

Contents

Abbreviations and Symbols, xv

1 Foundations, 3

- 1.1 Verbal inflection and Verb Movement, 3
- 1.2 The syntax of sentential negation, 19
- 1.3 The AFFECT criterion, 36
- 1.4 Summary, 38

2 The Negative Marker, 40

- 2.1 Configuration 1: *pas* as an adverb, 42
- 2.2 Configuration 2: *pas* and indefinite direct objects, 57
- 2.3 Summary, 84

3 Jespersen's Generalization, 86

- 3.1 The Negative Cycle, 89
- 3.2 NC and Jespersen's Generalization, 97
- 3.3 The Neg Criterion revisited, 107
- 3.4 Jespersen's Generalization: analysis, 114
- 3.5 Counterexamples to Jespersen's Generalization?, 126
- 3.6 Discussion and summary, 135

4 Other Negative Adverbs, 138

- 4.1 Inventory: negative adverbs and arguments, 139
- 4.2 Distribution of negative adverbs, 141
- 4.3 The syntactic status of *jamais*, *plus*, *guère*, 152
- 4.4 Explanatory power, 160
- 4.5 Summary, 167

5 Negative Arguments, 169

- 5.1 Early generative approaches to the syntax of *personne* and *rien*, 171
- 5.2 The syntax of *personne*, 173
- 5.3 The distribution of *rien*, 187
- 5.4 The formal differences between *personne* and *rien*, 190
- 5.5 Residual issues, 198
- 5.6 Summary, 204

References, 207

Index, 225