

Comrie's argument for the impossibility of translation is based on formal equivalence, a concept which is highly debatable, particularly within Translation Studies. Second, translation has much relevance to language universals (research), because universal constraints (for example, on relative clause formation) are formulated or defined in terms of grammatical context, which will only come to light through translation. This does not come as a surprise because the mediation between language and cognition is also done through translation. The role of translation in language universals (research) is much more than a mere heuristic. Translation is crucial to language universals.

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07–152 SUÁREZ, OCTAVIO SANTANA, JOSÉ RAFAEL PÉREZ AGUIAR, LUIS LOSADA GARCÍA & FRANCISCO JAVIER CARRERAS RIUDAVETS (U Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain; fcarreras@dis.ulpgc.es), **Functional disambiguation based on syntactic structures.** *Literary and Linguistic Computing* (Oxford University Press) 21.2 (2006), 187–197. doi:10.1093/lc/fql016

This article presents a disambiguation method which diminishes the functional combinations of the words of a sentence taking into account the context in which they appear. This process is built in two phases: the first phase is based on the local syntactic structures of the Spanish language and reaches an average yield of 87%. The second one is supported by syntactic tree representation and pushes the results up to an approximate high end of 96%. This process constitutes the starting point towards an automated syntactic analysis.

<http://llc.oxfordjournals.org>

07–153 YAKHONTOVA, TATYANA (Ivan Franko National U L'viv, Ukraine), **Cultural and disciplinary variation in academic discourse: The issue of influencing factors.** *Journal of English for Academic Purposes* (Elsevier) 5.2 (2006), 153–167. doi:10.1016/j.jeap.2006.03.002

This paper demonstrates the role of disciplinary context in shaping the common rhetorical and textual features of research texts in different languages and, more broadly, problematizes the validity of straightforward sociocultural explanations of rhetorical differences frequently used in the literature. The research is based on the contrastive genre analysis of English and Slavic (Ukrainian and Russian) conference abstracts in the field of applied mathematics. The features compared include rhetorical moves revealed and identified by reference to Swales' CARS model, their textual distribution, the paragraph organization of the texts, the syntactic structure of titles, and the use of personal pronouns I/we. The findings of the investigation compared with previously obtained results in the domain of applied linguistics show essential interdisciplinary variation

between the two sets of data. This somewhat questions interpretations of rhetorical differences entirely based on the role of external determinants and highlights the importance of established traditions in various academic disciplines and cultures.

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Pragmatics

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07–154 BELLO, RICHARD (Sam Houston State U, USA; bello@shsu.edu), **Causes and paralinguistic correlates of interpersonal equivocation.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.9 (2006), 1430–1441. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2005.09.001

This paper examines the long standing theory of the Bavelas group which suggests that the only consistent cause of interpersonal equivocation is avoidance–avoidance conflict (AAC), and it also attempts to uncover a psycholinguistic profile of equivocation, especially in the form of paralinguistic cues such as dysfluencies. Participants responded orally to questions from hypothetical interlocutors within scenarios which manipulated both the presence/absence of AAC and level of situational formality. Their responses (72 messages) were audio taped, transcribed, rated for degree of equivocation, and coded for dysfluencies. Results of ANOVA showed that AAC not only resulted in more equivocation, but also that formality level interacted with AAC in influencing equivocation. Participants used filled pauses, surprisingly, in the condition within which they equivocated the least, although they produced other dysfluencies (combined) within conditions where they equivocated the most. Results are discussed in terms of the notion that filled pauses are special and in terms of interpersonal deception theory.

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07–155 BOSCO, FRANCESCA M. (Università e Politecnico di Torino, Italy; bosco@psych.unito.it), **MONICA BUCCIARELLI & BRUNO G. BARA, Recognition and repair of communicative failures: A developmental perspective.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.9 (2006), 1398–1429. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2005.06.011

The aim of our study is to analyze the cognitive processes underlying recognition and repair of communicative failures. In particular, following the tenets of Cognitive Pragmatics, a theory of the mental processes underlying the comprehension and production of communicative acts, we propose an original taxonomy of the different kinds of failure which may occur in communicative interaction: Failure of the expression act, Failure of the actor's meaning, and Failure of the communicative effect. In particular, we operationally define both recognition and repair of the

communicative failures. Finally, we predict a different trend in difficulty for the recognition and the repair of the three possible kinds of failure. The hypotheses are preliminarily confirmed by the results of an experiment conducted with children aged 3–8 years.

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07–156 BRABER, NATALIE (U Manchester, UK; natalie.braber@ntu.ac.uk), **Emotional and emotive language: Modal particles and tags in unified Berlin.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.9 (2006), 1487–1503.
doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2005.10.003

This paper endeavours to show the relationship between emotion and language, in particular with respect to the use of modal particles in German. Modal particles have long been considered insignificant fillers without a specific function and as such, not worthy of linguistic investigation. This is clearly a view which cannot be sustained. Modal particles have been found to illustrate the speaker's opinion of what is being said; in addition, they may add emphasis. Certain German modal particles (especially *halt* and *eben*) are examined as they occur in a corpus of utterances containing accounts of highly emotional events, related to East and West Berliners' experiences after the fall of the Berlin Wall and German unification. By reviewing spoken accounts of events which were life-changing for one side, but only nominal for the other, thereby producing different emotions, the article demonstrates the use of these modal particles. The analysis suggests that there is a direct link between emotion and the way these speakers of German use their language.

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07–157 CURL, TRACI S. (U York, UK; tsc3@york.ac.uk), **Offers of assistance: Constraints on syntactic design.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.8 (2006), 1257–1280.
doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2005.09.004

This conversation analytic study explicates the sequentially-specific syntactic formats of offers. The study focuses on offers made in telephone calls, in which one speaker proposes to satisfy another's want or need, or to assist in resolving a difficulty experienced by another. The analysis shows how different syntactic constructions allow speakers to foreground either themselves or their would-be recipients: speakers can display agency in initiating offers of assistance, or they can expose the implicit desires of others. Within the corpus, offers were identified as made by the caller as a reason for calling, or as generated within the course of the interaction itself, and so made by either speaker (caller or called). Interactionally-generated offers either propose to solve latent problems, or are responsive to overt problems. Reason-for-calling offers are made by using the conditional *if*. However, offers of remedy for problems educed from previous talk are always produced

with the syntactic format *do you want me to X*; and offers responsive to overt problems are never produced with *do you want*. The analysis shows how participants display an orientation, through their use of self-repair and other mechanisms, to the normative force of the distribution of the syntactic forms of offers.

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07–158 HUSSEY, KAREN A. (U Western Ontario, Canada) & **ALBERT N. KATZ, Metaphor production in online conversation: Gender and friendship status.** *Discourse Processes* (Erlbaum) 42.1 (2006), 75–98.
doi:10.1207/s15326950dp4201_3

This article details a study of metaphor production by 64 same-gender dyads engaged in 2 persuasive conversations over chat software. Dyads were comprised of friends or strangers. Overall, men produced more metaphor than women, especially slang. Metaphor production differed by gender as a function of friendship status: Men produced the same amount of metaphor when chatting with a friend or a stranger whereas women produced more metaphor when talking to friends. The more literal conversations observed between female strangers may reflect a selective use of metaphor to avoid miscommunication. For men, these data may suggest a willingness to risk being misunderstood for certain benefits, including being humorous and engaging in competitive one-upmanship with other men.

<http://www.erlbaum.com>

07–159 ISHIDA, KAZUTOH (U Hawaii at Manoa, USA; kazutoh@1994.jukuin.keio.ac.jp), **How can you be so certain? The use of hearsay evidentials by English-speaking learners of Japanese.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.8 (2006), 1281–1304.
doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2005.10.006

As argued in Kamio's (1990, 1997) works on the theory of territory of information and other studies, there are differences in how evidentials are used in Japanese and English. Due to such differences, English-speaking learners have been reported to face difficulties when marking their epistemic stance in Japanese (Kamada 1990). This study systematically investigates how English-speaking learners of Japanese use hearsay evidentials in Japanese and English, and it empirically examines whether there is a transfer effect from the learners' first language to the target language. Data were elicited through production questionnaires in which the learners were instructed to verbally convey hearsay information to specified addressees. Quantitative analysis of the data showed that the learners used significantly less overt hearsay evidentials in both languages, as compared to the Japanese speakers' production in Japanese. Furthermore, quantitative and qualitative analyses identified patterns which suggest possible effects of transfer from English to Japanese.

Additionally, close examination of the learners' production according to evidential types and in relation to the situational variables controlled in this study revealed instances in which the learners were attempting to approximate the Japanese speakers' use. Suggestions for future research and for a pedagogical approach to teaching the use of hearsay evidentials are also provided.

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07-160 LIPOVSKY, CAROLINE (U Sydney, Australia; Caroline.Lipovsky@arts.usyd.edu.au), **Candidates' negotiation of their expertise in job interviews.**

Journal of Pragmatics (Elsevier) 38.8 (2006), 1147-1174.

doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2005.05.007

This article discusses how candidates, in job interviews, negotiate their expertise so as to make a good impression on their interviewers. It is based on the analysis of five role-played interviews in French and four authentic interviews in either French or French and English, the candidates' comments on the impression they had tried to convey and the interviewers' comments on the impression they had of the candidates. The analysis uses a systemic functional approach and the theory of politeness, and highlights how candidates' lexico-grammatical choices play a role in their interviewers' impressions of them. It also shows that the candidates' discourse and therefore the impression they make is linked to the ongoing interaction with their interviewers. Last, it establishes a useful link between lexico-grammar analysis and impression management theory.

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07-161 MORI, J. (U Wisconsin-Madison, USA; jmori@wisc.edu), **The workings of the Japanese token *hee* in informing sequences: An analysis of sequential context, turn shape, and prosody.**

Journal of Pragmatics (Elsevier) 38.8 (2006), 1175-1205.

doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2005.05.004

Employing the methodological framework of conversation analysis (cf. Sacks, Schegloff & Jefferson 1974), this study provides a detailed analysis of the ways in which the token *hee* is used in Japanese conversations. *Hee* has often been identified as a 'news-receipt token', and indeed it frequently occurs in response to deliveries of news or other types of informing in the current data. However, close examination of the sequential context, turn shape, and prosody involved in each occurrence of *hee* demonstrates the varying contributions this token can make in the development of informing sequences. On some occasions, the token displays its producer's 'assessment' (cf. Goodwin 1986; Goodwin & Goodwin 1987, 1992) of the news received, whereas on other occasions it serves as a 'continuer' (cf. Schegloff 1982), occurring in the midst of a projected, extended informing, and yet on other occasions it is treated as a 'repair initiator' (cf. Schegloff, Jefferson & Sacks 1997).

The results of the current microanalysis reveal potential pitfalls in classifying variants of a particular token into one category by virtue of its prescriptive orthographic representation and perceived core function. The concluding discussion considers implications for methodological issues involved in cross-linguistic, cross-cultural comparisons of interactional styles.

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07-162 SCHEGLOFF, EMANUEL A. (U California, Los Angeles, USA; schegloff@soc.ucla.edu) & **GONEN HACHOEN, On the preference for minimization in referring to persons: Evidence from Hebrew conversation.**

Journal of Pragmatics (Elsevier) 38.8 (2006), 1305-1312.

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Hebrew is among the languages in which person, number and gender are inflected on the verb in past and future tenses. Although free-standing pronouns are therefore 'redundant' in common-sense terms when articulated in such contexts, they do occur, and constitute departures from what conversation analysts propose to be a preference for minimization in person reference. Several exemplars are examined to show one interactional environment in which this usage occurs, and which it can be seen to mark, namely, environments of disalignment. Three upshots of this analysis are explicated.

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07-163 WANG, JINJUN (Yunnan U, China), **Questions and the exercise of power.** *Discourse & Society* (Sage) 17.4 (2006), 529-548.

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This article argues that 'ideal dialogue', which is free from power, is unattainable and unrealistic, and power is inherent in all dialogues. It focuses on the exploration of questions as a possible means to exercise power in both casual conversation and institutional dialogue. Comparatively speaking, power tends to be overt in institutional dialogue and covert in casual conversation and questions exercise power in different ways in both forms of verbal interaction respectively. On the basis of data analysis, it is pointed out that the immediate allocation of turn-taking and the temporary topic control result in the latency of questions as a powerful means in casual conversation. The prominence of questions as a powerful means centers on three factors, that is, notably unequal distribution of questions producing the unequal allocation of turn-taking, dominant questions controlling both local and global topics, and Yes/No questions and *wh*-questions exercising power in different degrees.

<http://das.sagepub.com>

07-164 WOUK, FAY (U Auckland, New Zealand; f.wouk@auckland.ac.nz), **The language of apologizing in Lombok, Indonesia.** *Journal of*

Pragmatics (Elsevier) 38.9 (2006), 1457–1486.
doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2005.09.011

This paper examines the speech act of apologizing in Lombok, Indonesia, based on discourse completion task (DCT) data. In particular, it looks at the type of apology term used, and at the types of upgrading used, in different situations. Comparisons are made with published results of choice of apology term and use of upgrading in other cultures. Some findings include: Lombok Indonesians are shown to prefer requests for forgiveness, and not to use other apology terms. Use of upgrading varies both with nature of offense and with nature of relationship, but little difference is seen between genders. Where difference does occur, males proved more likely than females to use solidarity oriented upgrading. Patterns in the use of upgrading sometimes paralleled those found in other studies: deference strategies were used with higher status addressees, while solidarity strategies were used with social intimates. However, often usage reflected particular conventions of Lombok Indonesian society, and could not be explained in terms of the same factors as had proved relevant in other studies.

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Neurolinguistics

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07–165 CRINION, J., R. TURNER, A. GROGAN, T. HANAKAWA, U. NOPPENY, J. T. DEVLIN, T. ASO, S. URAYAMA, H. FUKUYAMA, K. STOCKTON, K. USUI, D. W. GREEN & C. J. PRICE (U College, London, UK; c.price@fil.ion.ucl.ac.uk), **Language control in the bilingual brain.** *Science* (American Association for the Advancement of Science) 312.5779 (2006), 1537–1540.

How does the bilingual brain distinguish and control which language is in use? Previous functional imaging experiments have not been able to answer this question because proficient bilinguals activate the same brain regions irrespective of the language being tested. Here, we reveal that neuronal responses within the left caudate are sensitive to changes in the language or the meaning of words. By demonstrating this effect in populations of German–English and Japanese–English bilinguals, we suggest that the left caudate plays a universal role in monitoring and controlling the language in use.

<http://www.sciencemag.org>

07–166 DESAI, RUTVIK (U Trier, Germany), **LISA L. CONANT, ERIC WALDRON & JEFFREY R. BINDER**, **fMRI of past tense processing: The effects of phonological complexity and task difficulty.** *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience* (MIT Press) 18.2 (2006), 278–297.

The generation of regular and irregular past tense verbs has been an important issue in cognitive science and has been used to advance different models of the organization of language in the brain. The dual-system view holds that the regular past tense forms are generated by a rule while irregular forms are retrieved from memory. The single-system view, on the other hand, holds that both forms are generated by a single integrated system and differ only in their reliance on factors such as phonology and semantics. We conducted an event related fMRI study to examine the activation patterns associated with the generation and reading of regular and irregular past tense forms, in addition to the reading of their stems. Regular and irregular past tense generation activated similar brain regions compared to the reading of their respective stems. The areas activated more for irregular generation compared to regular generation included inferior frontal, precentral, and parietal regions bilaterally. This activation can be interpreted as reflecting the greater attentional and response selection demands of irregular generation. Compared to irregular generation, regular generation activated a small region in the left superior temporal gyrus when the regular and irregular past tense forms were mismatched on phonological complexity. No areas were more activated for regulars than irregulars when the past tense forms were matched on this variable. This suggests that the activation specific to regulars was related to the higher phonological complexity of their past tense forms rather than to their generation. A contrast of the reading of regular and irregular past tense forms was consistent with this hypothesis. These results support a single-system account of past tense generation.

<http://www.mitpressjournals.org>

07–167 KERKHOFS, ROEL (Radboud U, the Netherlands; roel.kerkhofs@mpi.nl), **TON DIJKSTRA, DOROTHEE J. CHWILLA & ELLEN R.A. DE BRUIJN**, **Testing a model for bilingual semantic priming with interlingual homographs: RT and N400 effects.** *Brain Research* (Elsevier) 1068. 1 (2006), 170–183.

doi:10.1016/j.brainres.2005.10.087

Using a semantic priming paradigm, this study examines the effects of semantic and lexical–orthographic context on reaction times (RTs) and event-related potentials (ERPs) for interlingual homographs. Dutch–English bilinguals performed an English lexical decision task in which homographs like STEM (meaning ‘voice’ in Dutch) were preceded by primes like ROOT or FOOL that were semantically related or unrelated to the English reading of the target word. Homographs were responded to faster following semantically related primes than following unrelated primes. The responses in both conditions were modulated by the relative frequencies of the two readings of the homographs: responses were faster when their English word frequency was high or when their Dutch word frequency was low. In the ERPs, N400 effects, taken to reflect processes of semantic