

British English. They were mainly interested in those vocabulary differences which they assumed to be due to cultural differences between the United States and Britain, but we are equally interested in vocabulary differences which reveal linguistic preferences in the various countries in which English is spoken. Whether vocabulary differences are cultural or linguistic in nature, they can be used for the automatic classification according to variety of English of texts of unknown provenance. The extent to which the vocabulary differences between the corpora represent vocabulary differences between the varieties of English as a whole depends on the extent to which the corpora represent the full range of topics typical of their associated cultures, and thus there is a need for corpora designed to represent the topics and vocabulary of cultures or dialects, rather than stratified across a set range of topics and genres. This will require methods to determine the range of topics addressed in each culture, then methods to sample adequately from each topical domain.

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07-644 TRUSCOTT, JOHN (National Tsing Hua U, China; truscott@mx.nthu.edu.tw), **Optionality in second language acquisition: A generative, processing-oriented account.** *International Review of Applied Linguistics in Language Teaching* (Walter de Gruyter) 44.4 (2006), 311–330. doi:10.1515/IRAL.2006.014

The simultaneous presence in a learner's grammar of two features that should be mutually exclusive (optionality) typifies second language acquisition. But generative approaches have no good means of accommodating the phenomenon. The paper proposes one approach, based on Truscott and Sharwood Smith's (2004) MOGUL framework. In this framework, development involves items being written in the lexicon during processing, in accordance with UG principles embodied in the processors, and their resting activation levels gradually rising as a consequence of repeated use. Stored items compete with one another for inclusion in the representations constructed during processing, with success based on resting levels plus demands of the current processing task. Optionality occurs when two rival items coexist and neither has yet achieved a resting level at which it consistently triumphs over the other. The account is applied to various cases of optionality in second language acquisition.

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Pragmatics

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07-645 FÉLIX-BRASDEFER, J. CÉSAR (Indiana U, Bloomington, USA; cfelixbr@indiana.edu), **Linguistic politeness in Mexico: Refusal strategies among male speakers of Mexican**

Spanish. *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.12 (2006), 2158–2187.

doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.05.004

This study investigates the linguistic strategies employed by monolingual native speakers (NSs) of Mexican Spanish of one community in Mexico in refusal interactions in formal/informal situations. The study focuses on three aspects of politeness: (1) degree of formality; (2) politeness systems and strategy use; and (3) politeness and the notion of face in Mexico. Twenty Mexican male university students participated in four role-play interactions; each participant interacted with two NSs of Spanish, with one NS in formal situations and with a different interlocutor in informal situations. The production data were supplemented by verbal reports to examine speakers' perceptions of refusals. The findings show that in this community politeness is realized by means of formulaic/semi-formulaic expressions employed to negotiate face (Watts 2003). An analysis of the refusal interactions indicates that among these speakers, the negotiation of face is accomplished largely by various indirect attempts at (re)negotiating a successful resolution. Also, face needs are oriented towards the group, emphasizing involvement over independence (Scollon & Scollon 2001). Finally, the notion of negative face, as proposed in Brown & Levinson (1987), is re-examined in light of the data.

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07-646 FUKUSHIMA, KAZUHIKO (Kansai Gaidai U, Osaka, Japan; kaz@kansai.gaidai.ac.jp), **Conspiracy of form and context for proper semantic interpretation: The implications of lonesome numeral classifiers in Japanese.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.5 (2007), 960–989. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.04.009

Semantic flexibility and pragmatic dynamism of numeral classifiers in Japanese are witnessed through their unexpected behaviour in giving rise to 'unusual looking' constituents. The unusual constituents are pernicious from a point of view upholding the concept of rigid/stereotypical syntactic constituency often presupposed by traditional theories of syntax. Following Fukushima (2002, 2003), it is argued that, in order to capture such apparently odd behaviour of numeral classifiers, an 'inclusive' grammatical framework is effective and adequate, which is capable of simultaneously synthesizing information pertaining to both form and context.

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07-647 GRAHAM, SAGE LAMBERT (U Memphis, USA; sgraham2@memphis.edu), **Disagreeing to agree: Conflict, (im)politeness and identity in a computer-mediated community.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.4 (2007), 742–759. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.11.017

Recent research on politeness has attempted to re-examine the seminal work of Brown and Levinson (1987) and refine the framework to be more applicable to a wider variety of circumstances (Watts 2003 and Spencer-Oatey 2005). Although, as Locher (2004) notes, there have been several empirical studies building on Brown and Levinson's (1987) framework of politeness, there are relatively few studies which explore the dynamics of these newer models in empirical research. This empirical study addresses this gap by exploring how expectations of (im)politeness are negotiated within an e-mail community. Examination of the communicative practices indicate that, in this e-community, the norms for interaction within the community of practice (Eckert and McConnell-Ginet 1999, Lavé & Wenger 1991 and Holmes & Meyerhoff 1999) merge with the norms of (polite) interaction within the computer medium to create a unique set of expectations for what constitutes polite behavior in a computer-mediated setting. Deviation from these norms frequently results in conflict, but the (active) negotiation of norms of politeness in this community of practice, or C of P (through conflict) give group members an opportunity to (re)negotiate the group identity.

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07-648 HATİPOĞLU, ÇİLER (Middle East Technical U, Ankara, Turkey; ciler@metu.edu.tr), **(Im)politeness, national and professional identities and context: Some evidence from e-mailed 'Call for Papers'**. *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.4 (2007), 760-773. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.11.014

This study aims to uncover whether or not factors such as national and professional identities and the medium of interaction (i.e., e-mails), affect the way Turkish and British conference organisers begin their Call for Papers for international conferences (CFPIC), and when and how they use inclusive 'we' pronouns in messages written in English. The survey also examines if there is a relationship between these three factors and the interpretation of (im)politeness by comparing whether or not writers with different cultural backgrounds, while trying to reach their aim (i.e., collect conference papers), (dis)obey some of the politeness rules proposed by Brown & Levinson (1987). The corpus for this study consisted of e-mailed CFPIC collected between January 2002 and February 2006. CFPIC were related to areas such as linguistics, foreign/second language education and literature. The findings of the research suggest intricate and dynamic relations between a number of the micro- and macro-contextual factors, and some features of e-mails in English written by members of Turkish and British cultures. It is hoped that the results of this study will contribute to enhancing knowledge in the field of politeness and electronic communication, raising awareness of the relationship between cultural and professional identities and the interpretation of

(im)politeness, thus providing valuable insights into intercultural communication conventions.

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07-649 HAUGH, MICHAEL (Griffith U, Nathan, Queensland, Australia; m.haugh@griffith.edu.au), **The co-constitution of politeness implicature in conversation**. *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.1 (2007), 84-110. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.07.004

The notions of politeness and implicature are key concepts in the field of pragmatics, yet while there have been numerous studies on politeness and implicature phenomena in various languages, there has been much less attention paid to the intersection between politeness and implicature. The notion of 'politeness implicature', which refers to instances where by virtue of implying something politeness arises, is thus introduced in order to further our understanding of politeness, implicature, and their intersection. An analysis of the ways in which 'politeness implicatures' arise in conversation indicates that they are not simply indirect meanings arising from recognition of speaker intentions by hearers, but rather arise from joint, collaborative interaction between speakers and hearers. It is thus proposed that an account which proceeds from the assumption that emergence or interactional achievement is a key characteristic of communication, namely the Conjoint Co-Constituting Model of Communication [Robert Arundale, 'An alternative model and ideology of communication for an alternative to politeness theory'. *Pragmatics* 9 (1999), 119-154; Robert Arundale, 2005, 'Pragmatics, conversational implicature, and conversation'. In Kristine Fitch & Robert Sanders (eds.), *Handbook of language and social interaction*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum, 41-63], is better placed to account for the way in which 'politeness implicatures' are anticipated or inferred from the situation as a whole in conversation.

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07-650 HAUGH, MICHAEL (Griffith U, Nathan, Queensland, Australia; m.haugh@griffith.edu.au), **Emic conceptualisations of (im)politeness and face in Japanese: Implications for the discursive negotiation of second language learner identities**. *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.4 (2007), 657-680. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.12.005

Learners of languages often face various dilemmas in relation to their identities in that language. In this paper, it is argued that if learners of Japanese are to learn how to successfully manage these various dilemmas, they need to acquire a more emically-grounding understanding of the various dimensions that can influence or be influenced by their second language identities. Two phenomena that have received only mention in passing in relation to the discursive negotiation of identities thus far are '(im)politeness' and 'face'. An emic analysis

reveals the pivotal role occupied by *place* in the interactional achievement of '(im)politeness' and 'face' in Japanese. It is thus proposed that the discursive accomplishment of identities is reflexively indexed through 'place' to the interactional achievement of '(im)politeness' and 'face'. This approach is forwarded in an attempt to offer greater clarity in explicating the manner in which discursive dispute over the respective 'places' of interactants can impact upon the negotiation of identities in intercultural conversation. In this way, learners of Japanese may become more empowered in their attempts to manage their second language identities.

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07-651 HsIEH, SHELLEY CHING-YU (National Cheng Kung U, Taiwan; chingyu2@gmail.com), **A corpus-based study on animal expressions in Mandarin Chinese and German.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.12 (2006), 2206–2222. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.08.007

This study is based on the Corpora of Animal Expressions in Mandarin Chinese and in German. I first apply Goddard's (1998) approach of semantic molecules to examine *Cat* expressions for the purpose of exploring the semantic interaction and the cultural backgrounds within the form of society. Various acts of speech in the form of animal expressions then reveal people's thoughts. The salient semantic molecules of *cat* are 'weak' in Mandarin Chinese and 'weak, false, small, unimportant, flattering, quick, shrill' in German; those of *tiger* are 'powerful, courageous, fierce' in Mandarin Chinese and 'powerful, fierce' in German. It is found that there is an interconnection and interaction between semantic molecules and these animal names serve as semantic contributors in distinct domains, e.g., *cat* for 'woman' in German. Furthermore, animal expressions demonstrate different mentalities as well as the Mandarin speakers' group-centric and German speakers' individualistic modes of thought.

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07-652 HUTH, THORSTEN (Utah State U, Logan, USA; huth@siu.edu), **Negotiating structure and culture: L2 learners' realization of L2 compliment-response sequences in talk-in-interaction.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.12 (2006), 2025–2050. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.04.010

This study investigates the effects of teaching American learners of German culture-specific complimenting behavior with findings in conversation analysis (CA). Using CA as a tool to analyze dyadic L2 learner interaction, this study focuses on how L2 learners realize sequences underlying L2 compliment-responses in talk-in-interaction. Based on two data examples of NNS–NNS interaction, it will be demonstrated that (1) L2 learners display their structural awareness

of the sequential organization of a particular L2 compliment-response and use it in talk-in-interaction; (2) L2 learners employ distinct discourse markers to signal to their co-participants the specific use of L2 sequential patterns; (3) L2 learners display their cultural orientation as they apply the L2 sequences and thus make the 'foreign' sequences a locus for negotiating their own cultural identity. While the data suggest that teaching L2 conversational sequences may be effective to heighten L2 learners' cultural awareness, problematic aspects involved in L2 learners' negotiating cross-cultural differences in their talk, such as fallacious interpretations of the teaching materials and the need for displaying their own cultural orientation, are equally reflected in the structure of their talk. The data thus show the inherently social nature of L2 interaction in the context of foreign language teaching.

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07-653 Ji, SHAOJUN (Chinese Culture U, Taipei, Taiwan; sjji_ca@yahoo.ca), **A textual perspective on Givón's quantity principle.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.2 (2007), 292–304. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.01.010

This paper reports on a study conducted to test in written texts the applicability of one of Givón's iconic coding principles, the quantity principle, which states that less predictable information will be given more coding material. The study bases its investigation on English narrative texts, with attention focused on comparing the linguistic constructions that are used at episode- and subepisode-initial positions in these texts. The results of the study support the quantity principle. They specifically indicate that the episode-initial constructions, which function to signal major breaks in the thematic structures of the narrative texts, tend to carry more pieces of new (and therefore unpredictable) information than their subepisode-initial counterparts and in correspondence to this difference the former use more coding material than the latter.

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07-654 KIMPS, DITTE (U Leuven, Belgium; Ditte.Kimps@hotmail.com), **Declarative constant polarity tag questions: A data-driven analysis of their form, meaning and attitudinal uses.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.2 (2007), 270–291. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.08.003

This paper is concerned with declarative constant polarity tag questions (henceforth DCPTQs). The form of a DCPTQ consists of a declarative host clause followed by a tag with the same polarity, as illustrated by the following example: He's fully fit, is he? I will argue that DCPTQs as a subtype of constant polarity tag questions (henceforth CPTQs) are not an erratic exception to the system of reverse polarity tag questions, e.g. She's pretty, isn't she?, but are part of the tag question system. In this paper, I will focus on DCPTQs with positive polarity

and discuss their form, semantics and main types of contextual uses. For their meaning, I will begin with McGregor's interpersonal characterization of the general function of CPTQs viz. modalizing the proposition in the host clause and soliciting response. I will then show that the DCPTQ also fulfils more specific functions and is able to express a number of attitudes towards the proposition and the interlocutor. These attitudes link up with different distributional patterns of personal pronouns and auxiliaries in the tag, with specific particles, different intonation contours in the DCPTQ, and with varying responses to the tag question.

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07-655 LEE, DUCK-YOUNG (The Australian National U, Canberra, Australia; Duck.Lee@anu.edu.au), **Involvement and the Japanese interactive particles *ne* and *yo***. *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.2 (2007), 363-388. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.06.004

Involvement is seen as a prerequisite to the success of any conversational encounter; it is a fundamental element in creating and maintaining an interactional exchange. Invoking the initial spirit of the notion 'involvement', the current study aims to investigate the interactive nature of the Japanese particles *ne* and *yo*, and to shed light on some issues of interactional exchange in spoken conversation. The study argues that the particles commonly share the function of signalling the speaker's attitude in order to invite the involvement of the conversation partner. Yet, *ne* and *yo* differ in their way of inviting the partner's involvement. *Ne* invites the partner's involvement in an 'incorporative' manner, by which the speaker is committed to align with the partner with respect to the contents and feeling conveyed in the utterance. On the other hand, *yo* invites the partner's involvement in a 'monopolistic' manner, by which the speaker is committed to enhance his/her position as the deliverer of the utterance content and his/her feeling toward the partner. On the basis of the particles' interactive nature, other relevant phenomena, including their effect in expressions of request, are also discussed.

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07-656 LOOCK, RUDY (Université de Lille III, Villeneuve d'Ascq, France; rudyloock@yahoo.fr), **Appositive relative clauses and their functions in discourse**. *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.2 (2007), 336-362. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.02.007

Previous studies on relative clauses have mostly dealt with the restrictive/non-restrictive dichotomy, focusing on the differences from a syntactic point of view. In particular, non-restrictive relative clauses have traditionally been defined negatively, i.e. with reference only to functions they do not have. In this article, evidence is provided for a positive definition of this type of relative clause, which will be labelled

here 'appositive relative clause' (ARC). A taxonomy is suggested, obtained through the study of a 450-utterance, contextualised corpus. The taxonomy is based on syntactic, semantic, and above all, pragmatic criteria, following Prince's (1981, 1992) definitions of given/new information and Sperber and Wilson's relevance theory (1986). Findings of a survey also show that ARCs are not systematically suppressible and that the differences in suppressibility can be accounted for by the different functions fulfilled by the ARC in discourse.

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07-657 MANETTA, EMILY (U Vermont, Burlington, USA; emily.manetta@uvm.edu), **Unexpected left dislocation: An English corpus study**. *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.5 (2007), 1029-1035. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2007.01.003

The discourse function of the syntactic construction left dislocation in English has received significant attention. Prior research has identified at least three distinct form-function correlations underlying left dislocation. This paper examines left dislocation tokens from a corpus of spoken English recorded in South Philadelphia. From this emerges a fourth type of left dislocation not previously identified. We define this variety of left dislocation, termed the Unexpected Subject type, via a Centering Theory analysis of the surrounding discourse. This finding adds even greater diversity to the potential discourse functions underlying the left dislocation construction, and thus lends important support to the claim that the association between syntactic form and discourse function is arbitrary. Future research utilizing much larger corpora will not only allow us to hone the definition of the Unexpected Subject type, but may also reveal that there are indeed more discourse functions of the left dislocation construction that have not been identified.

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07-658 MZUSHIMA, LISA & PAUL STAPLETON (Hokkaido U, Sapporo, Japan; paulstapleton@gmail.com), **Analyzing the function of meta-oriented critical comments in Japanese comic conversations**. *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.12 (2006), 2105-2123. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.05.002

Commonplace images from abroad of Japanese people and language hold that the Japanese are highly ritualized, harmony-seeking, and somewhat humourless. While the ritualized nature of Japanese communication is hardly contentious, and few would argue about the importance of harmony, this study attempts to describe and analyze a particular aspect of Japanese humour (which does, in fact, exist). However, unsurprisingly, this humour is governed by the two larger forces of a harmony-seeking culture and a strong reliance on ritualized interaction. In an analysis of 4 h of conversation among four different groups of Japanese

speakers, with a particular focus on teasing remarks, it was found that some Japanese humorous conversations follow a distinct formulaic communicative pattern. The present study proposes that in this particular pattern of exchange, it is the person being criticized who actually initiates the criticism, rather than the individual who utters the critical remark, thus commencing an exchange of meta-oriented critical comments. Such a pattern highlights a novel aspect of face threatening acts (FTA) within a humorous context.

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07-659 NETZ, HADAR & RON KUZAR (U Haifa, Israel; kuzar@research.haifa.ac.il), **Three marked theme constructions in spoken English.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.2 (2007), 305–335. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.04.007

In this article we draw a distinction between two domains of discourse functions: discourse management functions and discourse content functions. We focus on three marked theme (topic) constructions: Extraposition (XP) (aka. Left Dislocation/Detachment), Object Fronting (OF) (aka. Topicalization, Y-Movement), and Subject Marking (SM). We provide empirical evidence from naturally occurring spoken English texts showing that all three constructions have discourse content functions, and that XP and SM also have discourse management functions. The discourse content functions demonstrated are contrast, similarity, enumeration, listing within the theme, and hedged disagreement. In addition, we found that in the domain of discourse management, XP signals an assertive opening move through which speakers mark the beginning of a new segment of talk around a certain discourse topic, whereas SM signals a sustaining move, through which speakers continue negotiating a given discourse topic despite some informational difficulty (e.g. heavy or new theme).

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07-660 ROGERSON-REVELL, PAMELA (U Leicester, UK; pmrr1@le.ac.uk), **Humour in business: A double-edged sword. A study of humour and style shifting in intercultural business meetings.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.1 (2007), 4–28. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.09.005

This paper discusses the use of humour in a series of intercultural business meetings. The findings of the study show that humour is present in all meetings but the frequency and tone of the humour varies with the style of the meetings. Indeed shifts in style between formality and informality are a common feature of the meetings and humour is one of several interactive strategies which cluster together to mark these shifts towards greater informality. It appears that these style shifts and the humour within them can be used strategically to show solidarity and power, particularly by the dominant ‘in-group’ of western, male participants. It is suggested that, in these meetings, humour acts as a ‘double-

edged sword’ being used to both positive and negative effect: facilitating, on the one hand, collaboration and inclusion and, on the other, collusion and exclusion.

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07-661 RUHI, ŞÜKRIYE (Middle East Technical U, Ankara, Turkey; sukruh@metu.edu.tr) & **HALE IŞIK-GÜLER, Conceptualizing face and relational work in (im)politeness: Revelations from politeness lexemes and idioms in Turkish.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.4 (2007), 681–711. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.11.013

This article addresses two issues: the conceptualization of face and related aspects of self in Turkish, and the implications of the conceptualization of face and the self in interaction in Turkish for understanding relational work at the emic and the etic levels. The paper analyses two root lexemes and idioms derived from the lexemes in Turkish, which are posited as being crucial to understanding (im)politeness and relational work in Turkish culture, and discusses the implications of the analysis for conceptualizing relational work. It maintains that cultures may foreground different aspects of self toward which people show sensitivity in relational work, and that concerns over transactional issues are a major component of relational work.

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07-662 SELTING, MARGRET (Universität Potsdam, Germany; selting@rz.uni-potsdam.de), **Lists as embedded structures and the prosody of list construction as an interactional resource.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 39.3 (2007), 483–526. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.07.008

After giving an overview of the treatment of lists in the literature, I describe lists in German talk-in-interaction. I show that, apart from the preference for three-part lists described by Jefferson (1990), lists are embedded in a larger three-component structure that the list is the middle part of. For lists proper, I suggest to differentiate between closed and open lists that are produced with different kinds of practices. It is the prosody that is used to suggest the list as made up of a closed or an open number of list items, irrespective of its syntactic embedding. I then concentrate on open lists, in particular their intonation. Open lists may be produced with different kinds of, albeit similar, intonation contours. But it is not so much the particular intonation contour that is constitutive of lists, but a variety of similar contours plus the repetition of the chosen contour for at least some or even all of the list items. Furthermore, intonation is deployed to suggest the interpretation of a potential final list item as either a designed list completer or as another designed item of the list. The design of this final list item as a completer or as another list item is used as a practice to signal the non-completion or completion of the list proper. But even after completing the list proper, the larger

three-component structure also has to be closed in order to embed and accommodate the list into the surrounding sequential interaction. For the analysis of the practices of list construction I am concentrating on the role of prosody, especially intonation, giving evidence to show that intonation is indeed one of the methodically used constitutive cues that makes the production and structuring of lists recognizable for recipients.

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07-663 SOARES DA SILVA, AUGUSTO (Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Braga, Portugal; assilva@facil.ucp.pt), **The polysemy of discourse markers: The case of *pronto* in Portuguese.** *Journal of Pragmatics* (Elsevier) 38.12 (2006), 2188–2205. doi:10.1016/j.pragma.2006.03.009

The aim of this paper is to analyze the meanings and functions of the Portuguese discourse marker *pronto*, using an oral corpus. The functional polysemy of this lexical item, which is usually viewed rather pejoratively as a mere filler, has resulted from a recent process of grammaticalization of the adjective *pronto* ‘ready, quick’, with the meanings of ‘finished’ or ‘complete’ (in the case of a thing) or ‘prepared for’ (for a person or thing). In this paper, we show how the different pragmatic-discoursal uses distinguished in the corpus (concluding, agreeing, explaining, imposing, punctuating, phatic, and emotive) are metonymically and metaphorically related to two initial mental images and their implications in different cognitive and communicative domains: the retrospective image of a finished process (concluding, agreeing, turn-yielding) and the prospective

image of an available process (imposing, explaining, punctuating, turn-taking). We then go on to describe the process of grammaticalization. Finally, we identify the cognitive and pragmatic factors of the polysemy of the discourse markers and discuss the ‘invariant meaning’ hypothesis put forward by Fischer (2000).

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07-664 TAKIMOTO, MASAHIRO (Tezukayama U, Japan; takimoto@tezukayama-u.ac.jp), **The effects of explicit feedback and form-meaning processing on the development of pragmatic proficiency in consciousness-raising tasks.** *System* (Elsevier) 34.4 (2006), 601–614. doi:10.1016/j.system.2006.09.003

The present study evaluates the relative effectiveness of two types of input-based instruction, consciousness-raising instruction (the consciousness-raising task only) and consciousness-raising instruction with feedback (the consciousness-raising task + reactive explicit feedback) for teaching English polite requestive forms, involving 45 Japanese learners of English. Treatment group performance was compared to that of a control group on the pre-tests, post-tests, and follow-up tests: a planned discourse completion test, a planned role-play test, an unplanned listening judgment test, and a planned acceptability judgment test. The results of data analysis indicate that the two treatment groups performed better than the control group, and that the explicit reactive feedback was not always indispensable in the consciousness-raising task.

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