

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03310-8 - From Grammar to Meaning: The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by Ivano Caponigro and Carlo Cecchetto

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

From Grammar to Meaning

The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

In recent years, the study of formal semantics and formal pragmatics has grown tremendously showing that core aspects of language meaning can be explained by a few principles. These principles are grounded in the logic that is behind – and tightly intertwined with – the grammar of human language. In this book, some of the most prominent figures in linguistics, including Noam Chomsky and Barbara H. Partee, offer new insights into the nature of linguistic meaning and pave the way for the further development of formal semantics and formal pragmatics. Each chapter investigates various dimensions in which the logical nature of human language manifests itself *within* a language and/or *across* languages. Phenomena like bare plurals, free choice items, scalar implicatures, intervention effects, and logical operators are investigated in depth and at times cross-linguistically and/or experimentally. This volume will be of interest to scholars working within the fields of semantics, pragmatics, language acquisition, and psycholinguistics.

IVANO CAPONIGRO is an Associate Professor in the Department of Linguistics at the University of California, San Diego.

CARLO CECCHETTO is a Full Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Milan-Bicocca.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03310-8 - From Grammar to Meaning: The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by Ivano Caponigro and Carlo Cecchetto

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03310-8 - From Grammar to Meaning: The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by Ivano Caponigro and Carlo Cecchetto

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

From Grammar to Meaning

The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by

Ivano Caponigro

University of California, San Diego

Carlo Cecchetto

University of Milan-Bicocca



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03310-8 - From Grammar to Meaning: The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by Ivano Caponigro and Carlo Cecchetto

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107033108

© Cambridge University Press 2013

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2013

Printed and bound in the United Kingdom by the MPG Books Group

A catalog record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication data

From grammar to meaning : the spontaneous logicality of language / Edited by Ivano Caponigro, University of California, San Diego and Carlo Cecchetto, University of Milan-Bicocca.

pages cm

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-03310-8

1. Semantics. 2. Grammar, Comparative and general. 3. Meaning

(Psychology) I. Caponigro, Ivano, 1970– editor of compilation. II. Cecchetto, Carlo, editor of compilation.

P325.F75 2013

415–dc23

2013000016

ISBN 978-1-107-03310-8 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press

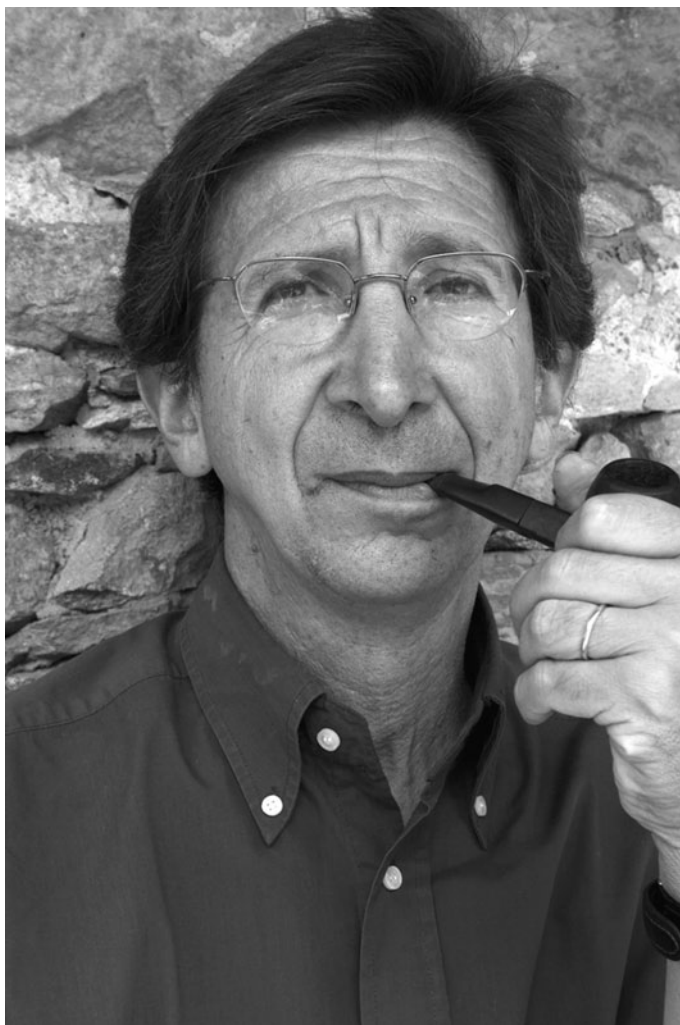
978-1-107-03310-8 - From Grammar to Meaning: The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by Ivano Caponigro and Carlo Cecchetto

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Studies offered to Gennaro Chierchia



Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03310-8 - From Grammar to Meaning: The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by Ivano Caponigro and Carlo Cecchetto

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents

<i>List of contributors</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xii
 Introduction	 1
IVANO CAPONIGRO AND CARLO CECCHETTO	
 Part I From grammar to meaning: foundational issues	 11
1 Portrait of a semanticist as a young man: Gennaro Chierchia 1979–1988	13
BARBARA H. PARTEE	
2 Notes on denotation and denoting	38
NOAM CHOMSKY	
 Part II From grammar to meaning: formal developments, new findings, and challenges	 47
3 On the existential force of bare plurals across languages	49
VEENEETA DAYAL	
4 Broaden your views, but try to stay focused: a missing piece in the polarity system	81
ANAMARIA FĂLĂUȘ	
5 On the free choice potential of epistemic and deontic modals	108
MARIA ALONI AND MICHAEL FRANKE	
6 Implicatures of modified numerals	139
CLEMENS MAYR	
7 A scalar semantics for scalar readings of number words	172
CHRISTOPHER KENNEDY	
	vii

viii	Contents	
8	Presupposition projection from quantificational sentences: trivalence, local accommodation, and presupposition strengthening DANNY FOX	201
	Part III From grammar to meaning: experimental insights	233
9	Unification in child language STEPHEN CRAIN AND ROSALIND THORNTON	235
10	Acquisition meets comparison: an investigation of gradable adjectives FRANCESCA PANZERI, FRANCESCA FOPPOLO, AND MARIA TERESA GUASTI	266
11	Intervention in grammar and processing ADRIANA BELLETTI AND LUIGI RIZZI	294
	<i>Appendix A Gennaro Chierchia's list of publications</i>	312
	<i>Appendix B "Logic and Linguistics: A Marriage of Inconvenience"</i>	318
	<i>References</i>	332
	<i>Index of names</i>	356
	<i>Index of subjects</i>	361

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03310-8 - From Grammar to Meaning: The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by Ivano Caponigro and Carlo Cecchetto

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contributors

MARIA ALONI

ILLC/Department of Philosophy

University of Amsterdam

ADRIANA BELLETTI

University of Siena

IVANO CAPONIGRO

Department of Linguistics

University of California, San Diego

CARLO CECCHETTO

Department of Psychology

University of Milan-Bicocca

NOAM CHOMSKY

Department of Linguistics and Philosophy

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

STEPHEN CRAIN

Department of Linguistics and ARC Centre of Excellence
in Cognition and its Disorders

Macquarie University

VEENEETA DAYAL

Department of Linguistics

Rutgers University

ANAMARIA FĂLĂUȘ

Department of Linguistics and Basque Studies

University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU)

and Linguistics Laboratory of Nantes (LLING)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03310-8 - From Grammar to Meaning: The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by Ivano Caponigro and Carlo Cecchetto

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x List of contributors

FRANCESCA FOPPOLO

Department of Psychology

University of Milan-Bicocca

DANNY FOX

Department of Linguistics

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

MICHAEL FRANKE

ILLC/Department of Philosophy

University of Amsterdam

MARIA TERESA GUASTI

Department of Psychology

University of Milan-Bicocca

CHRISTOPHER KENNEDY

Department of Linguistics

University of Chicago

CLEMENS MAYR

Zentrum für Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft

Center for General Linguistics

Berlin

FRANCESCA PANZERI

Department of Psychology

University of Milan-Bicocca

BARBARA H. PARTEE

Department of Linguistics

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

LUIGI RIZZI

University of Siena

ROSALIND THORNTON

Department of Linguistics and ARC Centre of Excellence

in Cognition and its Disorders

Macquarie University

Cambridge University Press

978-1-107-03310-8 - From Grammar to Meaning: The Spontaneous Logicality of Language

Edited by Ivano Caponigro and Carlo Cecchetto

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank our authors and reviewers for their willingness to help us in preparing the book, their extremely valuable feedback, and their cooperation with our strict time line. Our reviewers are: Flavia Adani, Maria Aloni, David Barner, Gregory Carlson, Jonathan Cohen, Luka Crnić, Veneeta Dayal, Edit Doron, Anamaria Fălăuș, Francesca Foppolo, Jon Gajewski, Maria Teresa Guasti, Christopher Kennedy, Giorgio Magri, Clemens Mayr, Isa Orvieto, Daniele Panizza, Francesca Panzeri, Jacopo Romoli, Uli Sauerland, and Benjamin Spector.

Thanks to Helen Barton, Helena Dowson, and all the other members of the CUP editorial team who supported the idea of this book from the very beginning and who have always been willing and ready to help us with our many questions and issues.

Thanks to Patrick Munoz for his extremely valuable help with formatting and editing and with the preparation of the bibliography and the indices.

Thanks to Daniel B. Kane for helping with editing the book proposal and the introduction.

Special thanks to Barbara H. Partee for her excellent feedback on the introduction and for bringing the play *Logic and Linguistics: A Marriage of Inconvenience* to our attention.

Thanks to Kathleen Adamczyk for finding an actual copy of the play, and to Kathleen Adamczyk and Raymond Turner for permission to publish it in this book as an appendix.

Grazie di tutto cuore to Isa Orvieto for her enthusiastic support of our plans for this book and for helping us in many ways, including making sure the project was kept hidden from Gennaro and providing us with a picture of Gennaro in collaboration with Marco Santambrogio, who we thank as well.

Veneeta Dayal deserves our highest gratitude. She was an extremely valuable consultant throughout the entire project; she was very generous in sharing her knowledge and wisdom; and, among many other things, she provided invaluable meticulous feedback on the introduction. *Dhanyavaad!*

Abbreviations

1	first person
2	second person
3	third person
ACC	accusative
ASP	aspect
CL	clitic
CONN	connective
DECL	declarative
IMP	imperative
MASC	masculine
NEG	negative
NOM	nominative
PAST	past tense
PL	plural
PROG	progressive
REFL	reflexive
SG	singular
SUBJ	subjunctive
TOP	topic