

## NADĚŽDA KUDRNÁČOVÁ: DIRECTED MOTION AT THE SYNTAX-SEMANTICS INTERFACE.

«NADĚŽDA KUDRNÁČOVÁ: DIRECTED MOTION AT THE SYNTAX-SEMANTICS INTERFACE.»

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*fem Zubatým* etc.). My second suggestion concerns the lack of an index, which would surely be essential to and greatly appreciated by many readers. Or even several indices – a geographical index to help readers wishing to learn, for example, which French or Russian linguists have been included, a factual index to help readers searching for linguists who were dealing, for example, with functional sentence perspective, paedolinguistics or philosophy of language. The creation of such an index would obviously require a great amount of work, and this information might fill a third volume, but it would be extremely useful to readers and researchers.

Harro Stammerjohann, the work's main editor, points out in the preface that a work of this type can never be final or totally complete, and it will probably never seem sufficiently balanced to all readers. Nevertheless, the two volumes of *Lexicon Grammaticorum* will undoubtedly become an essential reference work for linguists, and a useful book of interest to any student, scholar, university, or general library.

*Jan Holeš (Olomouc)*

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> Among the Slovak scholars – who often spent parts of their lives in Bohemia or Czechoslovakia, we find Vavřinec Benedikt z Nudožer (1555–1615), Anton Bernolák (1762–1813), Pavol Doležal (1700–1778), Martin Hattala (1821–1903), Ludovít Novák (1908–1992), Eugen Pauliny (1912–1983), Jozef Ružička (1916–1989), Pavol Jozef

Šafárik (1795–1861), Ján Stanislav (1904–1977), and Ludovít Štúr (1815–1856).

<sup>2</sup> We preserve the transliteration used in the *Lexicon Grammaticorum*.

<sup>3</sup> Incorrectly mentioned as "Tábord" in the book.

<sup>4</sup> Zgusta's work received attention in many countries. For more on Zgusta, see HEŘMANOVÁ, Z. (1994): *Best wishes to Prof. Ladislav Zgusta. Archiv orientální* 62, 169–193 (bibliography up to 1993). HOCK, H. H., ed. (1997): *Historical, Indo-European, and Lexicographical Studies – A Festschrift for Ladislav Zgusta on the Occasion of his 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday*. In: *Trends in Linguistics. Studies & Monographs* 90, Berlin/New York (bibliography up to 1994). HOLEŠ, J. (2004): *Professor Ladislav Zgusta Octogenarian. Archiv orientální* 72, 106–114 (bibliography 1993–2002). KACHRU, B. B./H. KAHANE, eds (1995): *Cultures, Ideologies, and the Dictionary. Studies in Honor of Ladislav Zgusta*. In: *Lexicographica, Series Maior* 64, Tübingen. DOLEŽAL, F. S. F./B. I. THOMAS CREAMER, eds (2006): *Ladislav Zgusta. Lexicography Then and Now: Selected Essays*. In: *Lexicographica, Series Maior* 129, Tübingen.

NADĚŽDA KUDRNÁČOVÁ,  
*DIRECTED MOTION AT THE  
SYNTAX-SEMANTICS INTERFACE.*

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132 pp.

Kudrnáčová's monograph is a compact, highly technical treatise on the interplay between the semantics of a specific type of

English verb, verbs of directed motion, and the syntactic variables that interact with the verbal meaning and serve as a catalyst or preventive in the semantic recategorization of the verbs under examination. In addition to considering the semantic structure and the syntactic make-up of motion verbs, it looks into the causal patterning of motion events which allows the author to conceive of directed motion as a distinct category of a non-additive nature. The monograph maintains a dialogue with the extensive contemporary literature bearing on the subject (e.g. Levin and Rappaport Hovav, Talmy, Goldberg, Croft, and others) in which the author critically re-examines the current views and both develops and modifies them using her own sample of authentic examples which is based mainly on the BNC.

The text is divided into seven chapters of varying length, each contributing to the description of directed motion in verbs from a different perspective, such as change of location and state and their conflation, agentiveness, causality, resultativeness, non-additiveness of directionality, etc. It is the result of the author's long-term interest in verbs of motion which is attested to by a series of articles dating from 2000 onwards to be found in References. As the results of the minute and detailed analyses yielding a wealth of observations are not easy to generalize, we offer a brief overview of the chapters instead, highlighting the main points covered in them.

*1. The Formation of Verbal Meanings.* Of the two commonly distinguished categories of motion verbs (manner of motion and path verbs), the chapter focuses on the

former type, more specifically on those encoding a direct external cause, i.e. verbs denoting self-agentive locomotion. It claims that manner of motion verbs are not a homogeneous class, inasmuch as the feature of manner displays specific properties which are syntactically relevant. The chapter sets out to establish in these verbs their heterogeneity, lexical-semantic potential dependent on 'extended' constructions into which they enter, non-augmentability of verbal meaning by a simple addition of argument expressions, and finally, the semantic potential of the intransitive bare constructions expressing non-directional motion (*John walked*) in which these verbs participate (the potential, although encoding a minimal semantico-syntactic configuration, is distinct from that of extended constructions).

*2. Directed Motion and Non-directed Motion in Relation to a Change of Location and a Change of State.* Starting from the distinction between 'pure' motion and motion as an 'activity', the chapter examines the difference between directed and non-directed motion and arrives at the incompatibility between directed motion and a change in state, forcing the verb to choose semantically compatible arguments. It then considers the metaphorical transposition of change of location (path) to state and the implications involving borderline cases between change of location and state. By showing that the integration of the verb into syntactic constructions does not involve the monotonicity of the verb's semantic extension, the first two chapters argue for an approach that merges the verb's meaning and the semantics of the syntactic environment and the arguments of the proposition.

3. *On the Non-additive Status of the Directionality of Motion* sets out to prove that directionality of the verb is not a mere extension of its basic meaning. Rather than accepting a causative relation between the motion and its direction, the author argues for directionality being the property of the path, which is not the result of the motion and is not merely appended to it, hence does not have an additive status. She gives eight reasons for this claim (obligatory directionality, spatial grounding, etc. in path verbs) which she discusses at length in the following sections.

4. *On the 'Manner' vs. the 'Completive Duration' Distinction in Pace Adverbs* deals with the meaning of VP modifiers (*slowly, quickly*) indicating progression in space and time, treated here as conflating the features of 'manner' and 'completive duration'. It also points out the evaluative potential of these adverbs in motion situations.

5. *On Causality in Directed Movement (the Case of Burn)* discusses verbs (of the type *burn*) that can be used as verbs of motion only when instead of expressing change of state in the mover they describe the mover causing a change of state in the location (*The branding iron burned into the calf's skin*). The author analyzes the causative structuring of motion events with *burn*-type verbs, concentrating on the nature of causality (accompanied by transmission of energy between the moving agent and the locative patient while preserving the mover's integrity). The aim is to clarify the nature of movement and the characteristics of the mover in general.

6. *The Conflation of a Change of State and a Change of Location* brings together

two types of change, that of location and state, which although sharing the meaning of traversal along a path belong to different conceptual domains. The chapter shows that they can be conflated (blending the cause and the result) within one complex causative structure in a single clause provided there is a mediating component bridging their conceptual disparity (*break eggs into a location*). A crucial element though is the shared, pragmatic knowledge of the world of the speakers, which confines this type to a set of familiar situations. The author then explains the subtle differences between superficially similar verbs (*break/squeeze st into a location*) by the difference in functional positions of the object in each case and the change of state effects (disintegration, deformation).

7. *On the Resultativity of Directed Agentive Locomotion Events*. Developing Goldberg and Jackendoff's (2004) claim that telicity (*run to a location*) does not determine the resultative status of the path phrase (*run towards a location*) the author presents the features distinguishing the two types, i.e. end-boundedness of the path, a strictly linear (*towards*) vs. vectorial (*to*) character of the path, the mover's intention and the motor plan of the motion. She argues against the use of decompositional formulas to capture causativity in telic motion events as misrepresenting the state of affairs (by preventing the subtraction of the end position from the movement itself) and offers instead a reformulation of the event co-identification theory reflecting the non-additive status of motion directionality. On her interpretation the non-additiveness means that the link between directionality

and motion is not causal and posits the causal link between the mover's activity and the change of location (as attested to by reflexive object constructions, *march oneself to a location*).

*Conclusions* handily sums up the essential arguments appearing in the chapters and thus provides a quick guide to the complex structure of text. It largely makes up for the absence of an index (though an author index would be useful). As a whole, the monograph presents an original, consistent and self-contained semantico-syntactic analysis of a subset of English verbs. It represents

a valuable contribution to both the general methodology of verbal semantics description and the knowledge of factors determining the meaning of motion verbs in English.

*Aleš Klégr, Markéta Malá (Prague)*

#### N o t e

Goldberg, A. and R. Jackendoff (2004): The English Resultative as a Family of Constructions. *Language* 80, 532–568.