

Table of Contents

<i>Preface</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
Chapter 1. SIGN-BASED LINGUISTIC THEORY	1
1.1 Sentence-Based Linguistic Theory	2
1.2 A Functional Account of Verb Number	4
1.3 Sign-Based Linguistic Theory	6
1.4 Auxiliary <i>Do</i> in English	10
1.5 The Linguistic Status of <i>Do</i>	13
1.6 <i>Do</i> Negation	14
1.7 <i>Do Verb</i> in Questions	22
1.8 Sign-based vs. Sentence-based Analysis	23
1.9 Inversion	23
1.10 Goal-Directed Explanation	26
1.11 The Abandonment of Syntax	27
1.12 Pragmatic Explanation	29
1.13 Functional Explanation	31
1.14 The Data of Linguistic Analysis	35
1.15 A Functional Framework	39
Chapter 2. THE ENTITY NUMBER SYSTEM	45
2.1 The Entity Number System	46
2.2 Analytical Principles	47
2.3 Referential vs. Conceptual Number	50
2.4 The Appeal of Reference	51
2.5 Communicative Function	54

2.6	<i>Persons vs. People: A Case Study</i>	56
2.7	Problem Areas of Entity Number	66
2.8	The Spanned Opposition	73
2.9	The Choice of Entity Number for Mass Reference	75
2.10	The Zero Article in Mass Reference	77
2.11	Morphological Pathology	80
2.12	The Number Meanings with Decimal Fractions	82
Chapter 3. COMMUNICATIVE EFFICACY		86
3.1	Lexical Monosemy	86
3.2	Interpretive Problem-Solving	90
3.3	Communicative Efficacy	92
3.4	The Relational Value of the Number Meanings	96
3.5	The Extension of Lexical Meanings	99
3.6	Polysemy	105
3.7	<i>Wheat and Oats</i>	109
3.8	Meanings as Distinguishing Tools	115
Chapter 4. THE PRECISION STRATEGY		117
4.1	A Problem of Signal Identity	117
4.2	Animal Reference	120
4.3	The Entity Number System of Homeric Greek	121
4.4	The Precision Strategy in English	127
4.5	The Questionnaire	130
4.6	Effect of the Contextual Contrasts	136
4.7	Speaker Diversity and Systemic Unity	151
4.8	Relative Strength of the Contrasts	153
4.9	The Continuum of Cognitive Salience	153
4.10	The Effect of the Animal	155
4.11	An Independent Measure of Speaker Interest	157
4.12	Parallelism of Rank Ordering	158
4.13	<i>Sheep and Deer</i>	161
4.14	Quantitative Data and Grammatical Theory	162
4.15	The Prerequisites for Grammatical Analysis	165
Chapter 5. THE FOCUS NUMBER SYSTEM		169
5.1	The Focus Number System	170
5.2	The Notion of Grammatical Subject	173
5.3	The Control System	174
5.4	The Focus System	178
5.5	The Probability System	183

5.6	Revision of the Focus Number System	185
5.7	Testing the Focus Number System	190
5.8	The Hypothesis of Subject-Verb Agreement	191
5.9	Speaker Error	203
Chapter 6. THE FOCUS NUMBER OPPOSITION		209
6.1	Exploitation of the Focus Number Opposition	210
6.2	Category Shift	216
6.3	Generality of Application	222
6.4	Lexical Phrases Conjoined with <i>And</i>	231
6.5	The Variationist Alternative	236
6.6	Covert Subject Number	237
6.7	Grammaticality Judgements	239
6.8	Linguistic Creativity	246
Chapter 7. TESTING THE FOCUS NUMBER OPPOSITION		250
7.1	Method of Data Collection	251
7.2	The Relation of Distributional Skewings to Grammatical Hypotheses	254
7.3	Contrasting Grammatical Number in a Spanned Opposition	259
7.4	Extent of the Spanned Opposition	267
7.5	Recharacterization of Entity in Focus	274
7.6	The Non-Categoricalness of Statistical Skewings	276
7.7	Messages of Size or Sufficiency	277
7.8	The Word <i>Number</i>	280
7.9	Occurrences Implying More-Than-One Entity in Focus	283
7.10	<i>Occurrence . . . P</i>	284
7.11	<i>Each</i> and <i>Every</i>	287
7.12	The Relation Between Hypothesis and Testing Procedure	287
7.13	The Axis of Systemic Grammatical Structure	290
7.14	The Choice of Communicative Strategy	290
Chapter 8. TEXTUAL RESONANCE		298
8.1	The Perceptual Problem of Signal Identification	299
8.2	Systemic Distinctiveness	300
8.3	Contextual Non-distinctiveness	301
8.4	Overlapping Message Partials	302
8.5	Textual Resonance	304

8.6	Semantic Cohesion	307
8.7	Interpretive Bootstrapping	309
8.8	A Second Illustration	310
8.9	The Functional Indeterminacy of Lexical Stems	313
8.10	Communication vs. Representation	314
8.11	Factors Favouring the Resonating Mode	315
8.12	The Complementation of Communicative Strategies	318
8.13	The Locus of Arbitrariness in Language	320
8.14	The Demands of Synchronic Explanation	321
Chapter 9. THE COMPLEMENTARITY PRINCIPLE		325
9.1	Different Basic Units	326
9.2	The Modular Revision	326
9.3	Partitioning the Expressive and the Resonating Modes	328
9.4	The Structural Indeterminacy of Messages	330
9.5	Generality of Explanation	336
9.6	The Analysis of Messages	338
9.7	The Complementarity Principle	340
9.8	The Logical Independence of Communication and Representation	342
9.9	Possible Relations Between Language and Thought	344
9.10	Formal vs. Functional Explanation	345
9.11	Formalizing the Means-End Relation	346
9.12	The Scope of Linguistic Theory	347
Chapter 10. THE PHENOMENA OF LINGUISTICS		351
10.1	The Phenomena of Chemistry	352
10.2	Candidates for the Phenomena of Linguistics	352
10.3	Acoustic Asymmetry	355
10.4	From Phenomena to Theory	356
10.5	From Theory Back to Phenomena	359
10.6	Theory-Based Description	363
10.7	Mediational Explanation	364
10.8	The Explanatory Chain	367
10.9	An Independent Linguistics	370
<i>References</i>		374
<i>Index</i>		381