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“The variety of the contributions give a clear indication of the diversity and vigour to be found in the cognitive linguistic paradigm”, write the editors in their introductory statement to the third proceedings volume as cognitive linguistics shapes itself into a recognizable linguistic paradigm with its mission to present research of all kinds on the interaction between language and cognition. Despite the diversity indicated, the collective volume astonishingly achieves a balanced presentation of diverse topics and thus conceals the probably unresolvable problems of selection

and combination which necessarily confront any editor(s). There are no less than twenty-seven papers exploring the encounter between language and cognition, and the majority of these focussing on languages other than English. The construction of the volume disappointingly follows the traditional divisions into areas such as ‘lexical semantics and morphology’, ‘metaphor’, ‘syntax and semantics’, ‘pragmatics’ or ‘computational linguistics’, possibly governed by the needs and wants of non-cognitivists, and to that possible end it offers a wide range of texts of, in general, appropriate length, suitable for digestion by linguists with different theoretical backgrounds. The editors’ introduction devoted to the individual contributors is a succinct exercise in contextualisation. Apart from the question of the utility of such sparsely sketched background, the introduction nevertheless serves to connect some of the ‘anthologized’ authors to one another, although some are only tenuously linked to the overarching topic of the conference. In what follows, I would like to briefly mention a couple of contributions in order to show what wealth of information can be found in this necessarily and indisputably heterogeneous volume.

The only paper from the ‘theoretical issues’ section (Newmeyer), the leadoff article, looks at the relationship between generative and cognitive linguistics (the ‘cognitive commitment’ issue looms large) and claims that commonalities clearly outweigh differences between both approaches. Coming back to the ‘lexical semantics and morphology’ section, I find no less than eleven papers focussing on French (Aurnage and Vieu), Indo-European (Györi and Hegedüs), Slavic (Janda), English (Mettinger and Rice), English and Modern Greek (Nikiforidou), Coeur d’Alene (Ogawa and Palmer), Japanese (Tagashira) and Russian (Williams), complemented by Geeraerts’ tongue-in-cheek contribution to onomasiological saliency and commercial brand names in Belgium and Newman’s cross-linguistic comparison of ‘give’ morphemes. Aurnage and Vieu show the necessity of setting up a three-level-system (geometrical, functional and pragmatic) in order to represent the meanings of spatial expressions; an elaboration of cognitive processes underlying the contradictory semantic development within clusters of etymologically related words is pursued by Györi and Hegedüs, and the discussion of change to include West and South Slavic languages is continued and extended in Janda’s paper. In “Contrast and schemas: Antonymous adjectives”, Mettinger sets out to give a brief sketch of the image-schematic properties of antonymous adjectives. Nikiforidou takes up the cause of nominalizations (“a means of packing a sentence into a bundle that fits into other sentences”, Vendler 1967) and aims to identify patterns and relate meanings. If it is central to the ideas of cognitive linguistics that language use is grounded in our

daily experience, then Ogawa and Palmer's contribution on three morphemes of contact lies at the heart of the cognitive endeavour. In their analysis, an integrational approach in the Langackerian sense proves to be the most fruitful in order to tackle the diversity of meanings of three select spatio-relational prefixes in Coeur d'Alene. What this paper shares with the remaining contributions of this section is the firm belief that the concept of schematic networks is a viable alternative as a way of providing profound insights into the syntax and semantics of select English prepositions (Rice), relational nouns in Japanese (Tagashira) or the 'reflexive' marker *-sja* in Russian (Williams). Four papers explore the metaphorical dimension of language, the topic itself being an integral part of cognitive linguistics conferences by now. Cienki in "The left/right polarity in Russian" turns his attention to the semantic asymmetry between words which refer to left and right spatially and non-spatially, noting that these often develop both positive and negative connotations in their non-literal senses; and the pervasiveness (and persuasiveness?) of figurative language, not only in everyday speech, but also in legal language, is an issue which Delaney and Emanation pursue in an attempt to unveil racial segregation in the U.S. in the mid-20th century. In "Through as a means to metaphor", Hilferty adds another investigation focussing on prepositional polysemy, taking recourse to the notion of family resemblance in order to account for systematic relationships between related senses. Jäkel finally addresses the question as to why German speakers, when it comes to the understanding of metaphors, either follow the preferred direction of transfer from concrete source domain to abstract target domain or different directions of transfer ("Is metaphor really a one-way street? One of the basic tenets of the cognitive theory of metaphor put to the test"). The syntax/semantics interface is well covered by contributions which convincingly show that units in general fall somewhere along a continuum of symbolic structures ranging in size from morphemes to lexical items to phrasal structures and then on to sentence and discourse level structures. Cook's contribution, titled "Samoan as an active zone language", presents an analysis within the framework of cognitive grammar to show how some languages (including Samoan) possibly favour coding active zones rather than inherently salient entities in syntactically prominent positions (as, for example, English does in *David blinked* or *I'm in the phone book*). A number of papers, predominantly looking at Spanish, expose the problems linguists face when they deal with the prepositional and the non-prepositional accusative (Delbecque), grammatical relations in triactant clauses (Garcia-Miguel) or biactant clauses (Vázquez Rozas). In "Swedish abstract transitional phrases: An in-between phenomenon in the linguistic system", Ekberg supports the

assumption that traditional linguistic levels (i.e., morphology, lexicon, syntax) are non-discrete categories rather than absolutely distinct, independent modules. Complementation in languages all over the world seems to be a controversial issue hotly debated in linguistic circles; Verspoor argues in “*To* infinitives” that the distribution of complementation patterns following both epistemic and deontic verbs in English is much more systematic than posited in non-cognitive approaches to grammar. Virtanen completes this section by investigating aspects of iconicity in English text structure (“Adverbial placement and iconicity”). The two final sections in the volume deal with pragmatic and computational issues. Presently, there are only few projects exploring the possible implementation of cognitive linguistics within the framework of pragmatics (taking the traditional division of areas for granted). Thus, Maes and Oversteegen’s contribution on the impact of nominal and temporal phenomena on the interpretation of discourse may be highly appreciated by those concerned with linguistic usage events; and an experience-based approach to markedness by Van Langendonck neatly ties in with what usage-based models of language usually claim: i.e., the speaker’s linguistic system is fundamentally grounded in language-in-performance. Holmqvist finally explores ways to implement cognitive grammar on computers; he points out that notions such as ‘domain’, ‘constructional schema’, ‘predication’, etc. have to be properly translated in an attempt to employ Langacker’s approach in a computer simulation of natural language processing.

How well this collective volume succeeds in capturing the basic assumption of cognitive linguistics (i.e., that linguistic descriptions and explanations should be in line with what we know about human mental processing as a whole [Langacker] or in meeting the cognitive commitment [Gibbs; Lakoff]) may be an open question. But it is certainly a volume worth recommending for purchase to your librarian, and will turn out to be an invaluable mine of data and information for anyone who wants to account for language use. Clearly, the volume is mainly data-based, not data-driven; many of the studies included are both descriptive and analytical and provide a large amount of insights from languages other than English. Although there is no fresh impetus to the cause of cognitive grammar or linguistics from dignitaries such as Langacker, Lakoff, Kemmer, etc., the volume is clearly of interest to those from linguistics proper (!?) and neighbouring disciplines such as psychology, applied linguistics, computational linguistics, cultural studies, etc.

Reference

- Vendler, Zeno
1967 *Linguistics in Philosophy*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.