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Introduction

This third volume of the Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics covers a diversity of topics which range from general linguistic theory to child language. To provide coherency, we have, therefore, grouped the papers into a number of major sections as reflected in the Table of Contents. What follows is our attempt to capture the major point of each paper, organized according to those sections.

The first paper is Ken Miner's "On the Notion 'Restricted Linguistic Theory': Toward Error Free Data in Linguistics." Miner maintains that linguistic theories must be more firmly grounded on secure data bases. He contends that the attempt to construct theories based on limited data from a few languages leads to serious errors. Rather than seeking to construct general theories, Miner advocates that we should limit ourselves to "restricted theories" which may be confined to one language family.

The Phonetics-Phonology section contains four very different papers. Geoff Gathercole's research demonstrates that instrumental evidence can play a crucial role in phonological analysis. His instrumental research on strong and weak stops in Kansas Potawatomi clearly indicates that the underlying contrast between these series is preserved even in final positions, not neutralized as heretofore supposed. In addition, the paper provides evidence for the interaction between stress and the syntactic structure of Potawatomi.

Mehmet Yavas' paper on the implications of borrowing for Turkish phonology provides a modus operandi for the analysis of languages which have lexicons replete with loan words. In the case of Turkish, previous analyses, though recognizing the importance of loan words, have neglected to incorporate them into their descriptions. Drawing evidence from borrowing, Yavas proposes that current treatments of vowel and consonant harmony should be drastically revised: consonant harmony plays the pivotal role in determining the vowel choice, not conversely. By so analyzing Turkish, he is able to account for a wide range of data unaccounted for by treatments which assume the primacy of vowel harmony.

Robert Rankin's study of Quapaw as a dying language supports the evidence from child language acquisition, aphasia, and comparative linguistics that there exists a universal hierarchy of sound-type complexity. As Quapaw functioned less and less as a native language, principled changes occurred in its phonology: the types of series lost and the order in which they were lost were determined by their relative complexity, with the most marked being lost first.

Code-mixing is the topic of Maria Dobozy's paper. Taking a letter written by a bilingual American-Hungarian as her data, Dobozy describes the phonological rules that are operating in such a code-mixing, with special emphasis on vowel harmony. She demonstrates that vowel harmony is an important process in the system and plays a central role in the rendition of English words by such speakers.

The first paper in the Syntax-Semantics section is Gerald Denning's, "Meaning and Placement of Spanish Adjectives." Denning attempts to clarify the problems of the differences in the meaning and treatment

of restrictive adjectives in three dialects of Spanish. He argues that a strict generative semantic approach will not handle the data and suggests an analysis within the framework of pragmatics.

Virginia Gathercole provides a cross-linguistic study of the use of the deictic verbs "come" and "go." She formulates the uses of "come" and "go" in eleven languages by extending Talmy's (1975) model for verbs of motion to include a presuppositional component. Gathercole divides the contexts in which "come" and "go" are used into (a) immediate deixis and (b) extended deixis. Her goal is to characterize the use of deictic verbs of motion in the eleven languages studied by a limited number of assertional and presuppositional components and thus suggest a possible universal framework for such verbs.

Whereas Denning and Gathercole focus on language related issues, Juan Abugattas takes a more general, philosophical approach in his discussion of speech acts. He claims that previous speech act analyses used the sentence as the basic unit. Abugattas believes, however, that we must go beyond the sentence: "social reality" dictates that we categorize sets of sentences into speech acts, which he calls "complex acts."

Kurt Godden's paper, "Problems in Machine Translation Between Thai and English Using Montague Grammar," brings us to a specific language oriented concern: how to mechanically translate sentences, in particular those containing restrictive relative clauses, from one language to the other. He enumerates the problems related to such a task and proposes a solution involving meaning postulates and context within a Montague framework.

Historical and Comparative Linguistics is represented by Karen Booker's "On the Origin of Number Marking in Muskogean." Booker reconstructs two proto-Muskogean number markers, one dualizer and one pluralizer which were first used with intransitive verbs of location and then generalized to locative transitives. Later these markers spread to intransitive non-locatives. Booker maintains that the highly complex suppletive verb system of Muskogean arose when these markers lost their original meaning.

Three papers, Esther (Etti) Dromi's analysis of the acquisition of locative prepositions by Hebrew children, Gregory Simpson's study of children's categorization processes, and John More's review of relative clause research, constitute the Child Language Acquisition section of the working papers. Dromi's study, which is one of the few published works in the acquisition of Hebrew, compares the order of acquisition of Hebrew locatives with Brown's (1973) order for English and also with Slobin's (1973) universals. Among her findings, Hebrew al ("on") is acquired later than English on. Her findings for Hebrew locatives are particularly interesting in that they allow a comparison of the acquisition of prefixes with that of full prepositions. Her conclusions point to the pivotal role that morphological complexity plays in the order of acquisition of locatives in Hebrew.

Gregory Simpson's major concern has to do with the process by which children form conceptual categories. He argues, on the basis of experimental data, that overextensions should not be taken as evidence

for category formation. His data suggest a distinction between concept formation and object naming, a distinction not made in previous studies. "Function," what objects can do or what can be done to them, determines how that object is conceptualized, but an object's perceptual properties may determine the name given to it. Therefore, "the child may know that two objects don't really belong together, but gives them the same name until he has more evidence."

The acquisition of relative clauses has been a topic of great interest among psycholinguists. John More presents a valuable critical review of the recent literature with special emphasis on the debate between Dan Slobin (1971), Amy Sheldon (1974), Michael Smith (1975), Tavakolian (1977), and deVilliers et al. (1976). The Minimal Distance Principle, the Noun-Verb-Noun Strategy, the Parallel Function Hypothesis, and Slobin's operating principles are compared, along with the formulations of deVilliers and Tavakolian.

Five major topic areas are represented in this third volume of the Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics. Each paper in its own way is a contribution to linguistic scholarship: some provide evidence in new areas of inquiry, others bring new evidence to bear on old questions, while still others suggest future courses of research.

Anthony Staiano and Feryal Yavas

Editors

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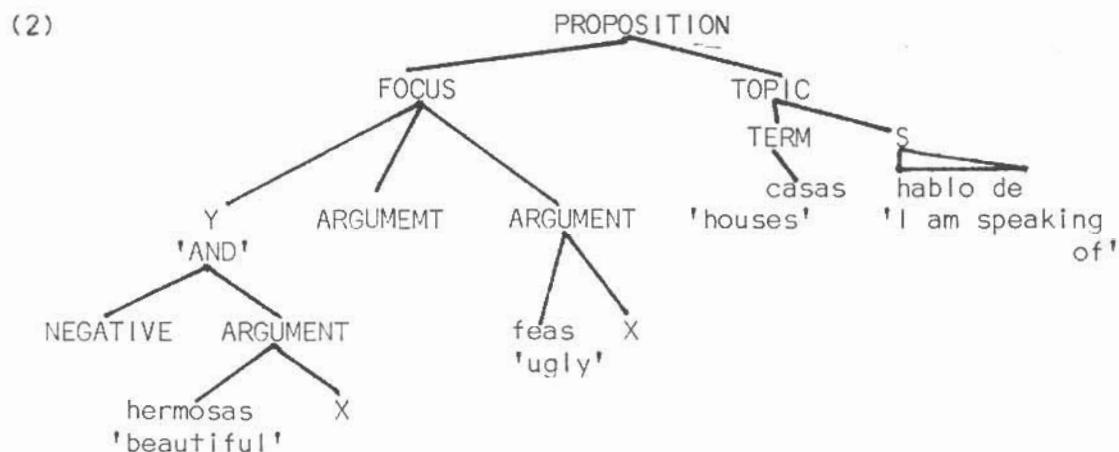## Volume 3, 1978

Language Acquisition

MEANING AND PLACEMENT OF SPANISH ADJECTIVES

Gerald L. Denning

Pioneering work in a generative transformational approach for deriv-ing Spanish adjectives was done by Cressey (1966) and Luján-Gough (1971, 1972). Essentially, postposed adjectives were derived from restrictive relative clauses, in turn derived from embedded sentences. Preposed ad-jectives, on the other hand, were said to come from nonrestrictive relative clauses which originally had been conjoined sentences. This elegant gen-erative syntactic treatment could not stand unaltered, however, as noted by Luján-Gough (1971): not all Spanish restrictive adjectives are post-nominal, as is shown in (1) below. (The uppercase letter O in hermosas indicates heavy stress. L-G refers to Luján-Gough).

(1) (L-G 70, from Bolinger et. al., 1960)
No hablo de las hermOsas casas, sino de las feas.
'I'm not speaking of the beautiful houses, but of the ugly ones.'

Surface stress became the reason for the restrictive nature of such preposed adjectives, after the manner of Chomsky (1971). It would be de-sirable to analyze these Spanish adjectives in a way that preserves deep to surface directionality. A topic-focus distinction in a generative se-mantic framework regains the elegance inherent in Luján-Gough's earlier (1971) work. The focus in (2) coincides with (and may be viewed as the cause of) both the preposed adjective and the heavy stress of (1).

(2)

```
                              PROPOSITION
                    _____|_____
                   |                                 |
                 FOCUS                             TOPIC
          _____|_____                _____|_____
         |                   |             TERM           S
         Y              ARGUMENT            |          ____|____
       'AND'         ____|____            casas      hablo de
    _____|_____     |         |          'houses'   'I am speaking
   |           |   feas       X                          of'
NEGATIVE   ARGUMENT 'ugly'
        ____|____
       |         |
    hermosas     X
    'beautiful'
```

Continuing from the underlying semantic structure (2), Y 'and' will be realized syntactically as sino 'but' because of the contrast being made, A Topic Incorporation rule will replace the leftmost X with the topic phrase and Gapping will delete the second X, so far giving

References

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Kálmán, Béla. 1972 Hungarian historical phonology. The Hungarian Language. ed. Lóránd Benkö and Samu Imre (The Hague: Mouton).

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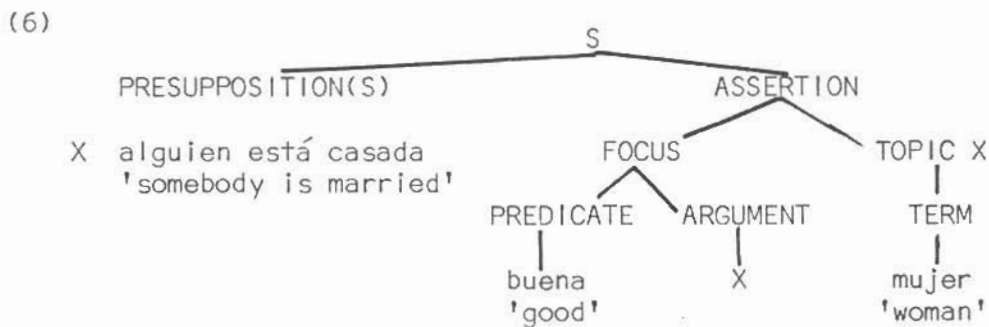
(3)   Las casas de que hablo no están hermosas sino feas.
      'The houses I am speaking of are not beautiful but ugly.'

Then a Focus Lowering rule will rearrange the sentence to the form in (1).
     Predicate adjectives in Spanish have proven to be more resistant
to generate syntactic analysis than nonpredicate ones (see, for example,
Luján-Gough 1974). Apparent synonymy exists in a subclass of them, e.g.
(4) - (5).

(4)   Es buena mujer.
      'She is a good woman.'

(5)   Es mujer buena.
      'She is a good woman.'

     A worthwhile question for linguists interested in Spanish is how the
grammar differs from area to area. Concerning the example at hand, at
least regarding some speakers in Eastern Venezuela, the solution to some
such predicate nominals lies in pragmatics. In (4) the presupposition
that the referent is married exists, as is shown in (6).

(6)

     In this derivation, a Presupposition Incorporation transformation
will first bring the presupposition into topic position. Then, Topic
Incorporation will move the topic to the X at the left, which will re-
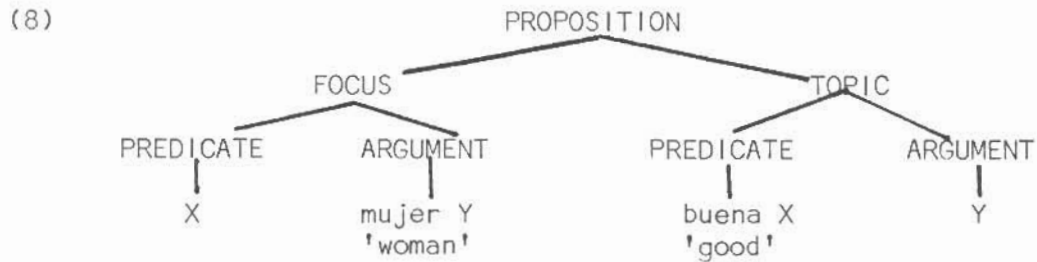sult in (4).
     In (5) a presupposition that someone is married is not implicit.
Its derivation would differ from that of (6) in the absence of the pre-
supposition and the presence of an adjective postpositioning rule.
     An increase in pitch level (generally accompanied by an increase
in stress and stressed-vowel length, although not necessarily) can mark
the meaning differences between utterances such as (5) and (7). Moral
goodness is imputer to the referent in (5), and physical attractiveness
to the one in (7).
     The uppercase E in buEna indicates heavy stress, raised pitch,
added length.

(7)   Es mujer buEna.
      'She is an attractive woman.'

In order to differentiate between (5) and (7) in an underlying
semantic structure, (5) can be shown as follows:

(8)

```
                              PROPOSITION
              FOCUS                              TOPIC
      PREDICATE      ARGUMENT          PREDICATE      ARGUMENT
         |              |                  |              |
         X           mujer Y            buena X           Y
                     'woman'            'good'
```

In this case Focus Lowering will move the left coreferential Y rightward.
Then Predicate Lowering will in effect postpose the adjective in the noun
phrase buena mujer, to mujer buena. However, in (7) the predicate adjec-
tive buena would originate semantically in the focus in order to obtain
as buEna.
    Additional work in Spanish adjectives needs to be done in certain
cases of apparent homonymy. For example, a group of bilingual Chicanos in
the dwindling Lawrence, Kansas community uses two meanings (which
require two syntactic structures in Standard Spanish) with the same
structure.   Standard (9) and (10) became (11) and likewise (12) and
(13) become (14).

(9)   amigo viejo   'old friend'   (aged)

(10)   viejo amigo   'old friend'   (longstanding)

(11)   amigo viejo   'aged friend', 'longstanding friend'

(12)   ciudad grande 'big city'

(13)   gran ciudad   'great city'

(14)   ciudad grande 'big city', 'great city'

Even though a syntactically realized idiomatization doe not obtain
in instances such as (11) and (14), these might be handled in a straight-
forward way within the same theoretical framework once the question of
ambiguity is settled. It is possible that a further complication in
the data, style switching (.e.,g casual to formal) involving preposed
adjectives part of the time in the speech of Chicanos in contact with
Standard Spanish could be analyzed by means of conversational implicature
as described in Grice (1975) or variable rules as described in Wolfram
and Fasold (1974) and Labov (1972).

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