

Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1.	Subject and Aims	1
1.2.	Method of Approach	3
1.3.	The Historical Perspective	7
1.3.1.	The European Background	8
1.3.2.	Linguistics in America	11
2.	THE BACKGROUND TO THE NEO-FIRTHIAN TRADITION	15
2.1.	Some Remarks on Terminology	15
2.2.	The Context of Firth's Work	18
2.3.	The Work of Malinowski	21
2.3.1.	Malinowski's Research Background	21
2.3.2.	Language in Context	22
2.3.3.	Phatic Communion	25
2.4.	The Linguistic Theories of J.R. Firth	28
2.4.1.	Firth's Publications and his Influence	28
2.4.2.	Firth's Theories	29
2.4.2.1.	The Spectrum of Meaning	31
2.4.2.2.	Metalanguage	34
2.4.2.3.	Renewal of Connection	36
2.4.2.4.	Firth and the Ideas of de Saussure	40
2.5.	Prosodic Analysis	41
3.	THE FOUNDATIONS OF NEO-FIRTHIAN LINGUISTICS	45
3.1.	The Background: Structuralism and General Linguistics	45
3.1.1.	Meaning and Discovery Procedures	47
3.1.2.	Linguistics and the Use of a Text Corpus	49
3.1.3.	Intuition, Theory and the Ideal Speaker	53
3.2.	Levels of Language	55
3.3.	Substance	57
3.4.	Linguistic Form	60
3.4.1.	Formal Meaning	61
3.4.2.	Grammar	62
3.4.2.1.	The Rank Scale and its Units	62

3.4.2.2.	Structures and Classes	63
3.4.2.3.	System	65
3.4.2.4.	Delicacy and Exponence	65
3.4.3.	Lexis	67
3.5.	Context	72
3.5.1.	Context in Linguistic Analysis	73
3.5.2.	Formal Choice in Context	77
4.	LANGUAGE FUNCTIONS AND LINGUISTIC SYSTEMS	82
4.1.	Development	82
4.1.1.	Linguistics and Pragmatics	84
4.1.2.	Linguistics and Sociolinguistics	85
4.2.	Application	86
4.2.1.	Language Acquisition and Society	86
4.2.2.	Language and Social Universals	88
4.3.	Models of Language Functions	89
4.3.1.	The Child's Model	89
4.3.2.	The Adult Model	90
4.4.	The Macro-Functions	93
4.4.1.	The Ideational Component	94
4.4.2.	The Interpersonal Component	94
4.4.3.	The Textual Component	95
4.5.	The Macro-functions and their Realizations	95
5.	THE IDEATIONAL COMPONENT	99
5.1.	General Introduction	99
5.2.	The Logical and Experiential Sub-components	100
5.2.1.	Experience and Expression	102
5.2.2.	The Problem of Word-Formation	103
5.3.	Transitivity	107
5.3.1.	Clause Organisation and Ergativity	107
5.3.2.	Types of Process	113
5.3.3.	Participant Types	115
5.3.3.1.	Action (Material Process) Clauses	115
5.3.3.2.	Mental Process Clauses	116
5.3.3.3.	Relational Clauses	117

5.3.3.3.1.	Attributive Clauses	118
5.3.3.3.2.	Equative Clauses	120
5.3.4.	Circumstantials	121
5.3.4.1.	Beneficiary	122
5.3.4.2.	Range	123
5.3.4.3.	Attributive	125
5.3.4.4.	Condition	125
5.4.	Modulation	126
5.5.	Conclusion	127
6.	THE ORGANISATION OF DISCOURSE	129
6.1.	The Textual Component	129
6.2.	Texture within the Clause	131
6.2.1.	Unmarked Theme	131
6.2.2.	Alternative Thematic Options	133
6.2.3.	Marked Theme Dislocation	134
6.2.4.	Identification	135
6.2.5.	Predication, Substitution and Reference	137
6.2.5.1.	'Structural' Reference	137
6.2.5.2.	'Structural' Substitution	138
6.2.5.3.	Predication	138
6.3.	Information	139
6.3.1.	Tonality (Information Distribution)	140
6.3.2.	Tonicity (Focus)	140
6.4.	Texture above the Clause	142
6.4.1.	Text and Cohesion	143
6.4.1.1.	Cohesive Reference	144
6.4.1.2.	Cohesive Substitution and Ellipsis	145
6.4.1.3.	Cohesive Conjunction	149
6.4.1.4.	Lexical Cohesion	150
6.4.2.	Text and Replacement Semantics	150
6.4.2.1.	Systematic Repetition and Mutual Expectancy	152
6.4.2.2.	The Structure of Texts	157
6.4.2.3.	Vocabulary 3 Words	160
6.5.	Conclusion	163

7.	THE INTERPERSONAL COMPONENT	164
7.1.	Introduction	164
7.2.	The Speech Situation and Language	164
7.2.1.	Mood	167
7.2.2.	Modality	171
7.2.3.	Key	173
7.3.	Sociological Semantics	175
7.3.1.	The Structure of a Speech Situation	175
7.3.2.	Systemic Choice in the Communication Situation	178
7.3.3.	The Meanings of the Language Option in Context	180
7.4.	Conclusions	181
8.	CONCLUSIONS	184
8.1.	The Neo-Firthian Tradition	184
8.1.1.	The Legacy of J.R. Firth	184
8.1.2.	The Structure of Neo-Firthian Linguistics	187
8.2.	Language as Social Semiotic	188
8.2.1.	The Contexts of Language	188
8.2.2.	The Semantics of the Text	189
8.3.	The Image of Neo-Firthian Linguistics	191
8.4.	Contribution	193
9.	GLOSSARY	195
10.	BIBLIOGRAPHY	213