deep structure in tagmemic analysis. A glance at his paper made me wonder why he had to turn to case grammar in order to give a deep structure to tagmemic analysis, considering that Pike had already provided his idea of hyperunits to fulfill a similar function in his grammar. This idea of hyperunits as a whole does not seem to be given proper attention in the development of tagmemic theory. On the contrary, as Pike says, "in many recent publications on tagmemics, the term hypertagmememe has been dropped (under Longacre's influence) and authors are referring to 'tagmemes on various levels'". It would be appropriate to give more thought to the idea of hyperunits in general, and of hypertagmemes in particular, in order to find more depth in tagmemics than is usually assumed.

This paper seeks to elaborate and amplify the idea of Pike's hyperunits and to develop it as the deep structure of tagmemics. The term deep structure also needs elaboration. Pike's idea of pyramided hierarchy could be considered to be comprised of many layers, each of which describes features at each stage of depth—and the deepest layer must be THE deep structure. Tagmemics should not be equated with the description of surface structures.
THIRTEEN, FOURTEEN, AND EIGHTEEN IN AMERICAN ENGLISH

Ralph L. Ward, Hunter College, City University of New York

In this paper I maintain that, though unrecognized by any dictionary, the prevailing pronunciation of these three numerals is with a medial double t (phonetically a long t), that is, as if thirt-teen, fourt-teen, eight-teen, in standard speech—as typified, say, by announcers for the broadcasting networks, and that this pronunciation is typical for the Middle Atlantic States, the Middle West, and California (extending also into New Brunswick and Ontario), though represented only in "relic" areas of New England. I discuss the distribution with close reference to the Linguistic Atlas of New England, the Linguistic Atlas of the Middle Atlantic States, and so forth. Then, after going into the history of these numerals in Old and Middle English, I propose the theory that, starting in eighteen from the proportion six : sixteen = seven : seventeen = eight : X, the pronunciation with double t spread, through analogy in counting, to thirteen and fourteen.
According to the most exhaustive cross-cultural analysis of color terminologies now available (Basic Color Terms, by Berlin and Kay Berkeley, 1969), color lexicons are neither arbitrary in size nor haphazard in development but appear in a fixed diachronic order of eleven terms, beginning with white and ending with grey. This paper is an attempt, using Pokorny's Indogermanisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch, to apply the Berlin-Kay analysis to Proto-Indo-European and, in the process, to account for such seeming paradoxes as the fact that, if we accept the assessments of Buck and Capell, respectively, Proto-Indo-European had a more highly evolved color vocabulary than did Homeric Greek—in violation of the lexical progression postulated by Berlin and Kay.
A SOCIOCULTURAL SOLUTION TO A LINGUISTIC PUZZLE

B. Rochet, University of Alberta

Most accounts of the merger en-an in French consider that it was complete by the end of the eleventh century or the beginning of the twelfth. This interpretation, prompted by the presence of assonances en-an in most chansons de geste, ignores two facts which might lead to a different conclusion: (1) in numerous poems of the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries, words in en and an are consistently kept separate in rhyme; (2) several grammarians of the sixteenth century indicate clearly that there still existed a difference at that time between en and an.

Former attempts to deal with this apparent contradiction in the data are examined and a new solution is proposed, within a framework which incorporates the concept of systematic variation. Literary and sociological considerations supported by a reevaluation of the data lead to the conclusion that the merger en-an must have been achieved much earlier for casual speech and lower classes than for more cautious styles.

The merit of a diachronic study which closely studies the transition from one system to another, however, is not only to give a more detailed and realistic presentation of a particular change, or to explain apparent contradictions in the data; it can also help cast some light on general questions of theoretical interest to the diachronic linguist (e.g., here, lexical and social diffusion of the change, functional load).
LANGUAGE UNIVERSALS AND THE ACQUISITION OF AN UNFAMILIAR SOUND

Jang H. Koo, University of Alaska

This study attempts to interpret the acquisition of speech sounds non-existent in the native language. This involves language transfer and linguistic interference problems.

Particular attention is given to speakers of Japanese, Korean, and Thai learning the American English phonemes /l/ and /r/. In these languages the two sounds either are not contrastive, are in free variation, or one of the sounds is totally absent. These two phones \( l \) and \( r \) are among the most difficult for those speakers to discriminate. The nature of the difficulty varies depending on the subject's native language.

The study examined which cues, if any, are significantly absent in the pronunciation of the target sounds and undertook sound spectrographic analysis to determine the acoustic cues. Attempts are made to give the phonological explanation by comparison of universal phonetic features shared by the native and target systems. A sequence of sound segments is thus interpreted in terms of distinctive features, assumed to be "superficial" details. Furthermore, the notion of deep and surface relation has been incorporated in interpreting linguistic conflict. A single underlying phonological representation is postulated for the target phoneme, the various alternating members being derived from the "deep" representation by a phonological rule.

The acquisition of a sound non-existent in one's native language either as a phoneme or as an allophone is therefore a matter of the reduction of a feature (or features) already existent or the addition of a new feature (or features) absent in his native language.
FOREIGN LANGUAGES IN MY DREAMS

William A. Coates, Kansas State University

Over a period of thirty years I have had some fifty dreams involving twenty foreign languages, plus several unknown languages. On awaking I in most cases remembered actual utterances word for word. The entire corpus will be presented in a handout and discussed by categories: correct language, errors, corrections or modifications in the dream, mixing of languages, isolated words, unknown languages (once including an entire sentence, which I understood), and so forth. In general I have often found it more difficult to use these foreign languages in dreams than I do when awake, and I have made mistakes which I would not normally make. Otherwise, my subconscious seems to function about the same way as my conscious in its use of foreign languages. Much has been said about the role of the subconscious in language learning and language use; this paper will present, for the first time so far as I know, language material produced directly by the subconscious, and thus give some insight into the workings of the subconscious in language use.
MORPHEMICITY, PROSODY AND COMMUNICATION

B. Hunter Smeaton, University of Calgary

While it is heuristically necessary that a discipline be delineated, it is a truism that, when a new approach to a subject is made, the founder's disciples more often than not take his arbitrary cutoff points literally, and a dogma results. One thus abused concept is that of the morpheme, which runs the spectrum from the tangible and concrete to an unintelligible sound sequence sometimes not even discernible as a unit. The progressive blurring of segmental morphemes would appear, then, to be a (diachronic) linguistic universal. Special attention is given in this regard to the intonational patterns of anaphoric rejoinders in dialogue and to "anchor words" (G. zwar, Ru. razvě, Eng. after all, etc.) which function both intra- and extralinguistically.
Contemporary phonological theory has been applied to the field of metrical analysis, making the distinction between metrical and unmetrical lines more systematic, but the general question, "What is a line?" has not been asked. This paper addresses itself to such a question.

The place of the metrical component within the general structure of grammar is defined primarily by two facts: the line is theoretically finite, and its higher boundaries are relevant to numerous phonological processes. This is a reversal of what happens in the grammar at large, where sentences are theoretically (i.e., at the level of competence) infinite, and where sentence boundaries are not, in general, relevant to important phonological processes.

On the other hand, a claim has been made that the metrical correctness of lines depends on their form at a certain cutoff point in the phonological derivation. But this claim does not appear valid: lines of poetry are characterized by a mixed phonological structure, which contains both underlying and surface forms.
THE DRAMATIC USAGE OF POPULAR LANGUAGE IN THE PLAYS OF
ANTONIO ACEVEDO HERNANDEZ

Carlos H. Monsanto, University of Houston

This paper begins by assessing the role of Antonio Acevedo Hernández in the evolution of Chilean drama. It indicates that he was the first to cultivate the popular drama of social protest and that he incorporated popular folklore and customs into his works. He introduced in Chile the dramatic currents of Erwin Piscator. He stimulated the creation of the first theater group exclusively devoted to the staging of social protest plays authored by Chilean dramatists, and he contributed greatly to the modernization of stage machinery. Also, he incorporated the language of the common man in his plays.

The paper then deals with the dramatic usage of popular language in the works of Antonio Acevedo Hernández.

After defining popular dramatic language, it concentrates on the following: (1) The expression of ideological messages, (2) The classification and use of symbols, (3) The usage of rhetorical techniques, and (4) Other dramatic utilization of popular language, including irony, comparisons, dramatic deceit, dramatic contrast, pathetic fallacy, humor, and physical description of characters.
STATIC AND DYNAMIC ELEMENTS IN SEMANTICS
Adrienne Lehrer, University of Rochester

Recent treatments of the meaning of lexical items indicate the senses that a word has but give little indication of what a word might come to mean and little indication of the dynamic processes by which words acquire new meanings. A careful examination of the set of terms hot-warm-cool-cold shows that although each term has a number of different ("static") meanings in a large number of different fields of discourse, each word can acquire new and usually temporary ("dynamic") meanings by virtue of its relationship to the other terms in the set. For example, the phrase a cold car has only three normal meanings. If the phrase occurs in a sentence such as He traded his hot car for a cold car, however, the phrase picks up at least two additional meanings. There are several factors which either facilitate or inhibit a word's being used in an extended sense (e.g., the desire to avoid ambiguity and confusion). The ability of a grammar (or at least the lexical component of a grammar) to handle such systematic and dynamic extensions of meaning should enter into the choice of alternative models.
TOWARD A GRAMMATICOSEMANTICS

Richard E. Boswell, State University of New York at Binghamton

Transformational grammar reduces the sentence to kernels, but it does not attempt to analyze these kernels semantically; it is content to treat them strictly in terms of traditional parts of speech. However, these kernels are equivalent to logical propositions, and with the aid of insights from logic we can analyze them in terms of subject and predicate and kinds of predications. We must only avoid falling into the traditional error of identifying logic and syntax as strictly parallel. By looking for the logical categories of language in the surface structure and then using these categories as a means of analyzing the contradictions and complexities of surface structure, we have a valid if not rigorous method for understanding how grammatical devices function. This method, referred to as grammaticosemantics, provides a means of understanding the semantics of the sentence as well by dealing with the specific areas where grammatical oppositions allow us to deduce logical ones.
TOWARD A GRAMMAR OF DISCOURSE: A REVISED GENERATIVE MODEL

Daniel E. Gulstad, University of Missouri

This is (1) a look at some debated issues in linguistic theory and (2) my own proposal for solving some of the problems at issue. Among the debated issues are: (1) If Deep Structure exists, what is it? (2) Is an NP a Quantifier + N? a Pre-NP element + Quantifier + N? a bundle of features? a Case category? a Relative Clause? (3) Are adjectives Verbals, and—if so—what kind? (4) Are modal auxiliaries a sub-part of Aux, or are they Verbs? Is there any motivation left for an Aux category? (5) How does the generation of a multiply-embedded S differ from that of a larger segment of discourse, if at all? (6) Are there sentences in Deep Structure that can only occur as embeddings? (7) Is the Generative Base syntactic? semantic? both? (8) Are passives transformed actives? VOA sentences with topicalized O? neither?

My proposal is a modified view of the generative process, claiming to generate all sentences as expansions of the recursive rules $S \rightarrow \text{Topic} + \text{Comment}, \text{Topic} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{D N (Top)} \end{cases}, \text{Comment} \rightarrow \text{Functive (Top)}$. Functive expands either as Verb + Tense or as one of the three classes Predicative (=Adjective), Case Marker (=Preposition), and Nexus (=Conjunction). Verbs are members either of a closed set (modals, etc.) or an open set (causatives, resultatives, etc.). It is not suggested that this is a complete grammar, but as an example it serves to demonstrate the left-to-right predication process that permits successive rightward adjunction without anacoluthon. My paper presents examples from English with detailed trees, generative rules, and a discussion of transformations within this theory.