Book Review

Winters, Margaret E. & Geoffrey S. Nathan
COGNITIVE LINGUISTICS FOR LINGUISTS
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As an addition to the Springer Briefs in Linguistics, Winters and Nathan's *Cognitive Linguistics for Linguists* presents a brief yet highly informative account of the historical development of Cognitive Linguistics, its key tenets, relationship with other major theoretical frameworks of the time, and its far-reaching effects for other fields of study.

It consists of a Preface and six chapters. The Introduction presents Cognitive Linguistics in relation to its most famed predecessor, Generative Grammar, providing what is essentially a diachronic overview of how Cognitive Linguistics fit into the linguistic paradigm at the time. It tackles the issue of psychological reality and delineates between the different yet related meanings of Cognitive Grammar, Cognitive Semantics, and Cognitive Linguistics. This chapter also offers a brief outline of the relationship between Generative Semantics and Cognitive Linguistics, emphasizing the importance that both place on meaning, and pointing out how meaning is mapped in both. In brief, it also introduces work of world-renowned contributors to the field, such as Lakoff and Langacker, as well as the work of Rosch and how it set the stage for the development of prototype theory. The chapter closes with an overview of pre-structuralist notions, predominantly polysemy and the two aspects of meaning: the onomasiological and the semasiological.

Chapter 2, the Conceptual and Historical Background, continues with Langacker's focus on visual imagery, in that "all linguistic meaning *is* imagery, which can be visual, auditory […] or more abstract, such as the ways in which we conceive space and time" (p. 14). The chapter provides an illustration of his now famous diagrams, with an explanation of how they were meant to convey meaning (in this instance, the example used was that of EN, as in *swollen wrist*). The chapter also deals with gestalts, now referred to as 'linguistic units', indivisible wholes which can at the same time be analyzed as consisting of parts. The remainder of the chapter is devoted to illustrating the meaning of various linguistic units by means of diagrams, including in these descriptions key terms such as figure/trajectory and ground/landmark. Schemas are presented for *out* and *over*, to illustrate both prototypical meanings and possible metaphorical ones. The chapter ends with an overview of how the meanings of various

sentences, which had previously been posited to have differing deep and surface structures, can be explained within the theoretical framework Cognitive Linguistics by means of polysemy.

The chapter Conceptual Underpinning and Methodology begins with the claim that "language is symbolic of meaning" (p. 27), invoking the phonological realization of a unit, and its semantic component. The chapter then goes on to present Cognitive Linguistic analyses of grammatical morphemes, lexical items, and constructions, and how their meanings reflect speaker construal. It also outlines categorization, illustrating it with the example of the noun *fruit* to show both its prototypical meaning and radial meanings. The way Cognitive Linguistics addresses some more complex linguistic units is presented in a special section devoted to construction grammar and the work of Goldberg. The chapter ends with a reference to exemplar theories, and in general how linguistic structures and knowledge of the world around us are stored in the mind. Terms such as usage-based, entrenchment, salience, and profiling are also introduced, in part to refer to language acquisition and how it is accounted for in Cognitive Linguistics. Finally, reference is also made to conceptual blending and the difference between source and target domains, as well as corpus-based studies and their link to Cognitive Linguistics.

Chapter four, Case Studies, is effectively the longest chapter in the book and the most 'hands-on' in its approach. It contains detailed accounts of numerous case studies of a variety of linguistic structures, both from a diachronic and synchronic point of view. All of the case studies listed in the chapter were included for one primary purpose: to indicate how Cognitive Linguistics could be used just as, if not more, successfully as its predecessors in providing a semantics-based analysis for various phenomena. They include c-command, there-structures, complementation in general, negation, phrase structure rules, and various sounds.

Chapter 5, Expansions and Newer Directions, takes us into the future and provides an overview of all the fields of research that Cognitive Linguistics has become a part of, including first and second language acquisition, sociolinguistics, poetics and literary theory. Chapter 6 ends the volume with an overview of the key concepts previously outlined.

The volume was written to be practical yet detailed, and is suited for introductory courses at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The frequent summaries provided in each chapter facilitate the use of what is already a compact volume. Despite being brief, it is in fact exhaustive in content, and to the point. For anyone looking to do a refresher course in Cognitive Linguistics, or for the novice just starting out who may be daunted by the vast number of publications in the field, this is truly a must-have volume. The references included in the volume contain some of the most seminal and most illustrative works that cannot be overlooked. Firmly grounded in a historical overview, well-equipped with concrete examples, and with a clear look at current and future trends of development, the volume is overall a very informative read.