

Contents

1	Getting things started: by way of introduction	1
2	Linguistic background	5
3	Historical background	17
4	The documents to be used: a corpus	45
5	Thematic structure: a starting point	61
6	Transitivity: actions, events, states	99
7	Modality: possibility, ability, obligation	125
8	Nominalization: reifying processes	147
9	Winding up and winding down: by way of conclusion	163
	Appendix 1: Estimated number of words	169
	Appendix 2: <i>Journal des Sçavans</i> corpus	171
	Appendix 3: <i>Philosophical Transactions</i> corpus	185
	References	193
	Author index	203
	Subject index	205