



Advanced Translation Research Center
Lehrstuhl Prof. Dr. H. Gerzymisch-Arbogast

**Workshop: *Discourse Analysis in Translation and Interpreting*
(in English)**

Guest Researcher: Daniel Dejica (Timisoara, Romania)



15 June 2007 9:00 – 17:00 h Building A 2.2, Conference Room (120)

09.00 – 09.15	Welcome and Introduction Prof. Dr. Heidrun Gerzymisch-Arbogast Daniel Dejica
09.15 – 11.00	Discourse Analysis Essentials Daniel Dejica
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 12.30	Parameters from Discourse Analysis to Community Interpreting Lihua Jiang
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch break
14.00 – 15.00	Discourse analysis & text perspectives in translation Prof. Dr. Heidrun Gerzymisch-Arbogast
15:00 – 15.30	Coffee Break
15:30 – 16.30	Discourse perspectives in text Team
16:30 – 17.00	Summary & Closing Daniel Dejica Prof. Dr. Heidrun Gerzymisch-Arbogast

DISCOURSE ANALYSIS ESSENTIALS

DISCOURSE ANALYSIS IN
TRANSLATION AND
INTERPRETING
WORKSHOP

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Advanced Translation Research Center

University of Saarbrücken

15 June 2007

CONTENT

- Defining Discourse
Discourse versus text – a heuristic approach
 - An Overview of Discourse Analysis
 - Discourse Analysis essentials
 - The identification and analysis of information in discourse
-

DISCOURSE VERSUS TEXT

A heuristic approach

1. BUJUMBURA—It said in a statement on Sunday that 135 people were killed in the capital of Bujumbura and surrounding areas and 137 more in the northern provinces of Citiboke and Bubanza. The government said order has been restored but security forces were still on alert for attacks from rebels of the party for the Liberation of the Hutu People. Burundi has said 272 people were killed in clashes between security forces and rebels which flared a week ago in the central African nation.
-

DISCOURSE VERSUS TEXT

A heuristic approach

2. LIMA—At least 20 members of the Shining Path rebel organization were killed over the weekend by rural vigilantes armed by the government, police said on Monday. Police also said that two people had been killed by rebels—a rancher who had refused to give them the money and another man accused of being an informer. The rebels said they planned to enforce what they called an 'armed strike' yesterday and today to mark the 57th birthday of Abimael Guzman, the former university professor who founded Shining Path.
-

DISCOURSE VERSUS TEXT

A heuristic approach

- 3 At least 14 people died on Saturday after drinking a cheap alcoholic beverage, raising to 20 the number of people killed by the poisonous brew in two days, news report said. The quake measured 5.7 on the Richter scale and was felt shortly before 10.50 am (0850 GMT) Bucharest radio quoted an official report as saying. Judge Neil Dennison said Robert Phee, 23, a technician on the hit musical 'Miss Saigon', was 'gripped by the excitement and theatricality' of his eight robberies which netted him 15,000 pounds.
-

DISCOURSE VERSUS TEXT

A heuristic approach

- 4 This box contains, on average, 100 Large Plain Paper Clips. 'Applied Linguistics' is therefore not the same as 'Linguistics'. The tea's as hot as it could be. This is Willie Worm. Just send 12 Guinness 'cold token' bottle tops.

- 5 Playback. Raymond Chandler. Penguin Books in Association with Hamish Hamilton. To Jean and Helga, without whom this book could never have been written. One. The voice on the telephone seemed to be sharp and peremptory, but I didn't hear too well what it said—partly because I was only half awake and partly because I was holding the receiver upside down.

(Examples from Cook, 1989)

DISCOURSE VERSUS TEXT

- Formalist/Structuralist approach
 - Functional approach
-

Discourse versus text

- Formalist / Structuralist approach
(focuses on the form & structure of discourse)

A particular unit of language above the sentence or the clause.

Harris (1952)

Grimes (1972)

Sinclair (1975)

Coulthard (1977)

Discourse versus text

- o Functional approach

(focuses on the functions of discourse in communication viewed as a kind of social practice)

Language in use

Goffman (1974, 1981)

Hymes (1974)

Brown & Yule (1983)

Leech (1983)

Schiffrin (1994)

Discourse versus text

⇒ Discourse = text

⇒ Discourse ≠ text

Discourse versus text

- o Discourse = text

The text is an instance of the process and product of social meaning in a particular context of situation.

Halliday & Hassan (1989)

Discourse versus text

- o Discourse ≠ text

Discourse: A process in which communication evolves as interaction between the participants.

Discourse = dynamic

Text: The verbal record of discourse; the product of a communicative act.

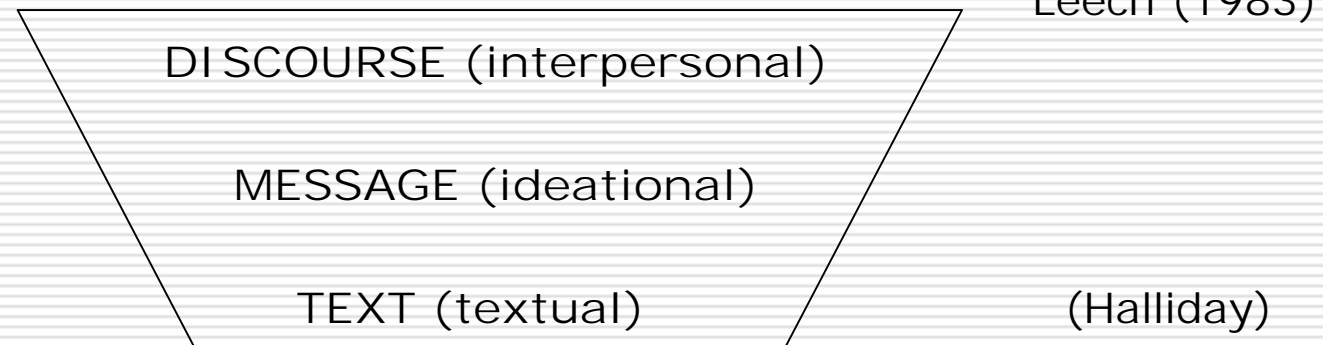
Text = static

[Brown & Yule (1983)]

Discourse versus text

- o Discourse ≠ text

An interpersonal transaction within a linguistic act of communication which includes two more planes, the message and the text.



Discourse versus text

- o Discourse ≠ text

Discourse: Stretches of language perceived to be meaningful, unified, and purposive.

Text: a stretch of language interpreted formally, without context.

Cook (1989)

Discourse versus text

- o Discourse ≠ text

Discourse: Made up of utterances
(utterances=sentences in context).

Text: Made up of sentences
(grammatical perspective).

Bell (1994)

Discourse versus text

- o Discourse = language in use

Language in the context in which it is used.

McCarthy (1991)

The language of communication—
spoken or written.

Hatch (1992)

Discourse versus text

o Discourse ≠ text

Discourse: the use of language in speech and writing in order to produce meaning; language that is studied, usually in order to see how the different parts of a text are connected:
spoken / written discourse * discourse analysis

Text:

- 1 the main printed part of a book or magazine, not the notes, pictures, etc:
My job is to lay out the text and graphics on the page.
- 2 any form of written material:
a computer that can process text * printed text * Highlight the area of text on screen and press the 'delete' key.
- 3 the written form of a speech, a play, an article, etc:
The newspaper had printed the full text of the president's speech.
Can you act out this scene without referring to the text?

(OALD)

Discourse versus text

o Discourse ≠ text

Discourse:

- 1 Formal and orderly and usu. extended expression of thought on a subject
- 2 Connected speech or writing
- 3 A linguistic unit (as a conversation or a story) larger than a sentence

Text:

- 1 the original words and form of a written or printed work
- 2 an edited or emended copy of an original work
- 3 the main body of printed or written matter on a page
- 4 the principal part of a book exclusive of front and back matter

Discourse versus text

o Discourse ≠ text

Discourse:

Communication in speech or writing

Text:

1 The written words in a book, magazine, etc., not the pictures:

The book has 100 pages of closely printed text.

2 The exact words of a speech, etc:

Can we see the full text of your speech before Tuesday?

(CAE)

...and discourse is

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Language in the context in which it is used.○ Stretches of language perceived to be meaningful, unified, and purposive.○ A process in which communication evolves as interaction between the participants.○ The use of language in speech and writing in order to produce meaning.○ Connected speech or writing.○ Communication in speech or writing. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A linguistic unit larger than a sentence○ A particular unit of language above the sentence or the clause. |
|--|--|
-

...and coherence is

- o the quality of being meaningful and unified is called coherence. It is a quality which is clearly necessary for communication, but which cannot be explained by concentrating on the internal grammar of sentences.
-

...and Discourse Analysis is

- o This kind of language—language in use, for communication—is called discourse, and the search for what gives discourse coherence is called discourse analysis.
-

...and the relevance of DA to TS is

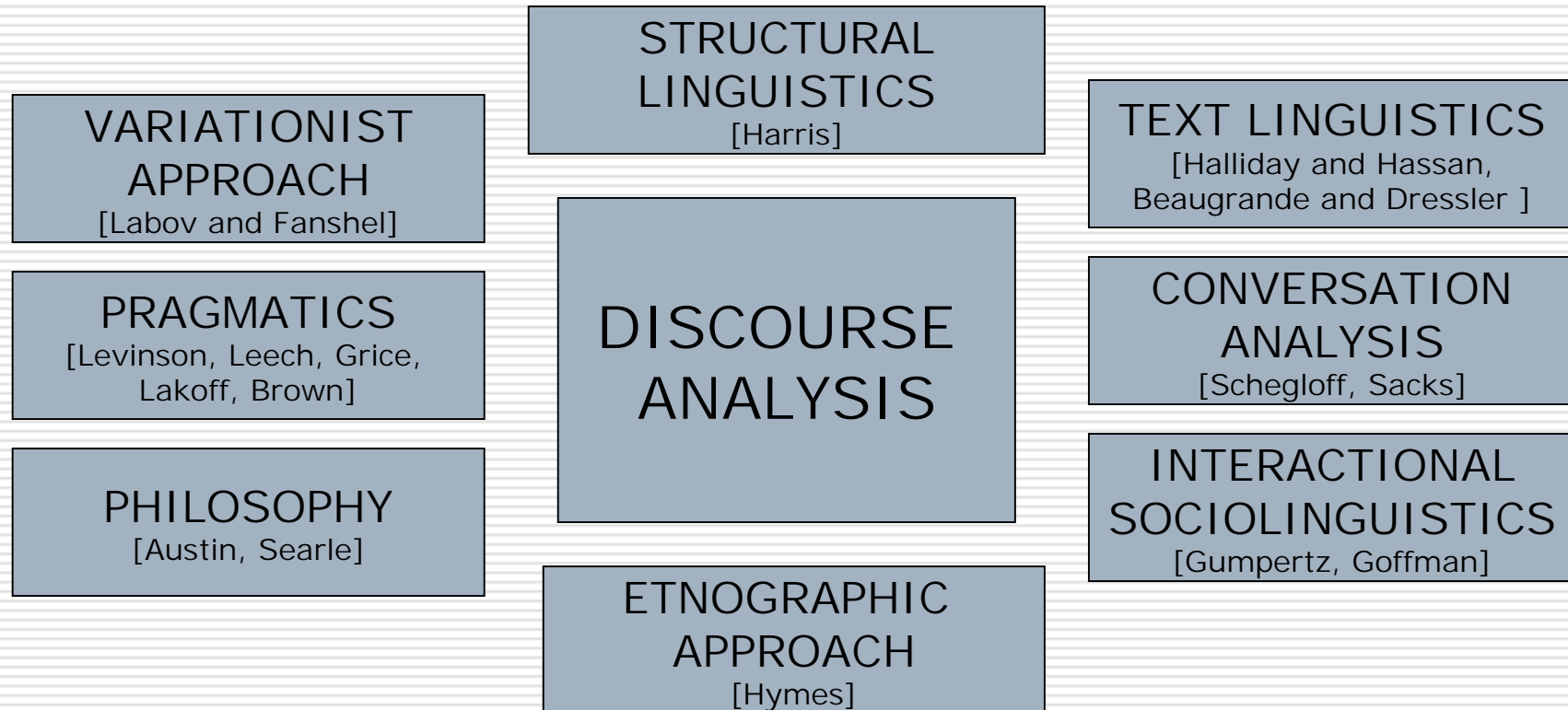
The more translators know about the structures and the dynamics of discourse, the more readily and accurately they can translate both the content and the spirit of a text.

(E. Nida, 1997)

...so, in a nutshell

Translators
are working with texts
and
translating discourse.

AN OVERVIEW OF DISCOURSE ANALYSIS



DISCOURSE ANALYSIS ESSENTIALS

- o Coherence
 - o Structure
-

DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

ESSENTIALS – Coherence

LINEAR/SEQUENTIAL COHERENCE

- Semantic Conditions
 - Cognitive Conditions
 - Pragmatic Conditions
 - Rhetorical Conditions
-

LOCAL COHERENCE

Semantic Conditions

The American writer Katherine Anne Porter (1890-1980) is generally regarded as one of the leading modern writers of short stories. Born in Indian Creek, near San Antonio, Texas, Porter was educated at private schools. In the 1920s and 1930s, she contributed with articles to various newspapers while living in the United States, Europe, and Mexico. Porter's first collection of short stories, *Flowering Judas* (1930), was quickly acclaimed. Other story collections written by her include *Hacienda* (1934); *Noon Wine* (1937); *Pale Horse, Pale Rider* (1939); and *Collected Stories* (1965), which was awarded the 1966 Pulitzer Prize in fiction. Porter's only novel, *Ship of Fools* (1962), depicting a voyage on an ocean liner on the eve of World War II (1939-1945), was made into a motion picture in 1965.

Porter's meticulous construction of complex situations and feelings established her as a leading stylist of her time. Many of her works portray an individual's search for understanding and freedom in an oppressive world. Porter was particularly noted for her ability to universalize individual experience. Although she did not write confessional fiction, many of her stories were based in part on her own experiences, and in several of her stories she reinvented herself as the character Miranda.

(Encyclopedia Encarta)

LOCAL COHERENCE

Cognitive Conditions

NORMAL ORDERING of facts, events, etc.

- o Action discourse: temporal or causal ordering
- o Descriptive and expository discourse:
 - n General-particular
 - n Whole/part-component
 - n Set-subset-element
 - n Including-included
 - n Large-small
 - n Possessor-possession
 - n Outside-inside

ABNORMAL ORDERING of facts, events, etc.

LOCAL COHERENCE

Cognitive Conditions

- Climatic and topographical conditions make dry farming obligatory for a large part of Spanish agriculture. The Mediterranean provinces, particularly Valencia, have irrigation systems that represent the work of many generations, and the formerly arid coastal belt has become one of the most productive areas of Spain.
 - One instrument used in performing arithmetic calculations is the abacus. It consists essentially of a tablet or frame bearing parallel wires or grooves on which counters or beads are moved. A modern abacus consists of a wooden frame with beads on parallel wires, and a crossbar oriented perpendicular to the wires that divides the beads into two groups.
-

LOCAL COHERENCE

Cognitive Conditions

- o Famous Hollywood motion picture couples also include love couples. For instance *A Walk in the Clouds* is a motion picture about a young man returning from World War II who befriends a newly pregnant girl. The girl (played by Aitana Sanchez-Gijon) has left home in fear of her father's wrath over her out-of-wedlock pregnancy. The boy (Keanu Reeves) offers to go home with her, posing as her new husband. The boy finds happiness and acceptance with the girl's family in their idyllic wine-country home, and the young couple falls in love.
 - o The wider operations were the responsibility of Task Force Atlantic, which included naval forces and troops which had been sent to reinforce Southern Command earlier in the year.
 - o He reached the top of the rock where he could see the small stones deposited by the continental glaciers of the last Ice Age.
-

LOCAL COHERENCE

Cognitive Conditions

- 'I can only remember that Janet came out and went to the parking lot. Got in her car and drove off.'
'What car did she have?'
 - It was the largest observatory on the entire West Coast and if there was a place from where he could see the Neon Galaxy, that was it. He padded through the hall, up the four flights of stairs to the little landing where you either went straight ahead and out onto the battlements, or ducked through the wee door into the observatory. It was bitterly cold inside the aluminum hemisphere. He wished he'd thought to put shoes on before he'd started on this piece of nonsense; feet felt like blocks of ice. Still. He opened the door that gave into the extended cupboard under the roof. Dark. Damn, should have thought to bring a torch, too.
-

LOCAL COHERENCE

Pragmatic Conditions

A sequence of speech acts is coherent if it globally performs a macro-speech act and the relation between the macro act and the micro acts is such that the micro act establishes the context (expectations, knowledge, needs, duties) for the macro act.

(Superceanu, 2000)

LOCAL COHERENCE

Pragmatic Conditions

I am announcing today my candidacy for the Presidency of the United States. In the past 40 months, I have toured every state in the Union and I have talked to Democrats in all walks of life. My candidacy is therefore based on the conviction that I can win both the nomination and the election. I believe that any Democratic aspirant to this important nomination should be willing to submit to the voters his views, record and competence in a series of primary contests. I am therefore now announcing my intention of filing in the New Hampshire primary and I shall announce my plans with respect to the other primaries as their filing dates approach. I believe that the Democratic Party has a historic function to perform in the winning of the 1960 election, comparable to its role in 1932. I intend to do my utmost to see that that victory is won. For 18 years, I have been in the service of the United States, first as a naval officer in the Pacific during World War II and for the past 14 years as a member of the Congress. In the last 20 years, I have traveled in nearly every continent and country - from Leningrad to Saigon, from Bucharest to Lima. From all of this, I have developed an image of America as fulfilling a noble and historic role as the defender of freedom in a time of maximum peril - and of the American people as confident, courageous and persevering. It is with this image that I begin this campaign.

(Senator John F. Kennedy Announcing His Candidacy for the Presidency of the United States)

LOCAL COHERENCE

Rhetorical Conditions

Rob Roy, real name Robert MacGregor (1671-1734) was a Scottish brigand, sometimes called the Scottish Robin Hood. Known as Rob Roy, or Robert the Red, because of his red hair, he was a member of the outlawed Scottish clan Gregor. After his lands were confiscated in 1712 by James Montrose, 1st duke of Montrose, to whom he was in debt, Rob Roy became a leader of uprisings and a freebooter. He later lived in peace for a time under the protection of John Campbell, 2nd duke of Argyll, taking the name Robert Campbell, but he was imprisoned by the English in the 1720s. The Scottish novelist Sir Walter Scott turned the brigand into a romantic hero in his popular novel Rob Roy (1818). In 1995 a movie about his struggle was released called Rob Roy.

(Encyclopedia Encarta)

DISCOURSE ANALYSIS ESSENTIALS – Coherence

GLOBAL COHERENCE

- Semantic Conditions
 - Cognitive Conditions
 - Pragmatic Conditions
 - Rhetorical Conditions
-

GLOBAL COHERENCE

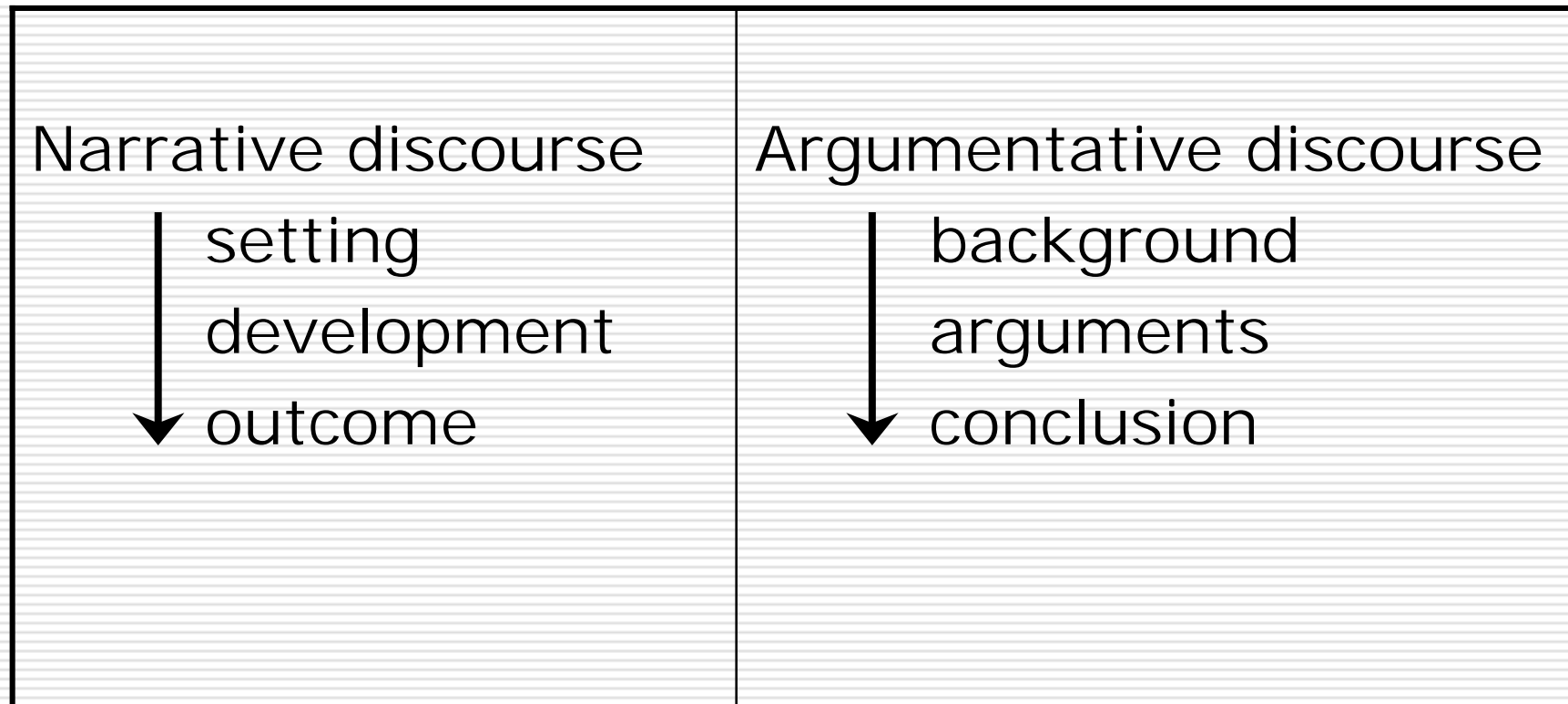
Rhetorical Conditions

- Consistency of the sequences with the conventional categories of discourse superstructures
- Rhetorical text-types: narrative, expository, descriptive, argumentative, etc.

(van Dijk, 1977: 154)

GLOBAL COHERENCE

Rhetorical Conditions



GLOBAL COHERENCE

Rhetorical Conditions

Clinton set to focus on business in Bangladesh

By Stephen Fidler in New Delhi

Bill Clinton today becomes the first US president to visit Bangladesh in a trip expected to highlight possible business opportunities for US companies.

US investment in Bangladesh has risen sharply over the last four years from about \$25m to \$750m, with most capital going into the natural gas and private power sectors and led by companies such as Unocal and AES. Other US companies including Chevron and Texaco, are also said to be ready to invest if a market can be found for the country's natural gas.

Bangladesh has proven reserves of 12,000bn cubic feet but some energy companies believe reserves could be as large as 40,000bn cubic feet, comparable with Libya's or Norway's.

India would be a natural customer for this gas but there is widespread political opposition in Bangladesh to economic dependence on its larger neighbour.

The US development assistance agency, AID, will launch a \$50m initiative aimed at helping Bangladesh build cross-border links between private-sector energy companies.

The US is also Bangladesh's main trading partner due largely to exports of ready-made garments, which have increased sharply since 1955 when the Uruguay Round's agreement on textiles and clothing went into effect. Textiles account for 90 per cent of Bangladeshi exports to the US, which totaled \$1.9bn last year.

Bangladesh has been pressing for an end of quotas on its textile exports to the US by 2005 but Washington has said that no discussion can take place until Bangladesh allows the right of collective bargaining in its export-processing zones.

Seattle-based Stevedoring Services of America is also negotiating with the government over \$438 project to build a container terminal.

Mr. Clinton arrived last night in New Delhi, to which he will return from Dhaka tonight before starting his official visit to India tomorrow. His 11-hour visit to Bangladesh will also highlight initiatives on tropical forest conservation.

(Financial Times, p. 4, Monday, March 20, 2000)

THE IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION IN DISCOURSE

- o Identification
 - o Analysis
 - n Integration
 - n Progression
 - n Interpretation
-

THE IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION IN DISCOURSE

Various approaches, differing terminologies:

- o Theme-Rheme (Firbas, Danes, Halliday, Mudersbach, Gerzymisch-Arbogast),
- o Topic (Sgall, Dik, Givon),
- o Focus (Erteschik-Shir, Dik),
- o Foregrounding-Backgrounding (Hopper),
- o Given-New (Halliday, Prince, Chafe),
- o Staging (Grimes, Chimombo and Roseberry, Kuno).

Combinations of these may occur: Theme-Contrast, Theme-Tail, Background-Focus, etc.

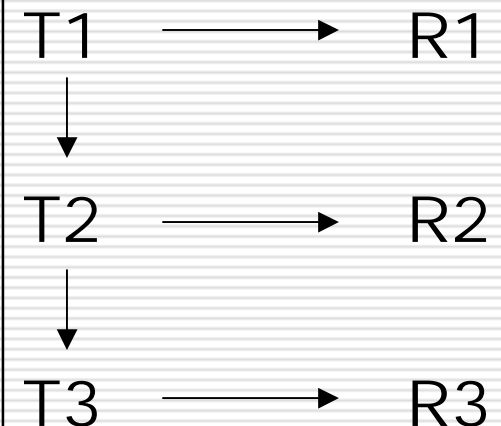
Theme-Rheme – identification

- o Theme as starting point

Ptolemy Project Objectives

The project aims to develop techniques supporting heterogeneous modeling, including both formal "meta-models" and a software laboratory for experimenting with heterogeneous modeling. In this context, it will explore methods based on dataflow and process networks, discrete-event systems, synchronous/reactive languages, finite-state machines, and communicating sequential processes. It will make contributions ranging from fundamental semantics to synthesis of embedded software and custom hardware.

(Ptolemy Project)



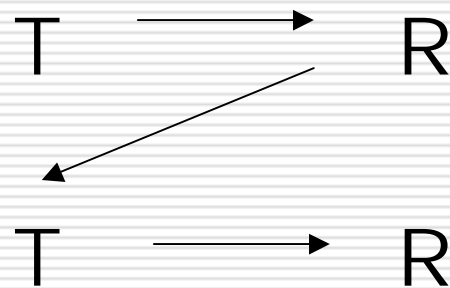
Theme-Rheme

Progression (Danes, 1974)

Linear Progression

Chocolate candy contains sugar, plus the naturally occurring stimulants caffeine and theobromine. The sugar and the stimulants can give you an emotional as well as a physical lift.

(Rinzler, C. A. 1994: 45)

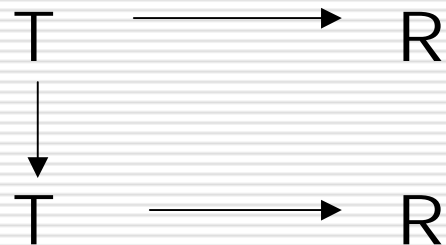


Theme-Rheme Progression

Progression with constant Theme

Smokeless tobaccos are as addictive and carcinogenic as the tobacco in cigarettes, cigars and pipes. Smokeless tobaccos are chewing tobacco and snuff.

(Rinzler, C.A. 1994: 169)

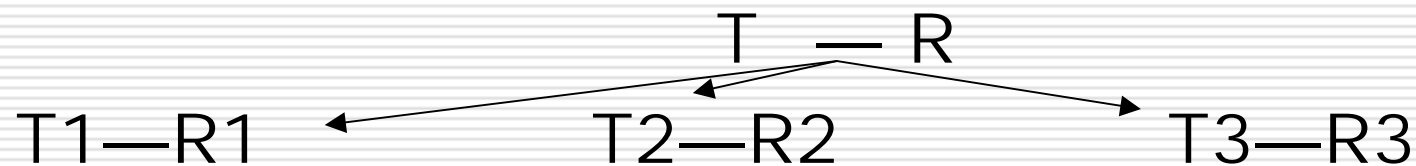


Theme-Rheme Progression

- o Progression with derived Theme

Three main groups were selected to take part in the contest. Group 1 consisted of former Olympic champions; Group 2 consisted of persons with no records in Olympic contests but famous for their participation in illegal contests; and group 3 consisted of professional trainers.

(Guardian, electronic edition. London: Guardian Newspapers Ltd, 1989)



Theme-Rheme – analysis

Rob Roy, real name Robert MacGregor (1671-1734) was a Scottish brigand, sometimes called the Scottish Robin Hood. Known as Rob Roy, or Robert the Red, because of his red hair, he was a member of the outlawed Scottish clan Gregor. After his lands were confiscated in 1712 by James Montrose, 1st duke of Montrose, to whom he was in debt, Rob Roy became a leader of uprisings and a freebooter. He later lived in peace for a time under the protection of John Campbell, 2nd duke of Argyll, taking the name Robert Campbell, but he was imprisoned by the English in the 1720s. The Scottish novelist Sir Walter Scott turned the brigand into a romantic hero in his popular novel Rob Roy (1818). In 1995 a movie about his struggle was released called Rob Roy.

Theme-Rheme Identification and analysis

- o Theme as aboutness
-

Given-new information

- (27) 1 *American football is a **body-contact, 11-man team sport***
played with *an oval ball on a rectangular field with goalposts at each end.*
Each team tries to score *points*
by carrying or passing (to a **team-mate**) **the ball**
5 **over the opponent's goal line** for *a touchdown*
or by kicking **the ball**
between the goalposts for *a field goal.*
A team must advance **the ball 10 yards (9.1 metres)**
*in four attempts, called **downs,***
10 *or turn possession over to **the opponent.***
As the possession of the ball changes from **side to side,**
defensive and offensive teams alternate positions on the field.
This gridiron sport, as it is called because of the **field's markings,**
is indigenous to **the United States**
15 and has not been taken up in *the rest of the world*
to the degree that *other American sports,*
such as **basketball and baseball,** have.
It has spread to some **other countries,** however,
and has achieved a degree of *international popularity*
20 **through television viewing.**

(Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2004 CD-ROM edition)

- ⇒ Bold NPs in 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18 = given information (they have been mentioned before in the text)
- ⇒ Italicized NPs in 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 19, 20 = new information, (they have just been introduced)
- ⇒ NPs in 5, 7, and 11(2) = given (must be related to knowledge shared by writer and reader about American football fields)

The identification of information in discourse

Authors and T-R identification parameters	Syntactic	Semantic	Pragmatic
Halliday	X	X	
Givon	X		
Firbas	X	X	
Erteschik-Shir	X		
Mudersbach & Gerzymisch- Arbogast			X

CONCLUDING REMARKS

New perspectives

The more translators know about the structures and the dynamics of discourse, the more readily and accurately they can translate both the content and the spirit of a text.

(E. Nida, 1997)

[...] Help translators make reasonable and consistent decisions as to the relevance and reliability of source text features in the target text

(H. Gerzymisch-Arbogast, Multidimensional Translation)

Discourse analysis and discourse interpreting.

(Lihua Jiang)

Discourse perspectives in text.

(H. Gerzymisch-Arbogast)

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Advanced Translation Research Center
Lehrstuhl Prof. Dr. H. Gerzymisch-Arbogast

**Workshop: *Discourse Analysis in Translation and Interpreting*
(in English)**

Guest Researcher: Daniel Dejica (Timisoara, Romania)



15 June 2007 9:00 – 17:00 h Building A 2.2, Conference Room (120)

09.00 – 09.15	Welcome and Introduction Prof. Dr. Heidrun Gerzymisch-Arbogast Daniel Dejica
09.15 – 11.00	Discourse Analysis Essentials Daniel Dejica
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 12.30	Parameters from Discourse Analysis to Community Interpreting Lihua Jiang
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch break
14.00 – 15.00	Discourse analysis & text perspectives in translation Prof. Dr. Heidrun Gerzymisch-Arbogast
15:00 – 15.30	Coffee Break
15:30 – 16.30	Discourse perspectives in text Team
16:30 – 17.00	Summary & Closing Daniel Dejica Prof. Dr. Heidrun Gerzymisch-Arbogast