

List of Figures and Tables xv

Preface xvii

Abbreviations and Symbols xix

Part I Preliminaries 1

1 Semantics in Linguistics 3

1.1 Introduction 3

1.2 Semantics and Semiotics 5

1.3 Three Challenges in Doing Semantics 5

1.4 Meeting the Challenges 7

1.5 Semantics in a Model of Grammar 8

1.5.1 Introduction 8

1.5.2 Word meaning and sentence meaning 9

1.6 Some Important Assumptions 10

1.6.1 Reference and sense 11

1.6.2 Utterances, sentences, and propositions 11

1.6.3 Literal and non-literal meaning 13

1.6.4 Semantics and pragmatics 15

1.7 Summary 17

Exercises 17

Further Reading 19

Notes 19

References 20

2 Meaning, Thought, and Reality 22

2.1 Introduction 22

2.2 Reference 24

2.2.1 Types of reference 24

2.2.2 Names 26

2.2.3 Nouns and noun phrases 27

2.3 Reference as a Theory of Meaning 29

2.4 Mental Representations 31

2.4.1 Introduction 31

2.4.2 Concepts 32

2.4.3 Necessary and sufficient conditions 33

2.4.4 Prototypes 34

2.4.5 Relations between concepts 36

2.4.6 Acquiring concepts 37

2.5 Words, Concepts, and Thinking 37

2.5.1 Linguistic relativity 38

2.5.2 The language of thought hypothesis 40

2.5.3 Thought and reality 41

2.6 Summary 42

Exercises 43

Further Reading 44

Notes 44

References 45

Part II Semantic Description 49

3 Word Meaning 51

3.1 Introduction 51

3.2 Words and Grammatical Categories 52

3.3 Words and Lexical Items 53

3.4 Problems with Pinning Down Word Meaning 56

3.5 Lexical Relations 59

3.5.1 Homonymy 60

3.5.2 Polysemy 60

3.5.3 Synonymy 61

3.5.4 Opposites (antonymy) 63

3.5.5 Hyponymy 65

3.5.6 Meronymy 66

3.5.7 Member–collection 67

3.5.8 Portion–mass 67

3.6 Derivational Relations 67

3.6.1 Causative verbs 68

3.6.2 Agentive nouns 68

3.7 Lexical Typology 69

3.7.1 Polysemy 70

3.7.2 Color terms 71

3.7.3 Core vocabulary 73

3.7.4 Universal lexemes 74

3.8 Summary 75

Exercises 76

Further Reading 78

Notes 79

References 80

4 Sentence Relations and Truth 84

4.1 Introduction 84

4.2 Logic and Truth 86

4.3 Necessary Truth, A Priori Truth, and Analyticity 91

4.4 Entailment 94

4.5 Presupposition 97

4.5.1 Introduction 97

4.5.2 Two approaches to presupposition 98

4.5.3 Presupposition failure 100

4.5.4 Presupposition triggers	101
4.5.5 Presuppositions and context	103
4.5.6 Pragmatic theories of presupposition	104
4.6 Summary	105
Exercises	106
Further Reading	108
Notes	108
References	110

5 Sentence Semantics 1: Situations 112

5.1 Introduction	112
5.2 Classifying Situations	113
5.2.1 Introduction	113
5.2.2 Verbs and situation types	115
5.2.3 A system of situation types	118
5.2.4 Tests for situation types	120
5.2.5 Tense	122
5.2.6 Aspect	125
5.2.7 Comparing aspect across languages	130
5.2.8 Combining situation type and aspect	132
5.3 Modality and Evidentiality	134
5.3.1 Modality	134
5.3.2 Mood	138
5.3.3 Evidentiality	140
5.4 Summary	142
Exercises	143
Further Reading	146
Notes	146

References 147

6 Sentence Semantics 2: Participants 149

6.1 Introduction: Classifying Participants 149

6.2 Thematic Roles 150

6.3 Grammatical Relations and Thematic Roles 155

6.4 Verbs and Thematic Role Grids 156

6.5 Problems with Thematic Roles 158

6.6 The Motivation for Identifying Thematic Roles 161

6.7 Causation 164

6.8 Voice 166

6.8.1 Passive voice 166

6.8.2 Comparing passive constructions across languages 169

6.8.3 Middle voice 172

6.9 Classifiers and Noun Classes 175

6.9.1 Classifiers 175

6.9.2 Noun classes 177

6.10 Summary 178

Exercises 179

Further Reading 182

Notes 182

References 184

7 Context and Inference 189

7.1 Introduction 189

7.2 Deixis 190

7.2.1 Spatial deixis 190

7.2.2 Grammaticalization of context 193

7.2.3 Extensions of spatial deixis 194

7.2.4	Person deixis	194
7.2.5	Social deixis	195
7.3	Reference and Context	196
7.4	Knowledge as Context	197
7.4.1	Discourse as context	198
7.4.2	Background knowledge as context	199
7.4.3	Mutual knowledge	200
7.4.4	Giving background knowledge to computers	201
7.5	Information Structure	203
7.5.1	The information status of nominals	203
7.5.2	Focus and topic	205
7.5.3	Information structure and comprehension	208
7.6	Inference	208
7.7	Conversational Implicature	210
7.7.1	Grice's maxims of conversational cooperation	211
7.7.2	Generalizing the Gricean maxims	214
7.7.3	Relevance Theory	215
7.8	Lexical Pragmatics	217
7.9	Summary	219
	Exercises	220
	Further Reading	224
	Notes	224
	References	225
8	Functions of Language: Speech as Action	229
8.1	Introduction	229
8.2	Austin's Speech Act Theory	232
8.2.1	Introduction	232

8.2.2 Evaluating performative utterances 234

8.2.3 Explicit and implicit performatives 234

8.2.4 Statements as performatives 235

8.2.5 Three facets of a speech act 237

8.3 Categorizing Speech Acts 237

8.4 Indirect Speech Acts 239

8.4.1 Introduction 239

8.4.2 Understanding indirect speech acts 241

8.4.3 Indirect acts and politeness 242

8.5 Sentence Types 245

8.6 Summary 247

Exercises 248

Further Reading 250

Notes 250

References 252

Part III Theoretical Approaches 257

9 Meaning Components 259

9.1 Introduction 259

9.2 Lexical Relations in CA 260

9.2.1 Binary features 261

9.2.2 Redundancy rules 261

9.3 Katz's Semantic Theory 262

9.3.1 Introduction 262

9.3.2 The Katzian dictionary 262

9.3.3 Projection rules 263

9.4 Grammatical Rules and Semantic Components 265

9.4.1 The methodology 265

9.4.2	Thematic roles and linking rules	269
9.5	Talmy's Typology of Motion Events	273
9.6	Jackendoff's Conceptual Structure	278
9.6.1	Introduction	278
9.6.2	The semantic components	279
9.6.3	Localist semantic fields	281
9.6.4	Complex events and states	282
9.6.5	THINGS: Semantic classes of nominals	283
9.6.6	Cross-category generalizations	284
9.6.7	Processes of semantic combination	284
9.7	Pustejovsky's Generative Lexicon	287
9.7.1	Event structure	288
9.7.2	Qualia structure	291
9.8	Problems with Components of Meaning	294
9.9	Summary	295
	Exercises	295
	Further Reading	299
	Notes	300
	References	301

10 Formal Semantics 305

10.1	Introduction	305
10.2	Model-Theoretical Semantics	307
10.3	Translating English into a Logical Metalanguage	308
10.3.1	Introduction	308
10.3.2	Simple statements in predicate logic	309
10.3.3	Quantifiers in predicate logic	311
10.3.4	Some advantages of predicate logic translation	313

10.4 The Semantics of the Logical Metalanguage	315
10.4.1 Introduction	315
10.4.2 The semantic interpretation of predicate logic symbols	315
10.4.3 The domain	316
10.4.4 The denotation assignment function	316
10.5 Checking the Truth-Value of Sentences	317
10.5.1 Evaluating a simple statement	318
10.5.2 Evaluating a compound sentence with \wedge "and"	318
10.5.3 Evaluating sentences with the quantifiers \forall and \exists	320
10.6 Word Meaning: Meaning Postulates	321
10.7 Natural Language Quantifiers and Higher-Order Logic	323
10.7.1 Restricted quantifiers	325
10.7.2 Generalized quantifiers	326
10.7.3 The strong/weak distinction and existential there sentences	327
10.7.4 Monotonicity and negative polarity items	329
10.7.5 Section summary	330
10.8 Intensionality	331
10.8.1 Introduction	331
10.8.2 Modality	332
10.8.3 Tense and aspect	334
10.9 Dynamic Approaches to Discourse	336
10.9.1 Anaphora in and across sentences	337
10.9.2 Donkey sentences	338
10.9.3 DRT and discourse anaphora	339
10.10 Summary	344
Exercises	345
Further Reading	348

Notes 348

References 350

11 Cognitive Semantics 353

11.1 Introduction 353

11.2 Categorization 356

11.2.1 The rejection of classical categories 356

11.2.2 Embodiment and image schemas 358

11.2.3 Linguistic and encyclopedic knowledge 362

11.3 Polysemy 363

11.3.1 Prepositions 363

11.3.2 Modal verbs 368

11.4 Metaphor 369

11.4.1 Introduction 369

11.4.2 Conceptual Metaphor Theory 371

11.4.3 Features of metaphor 372

11.4.4 The influence of metaphor 375

11.5 Metonymy 376

11.6 Mental Spaces 377

11.6.1 Connections between spaces 378

11.6.2 Referential opacity 381

11.6.3 Presupposition 384

11.6.4 Conceptual integration theory 385

11.6.5 Section summary 388

11.7 Langacker's Cognitive Grammar 388

11.7.1 Nouns, verbs, and clauses 389

11.7.2 Construal 390

11.8 Construction Grammar 392

11.9 Summary 394

Exercises 395

Further Reading 398

Notes 398

References 400

Solutions to Exercises 405

Glossary 435

Index 458