Studies in Linguistics and Cognition

Bárbara Eizaga Rebollar (ed).
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Studies in Linguistics and Cognition, edited by BÁRBARA EIZAGA REBOLLAR, is a collection of essays on the interface between linguistics and cognition originated from a conference called *II Jornadas de Lingüística y Cognición* held at the University of Cadiz in March 2009 and organized by the research group *Pragmalingüística.*

The structure of the book is clear and comprehensive. The book is divided into three main sections corresponding to three different levels of meaning presented at the linguistic phenomenon most directly related to cognition. Section 1 entitled "The Lexicon and Cognition" consists of four essays on the study of lexicon and cognition. Section 2 on "Semantics and Cognition" includes three essays on semantics and cognition. Finally, Section 3 called "Communication and Cognition" contains four essays on communication and cognition. The volume opens with the "Preface" by the editor, EIZAGA REBOLLAR, as well as GARCÍA NÚÑEZ and ZARCO TEJADA and ends with brief bibliographical notes on all contributors.

Section 1 begins with MARÍA TADEA DÍAZ HORMIGO and CARMEN VARO VARO's chapter, "Neology and Cognition", presenting several considerations on how to apply the advances achieved in experimental psycholinguistics to neology research, especially with respect to the cognitive strategies which speakers and listeners used to encode and decode newly-coined lexical units, considering factors such as context or frequency. In the following chapter, "Studies on lexical availability: The current situation and some future prospects", GÉRARD FERNÁNDEZ SMITH, MARTA SÁNCHEZ-SAUS LASERNA and LUIS ESCORIZA MORERA, apply lexical availability in the fields of language teaching and language contact using association based questionnaires around a series of interest or thematic areas such as parts of the body, clothing, parts of the house without furniture, furniture in the home, food and drink, etc. These applications are carried out through the analysis of the lexis of bilingual speakers and of

the possible ways in which it can be improved. MARÍA LUISA MORA MILLÁN addresses in "Adverbs in the Internet lexicon: New modes of signification", the topic of adverbs in the Internet Lexicon presenting an innovative theoretical perspective focusing on the frequent use of this type of lexicon justifying a new mode of signifying that she calls *adverbonominal* to refer to certain adverbial neologisms in English and French that form the ADVly *yours*/ADVment *vôtre* adverbial structures. In chapter four, "'Holding' metaphorical meaning from a Computational Linguistics approach: the Verb *Hold* and its counterparts in Spanish", MARÍA ÁNGELES ZARCO TEJADA addresses the problem of lexical meaning representation and the processing of polysemous lexical items from a computational linguistic approach. Her analysis focuses on the English verb "hold" and its counterparts in Spanish proposing Pustejovsky's (1995) *qualia* roles within the Generative Lexicon Theory to handle the creative use of language.

In Section 2 JOSÉ MARÍA GARCÍA NÚÑEZ dedicates his chapter, "Attitude verbs and nominalization", to the assertive dimension of attitude predicates. He argues that they are operators rather than relational predicates showing two traditional criteria for nominalization types: event/aspectual content and propositional denotation. In this sense, whereas assertive attitude verbs nominalise into propositional result nominals non-assertive ones nominalise into complex event nominals. Under the title "Cleft sentences: Semantic properties and communicative meanings" CARMEN NOYA GALLARDO provides an updated review of the "it-cleft" construction in English which includes "It-cleft" and pseudo-cleft or "Wh-cleft" sentences. She has defined, described, delimitated this "it-cleft" construction differentiating from other similar sentence patterns in English and explained its main semantic properties and focused on its communicative meanings and textual functions, along with its thematic and informational structures. In the chapter "Metaphoric and metonymic complexes in phrasal verb interpretation: Metaphoric chains", FRANCISCO J. RUIZ DE MENDOZA IBÁÑEZ and ALICIA GALERA MASAGAGA focus on phrasal verbs studying the patterns underlying their interpretation in terms of complex cognition operations based on metaphor, metonymy and metaphor-metonymy interaction ("metaphoric amalgams", "metaphtonymy", "metaphoric chains" and a special case of conceptual interaction between "metaphtonymy" and "metaphoric amalgams") and analyse them in a group of phrasal verbs taken from the British National Corpus.

In the first chapter in Section 3, "Meaning adjustment processes in idiom variants", BÁRBARA EIZAGA REBOLLAR provides a pragmatic analysis of speakers' meaning adjustment in figurative language, more specifically in idiom variants by means of two complementary lexical inferential processes: narrowing and broadening during the interpretation process to yield an *ad hoc* concept. Speakers thus exploit pragmatically resemblance with an implicitly alluded idiom. JOSÉ LUIS GUIJARRO MORALES examines in the next chapter, "Beauty and art in Science", the currently fuzzy concepts of BEAUTY and ART using a scientific methodology derived from Noam Chomsky's (1981) and Marr's (1982) levels of cognitive analysis, making it possible to distinguish both notions neatly, achieving a naturalistic approach to both cognitive processes and solving the problem of fuzziness of their conceptualization considering three levels of adequacy: level of observational adequacy, level of descriptive adequacy and level of explanatory adequacy. ANA ISABEL RODRÍGUEZ-PIÑERO ALCALÁ and MARÍA GARCÍA ANTUÑA's chapter, "Specialised communication and language teaching for specific purposes", presents the comparison between the definition of scope of Special languages (LESP) and that of languages for Specific Purposes (LSP) considering the problem of terminology of special languages, taking into account the types of specific purposes, languages for academic purposes (LAP), languages for occupational purposes (LOP) along with LSP teaching methodology. They have found that in the teaching of specific competence there is a certain inclination towards a series of teaching techniques based on work methods. In the final chapter, "Strategies and effects in humorous discourse: The case of jokes", FRANCISCO YUS RAMOS provides a relevance-centred account of jokes, mostly Spanish, along with "a taxonomy of jokes depending on the interpretive steps and contextual information that the addressee need to access in order to get the humorous point of the joke" (page 271). That taxonomy includes intentional versus unintentional jokes, integrated versus non-integrated jokes in the ongoing conversation or non-canned jokes, those based on the processing of the joke and its explicit/implicit interpretations and those based on social and cultural assumptions stored in the hearer's encyclopaedic information.

In general, this book offers a valuable contribution to the understanding of linguistic and cognitive studies. The breadth of coverage with a wide range of approaches ensures that the book will be of benefit to students and researchers at all level of experiences. The chapters combine an overview of key studies and recent developments in the fields of lexicology, semantics

and pragmatics with their own analyses of written texts. Yet some students and researchers may lack analyses of images and multimodal cases (pictures, video footage, smells, etc.) as these would have also offered interesting insights into cognition-based language research, showing that meaning is not only verbal but also non-verbal and multimodal, as mentioned with regard to multimodal metaphor by RUIZ DE MENDOZA and GALERA MASAGAGA (pages 162 and 174), paralinguistic evidence provided by speakers, as quoted by EIZAGA REBOLLAR (page 186) and verbal and non-verbal communication processes in specialised communicative situations, as stated by RODRÍGUEZ-PIÑERO ALCALÁ and GARCÍA ANTUÑA (pages 260 and 264).

Another possible shortcoming of the book is the scarce interest in cognitive linguistics for specialised language except for two chapters in only the pragmatic section of the book: RODRÍGUEZ-PIÑERO ALCALÁ and GARCÍA ANTUÑA's chapter on specialised communication and language teaching for Specific Purposes and YUS RAMOS' chapter on strategies and effects on jokes in Humorous Discourse. Obviously, other chapters using, among others, semantic, lexicological and, another missing discipline in the book, translational approaches to LSP would have been appreciated by many students and researchers.

Nevertheless, despite these few weaker points of the collection the book's strengths outweigh its weaknesses as its chapters certainly add to the currently available literature on language and cognition research. As a result, this book can be highly recommended to those scholars and students interested in language and cognitive processes to whom it is aimed at.

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