

## Descriptive studies of particular languages

### English

**94–105 Monaghan, A. I. C.** What determines accentuation? A reply to Cruttenden and Faber. *Journal of Pragmatics* (Amsterdam), **19**, 6 (1993), 559–84.

This article was inspired by Cruttenden and Faber's (1991) article (henceforth 'C&F' – see abstract 91–514) on the accentuation of prepositions in English, and constitutes both a response to that article and an exposition of an alternative approach to accent placement. The first part of the present article is a critique of C&F's analysis, demonstrating the inadequacy of 'contrastivity' as an explanation for the accent placements which they observe and introducing general principles of accent placement

as alternative candidates. The second part of the article attempts to formalise these general principles, such as focus, rhythm, accentability and linear position, into a framework for determining accent placement both in C&F's data and in the general case. Subsequent sections address the issues of interpretation and markedness; the article ends with a discussion of remaining problems and how they might be tackled.

### Italian

**94–106 Repetti, Lori** (SUNY, Stony Brook). The integration of foreign loans in the phonology of Italian. *Italica* (New Brunswick, NJ), **70**, 2 (1993), 182–96.

Well-integrated loan words in Italian follow the three basic rules of Italian phonology: penultimate stress; oimoraic stressed syllable; preference for (C)VC syllable structure. In addition, only individual phonemes are borrowed; the stress pattern of the original word is assimilated to Italian metrical

rules. Further evidence of the operation of these rules is provided by English loan words in Canadian Italian. Exceptions occur when the writing system interferes with the phonological process. The way foreign loans are incorporated furnishes clues as to how the borrowing language itself functions.

### Translation

**94–107 Abu-Ssaydeh, A. F.** (U. of Bahrain). Business translation: a personal perspective. *Babel* (Budapest, Hungary), **39**, 1 (1993), 1–10.

The recent transformation of the Arabian Gulf states into a leading economic bloc and major consumer market has led to the evolution of an international banking and financial market in Bahrain. The presence of international banks, investment companies and Arab banks with global affiliations has led to expanding translation needs in the specialised register of Business English. Arab banks and businesses have traditionally relied heavily on Arabs educated in the West or trained in western financial institutions, and on expatriate staff, but neither category can cope with the production of complex documents in Arabic. Bankers themselves shun the task, so it has largely been left to professional translators, many with no previous knowledge of banking terminology, to fill the gap. They are

obliged to develop their skills with the aid of specialised dictionaries and technical advisers. Both bilingual and multilingual dictionaries still fall short of their needs, and there is also a problem in attempting to unify at the pan-Arab level equivalents chosen by individual compilers. Professional bankers, in cooperation with translators attempting to adhere to linguistic norms and the dictates of language academies, are beginning to coin their own Arabic terms, although many of these achieve only limited circulation. Translators can help by introducing clients to new dictionaries and publicising guidelines proposed by pan-Arab linguistic bodies such as the Rabat-based Bureau of Co-ordination of Arabisation.

**94–108 Vidal, Bernard** (McGill U.). Traduction et traductologie: état de la question. [Translation and translatology: the state of the matter.] *Bulletin of the CAAL* (Montreal), **15**, 1 (1993), 75–88.

This article focuses on two epistemological shifts that gave birth, in the 16th and 20th centuries respectively, to the concepts of ‘translation’ and ‘translatology’. The first term, ‘translation’, puts into place one of the principal tenets of the act of translating, that of subjection, a devaluation that resulted in a series of harmful corollaries, including the negation of all creative value in the act of translating, the invisibility of the translator, the supremacy of meaning, and finally the necessity for

an embellished duplication in the target language. The second term, ‘translatology’, recognises the creative value of the translator’s work, and acknowledges translation’s status as a newly constituted autonomous discipline by engaging in questions on the reading of translated texts, their role, their history, and their reception. Translation, through translatology, has finally defined itself within the field of knowledge.

## Lexicography

**94–109 Christian, Rosemary A. E.** Language research at the University of Birmingham. *Language International* (Amsterdam, The Netherlands), **5**, 3 (1993), 11–14.

This is an account of two areas of research activity in corpus linguistics at the University of Birmingham, COBUILD and AVIATOR, projects respectively of COBUILD Ltd and the Research and Development Unit for English Studies.

COBUILD is a collaboration project with HarperCollins, which has enabled the University to build up a very large corpus of language and then to produce new dictionaries for learners of English. It has broken new ground in many ways. A description

is given of the products and the corpus on which they are based.

AVIATOR is also a collaboration project, with the software industry. It is primarily concerned with producing software recording facts about words by means of ‘filters’ that process data from the press. It also performs automatic identification of lexical clusters (groups of words related to each other in a shared environment). A proposed adaptation would improve text retrieval for large databases.