

Contents

Foreword	v
Introduction	xi
Abbreviations	xiv
Terminology	xv
1. Actancy instruments	1
1. Relators	1
1.1. Forms	1
1.2. Meanings	4
1.3. Typology	5
2. Actant indexes	6
2.1. Forms	6
2.2. Meaning	7
2.3. Typology	10
3. Word order	12
4. Coalescence	14
5. Typologies	16
6. Intent markers	19
2. Actancy structures	23
1. Actancy schemata	23
2. Actancy structures defined	26
2.1. Accusative structure, ergative structure	26
2.2. Other actancy structures	29
2.3. Recapitulation	33
3. Actancy structures and semantic relations	35
3.1. State of the question	35
3.2. Semantic definition of actancy structures	41
3.3. Other constructions	45
4. Other accusativity and ergativity factors	47
4.1. Reflexives and reciprocals	48
4.2. Co-referent ellipsis	51
4.3. Construction of relative clauses	56
4.4. Conclusion on "second" factors	57
5. Typology of languages	59

3. Actants	63
1. Semantic roles and actant functions	63
2. Criteria for defining actants	66
2.1. "First" criteria	66
2.2. "Second" criteria	71
2.3. Definition and grading of actants	75
3. Circumstants and peripheral actants	78
4. The "Object Zone"	80
4.1. Actant features of the object	81
4.2. Multiple objects	86
4.3. Other objects?	92
4.4. Conclusion	96
5. The subject function	97
5.1. The subject in French and in Chickasaw	97
5.2. Some other languages	105
5.3. Recapitulation	110
5.4. "Double subject" sentences	112
6. Conclusion and typology	119
4. Verb classes	125
1. General considerations	125
1.1. Semantic classifications	125
1.2. Morphosyntactic classifications	126
2. The major classes	130
2.1. One-actant verbs	130
2.2. Two-actant verbs	132
3. Minor classes: No-actant verbs and one-actant verbs	134
3.1. No-actant or empty-actant verbs	134
3.2. Verbs with one marked actant	135
4. Minor classes: Two-actant verbs	140
4.1. "Affective" verbs	140
4.2. "Aiming" verbs	144
4.3. Internal object verbs	146
4.4. "Reversible" verbs	148
5. Minor classes: Three-actant verbs	151
5.1. Constructions	151
5.2. Semantics	155
6. Conclusion	159

5. Actancy variations	163
1. The variations of actancy	163
2. Forms of variation	165
2.1. One-actant sentences	166
2.2. Two-actant sentences	168
2.3. Three-actant sentences	175
3. Functions of the variations	178
3.1. Nature of the process and roles of the participants	178
3.2. Categorization of actants	184
3.3. Verbal categories	196
3.4. Communicative intent	201
3.5. Syntactic factors	207
4. Concluding remarks	209
6. Correlations	213
1. General points	213
2. Invariant correlations	214
2.1. Actancy splits	214
2.2. Differential object marking	219
2.3. Verb agreement	222
2.4. Indirect constructions	224
2.5. Diatheses	226
2.6. A bundle of correlations	230
3. A model of actancy	232
3.1. The basic relations	232
3.2. Transitivity	235
3.3. Accusativity, ergativity, diathesis and transitivity	240
4. Grammar and experience	246
Notes	251
References	259
Language index	275
Subject index	279
Author index	284