## **Contents**

List of figures and tables	
Preface	
1 Studying meaning	1
Overview	1
1.1 Pragmatics distinguished from semantics	4
1.2 Types of meaning	9
1.3 Semantics	15
Summary	21
Exercises	22
Recommendations for reading	23
Notes	23
2 Adjective meanings	24
Overview	24
2.1 Using language to give the meanings of we	ords 24
2.2 Sense relations relevant to adjectives	25
2.3 Constructions with adjectives	34
Summary	38
Exercises	38
Recommendations for reading	40
Notes	4()
3 Noun vocabulary	41
Overview	41
3.1 The <i>bas</i> -relation	41
3.2 Hyponymy	46
3.3 Incompatibility	52
3.4 Count nouns and mass nouns	54
Summary	56
Exercises	57

## VÍ AN INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH SEMANTICS AND PRAGMATICS

	Recommendations for reading	58
	Notes	58
ı	Verbs and situations	59
	Overview	59
	4.1 Causatives	60
	4.2 Situation types	66
	Summary	75
	Exercises	75
	Recommendations for reading	76
	Notes	76
;	Figurative language	78
	Overview	78
	5.1 Literal and figurative usage	79
	5.2 Irony, presuppositions and metonymy	82
	5.3 Metaphor	86
	Summary	90
	Exercises	90
	Recommendations for reading	91
	Notes	91
6	Tense and aspect	93
	Overview	93
	6.1 Tense	96
	6.2 Aspect	100
	Summary	107
	Exercises	108
	Recommendations for reading	109
	Notes	109
,	Modality, scope and quantification	110
	Overview	110
	7.1 Modality	111
	7.2 Relative scope	121
	7.3 Quantification	123
	Summary	129
	Exercises	129
	Recommendations for reading	130
	Notes	131

	CONTENTS	vii
8	Pragmatics	132
	Overview	132
	8.1 Conversational implicature	134
	8.2 Presuppositions	143
	8.3 Speech acts	148
	Summary	153
	Exercises	153
	Recommendations for reading	155
	Notes	155
9	Connecting utterances to the background	157
	Overview	157
	9.1 Definiteness	158
	9.2 Clefts and passives	160
	9.3 Focal stress	167
	Summary	169
	Exercises	170
	Recommendations for reading	171
	Notes	171
Su	ggested answers to the exercises	172
Bi	bliography	186
Index		189

## List of figures and tables

Figures				
2.1	Complementaries divide their domain without remainder	28		
2.2	I here is middle ground between antonyms	30		
2.3	Simple cases of an adjective modifying a noun are like the			
	intersection of sets	36		
3.1	man in discussion parts can mave parts	43		
3.2	Superordinates can be hyponyms and vice versa	48		
3.3	Hyponymy passes through intermediate levels	48		
3.4	Hyponym senses get successively more detailed	49		
3.5	Part of the hyponym hierarchy of English nouns	50		
3.6	Parts that some superordinates have	51		
3.7	Some hyponyms of meal	52		
6.1	The main time relationships in Example (6.1)	94		
7.1	Colgis and vegetarians. I labels the intersection of the two			
7.2	sets, CTTV	124		
1.2	Corgis and meat eaters. M' labels a subset of corgis that			
	are not meat eaters, C – M	125		
Tab	les			
1.1	Semantic information and pragmatic considerations in the			
2.1	interpretation of Example (1.1)	3		
2.1	The patterns of entailment that define four different sense relations			
3.1	relations	32		
3.2	Examples of two kinds of spatial parts	44		
4.1	Distinguishing between count and mass nouns	55		
1.1	Examples of causative sentences with an entailment from each			
4.2	Cach	61		
	Three kinds of one-clause causative with an entailment from each			
	Atom Cach	64		

	LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES	ix
4.3	Tests to distinguish four verb-based situation types	69
	The four situation types classified on presence of goals	
	and agents	71
6.1	Two-part labels for tense-aspect combinations, with	
	examples	96
6.2	The compatibility of some deictic adverbials with past,	
	present and future time	99
6.3	A range of sentences which all have habitual as a possible	
	interpretation	101
7.1	Core semantics of some markers of modality in English	119
	A selection of indefinite and definite forms	150