

Contents

1. Introduction	1
1.1 The Aim of the Book	1
1.2 The Propositional Model of Understanding	3
1.3 Drawbacks of the Propositional Model of Understanding	5
1.4 The Organization of the Book	7
2. Typology of Knowledge	9
2.1 Entities and Predicates	9
2.2 Factual and General Knowledge	10
3. States of Knowledge	14
3.1 Given and New Knowledge	14
3.2 Activated, Deactivated and Focused Knowledge	19
3.3 Thematized Knowledge	25
4. Speech and the Visual Processing of Information	27
4.1 Three Kinds of Verbal Influence on Perception	27
4.2 Speech, Focus of Attention, and Perception	29
5. General Reflections on Communication	31
5.1 A Model of Communication	31
5.2 The Process of Understanding	33
6. Verbal Communication of Given and New Information	36
6.1 Verbal Communication of Conceptually Given and New Information	36
6.2 Verbal Communication of Relationally Given and New Information	39
6.3 Verbal Communication of Conceptually Given and New Information in the Context of Relationally Given and New Information	41
7. Verbal Communication of Focused Concepts	45
7.1 Verbal Communication of the Thematization Focus	45
7.1.1 Actional Structure and Subjectivization	46
7.1.2 The Size of Reference Objects and Subjectivization	47

7.1.3	Known Concepts and Subjectivization	49
7.1.4	Comparison of Active and Passive Sentences	51
7.2	Verbal Communication of Gap-Motivated Focus	52
8.	Verbal Communication of Relationally Given and New Information in Standard Sentences	54
8.1	Passivization and Relational Given-New Structure	54
8.2	Article Use and Relational Given-New Structure	56
9.	Causes and Consequences of Focusing	61
9.1	Subjectivization and Focusing	62
9.1.1	Subjectivization and Focusing for the Speaker	62
9.1.2	Subjectivization and Focusing for the Hearer	63
9.2	Clefting and Focusing	64
9.2.1	Clefting and Focusing for the Speaker	64
9.2.2	Clefting and Focusing for the Hearer	66
10.	Interaction Between Subjectivization and Clefting	73
10.1	Subjectivization and Clefting for the Speaker	74
10.2	Subjectivization and Clefting for the Hearer	80
10.3	Subjectivization and Clefting for Speaker and Hearer	87
11.	Conclusion	89
	References	92
	Author Index	99
	Subject Index	101