ABSTRACTS

Anaphora : markers and interpretations

Francis CORNISH

Anaphoric reference, deictic reference and predicative, enunciative contexts 31-55

The aim of the article is to show that anaphora and deixis are rhetorical or discourse functions which are closely intertwined, and that they perform complementary roles in terms of the coordination of the participants' attention within a given act of communication. Their domain of operation is thus the discourse memory under construction, and not the co-text (anaphora) and the "objective" utterance situation (deixis), as is often claimed or assumed. Up to a point, the intimate relationship between deixis and anaphora enables the speaker to use the types of indexical expressions specialised in realising one or the other of these discourse functions to perform the opposite function; and it is even possible to realise them by means of the same expression simultaneously. But as we shall see, the "asymmetrical" relationship between these functions means that the signalling of deixis by means of prototypically anaphoric expressions is much more constrained than is the opposite situation. Various interpretative factors in attested utterances will be pinpointed as reflecting this interrelationship between anaphora and deixis.

Walter De MULDER

Prolegomena to a «mentalist» theory of evolving referents 109-131

In a series of very interesting and stimulating articles on evolving reference, Charolles and Schnedecker as well as Kleiber have proposed constraints which would decide when the referent is still considered to be the same and, thus, when one can continue to use a pronoun to refer to it. In this article, we try to show that, despite the arguments to the contrary by Charolles and Schnedecker, it is possible to have a "mentalist" theory of evolving referents, that is, a theory which uses the idea of discourse representations, provided these representations are distinguished from the mental models of the 'real word', and provided they incorporate a focus component. This means, however, that the ontological constraints should be reinterpreted as phenomenological constraints, constraints on how we can conceptualise the referents.

Peter E. JONES

Anaphora and epistemology

9-30

This article offers a critique of current approaches to reference and so-called "anaphora". It is argued that structural and pragmatic treatments alike assume a substitutionalist view of anaphora, a view which is both descriptively inadequate and conceptually flawed. The substitutionalist approach mistakes facts of genre for facts of grammar, and takes properties of the utterance for properties of the sentence. In addition, some treatments reduce properly linguistic facts to psychological, biological, or informational processes. In order to avoid such reductionism, linguistics must approach its own proper object — language — with a respect for the integrity of utterances and texts as irreductible unities of form and meaning, an approach for which the concept of "genre" as used by Voloshinov and Bakhtin is essential. The paper seeks to demonstrate the relevance of this concept to the analysis of referential processes.

Georges KLEIBER

Draw me an associative anaphora...

147-175

The aim of this article is to find a key to the riddle proposed by Michel Charolles [1994]: Why can we not build an associative anaphora in a sentence such as ?Dessine-moi un village avec l'église (Draw me a village with the church), whereas we can in a sentence such as Nous entrâmes dans un village. L'église était située sur une hauteur (We drove into a village. The church was standing on a hill)? Why can we again in a sentence such as Dessine-moi un village avec l'église sur une hauteur (Draw me a village with the church on a hill) and again not in a sentence such as ?Dessine-moi un village avec l'église rouge / romane (Draw me a village with the rediroman church)?. Answers to these questions, on the one hand, will strengthen the lexico-stereotype approach to the associative anaphora, and on the other hand, will make relevant the condition of alienation described elsewhere [Kleiber, to appear]. They will also provide us with new stimulating developments, not only about the associative anaphora, but about the semantic approach to the preposition avec and about the possessive anaphora.

Catherine SCHNEDECKER & Maryse BIANCO

The conjunction/disjunction of referents: mental construction and pronominal anaphora by plural entities 79-108

This paper is intended to confront linguistic and psycholinguistic analysis regarding reference processing from the problem of the conjunction/disjunction of referents and his consequences on cognitive processing, on the one hand, and on the use of pronominal anaphora, on the other hand. The two main psycholinguistic hypothesis are first introduced. Then, a discussion based on linguistic, empirical and methodological grounds highlights the difficulties encountered by the two hypothesis to account for the phenomenon. At last, the multidimensional and incremental nature of the process, that determines how salient or accessible a referent is, is stressed. The authors wish to show the complementarity of linguistic and psycholinguistic approaches and, in this way, to open the road to bidisciplinary researches.

Anne THEISSEN

Anaphoric demonstrative description and hierarchical dimension of categories

133-146

The aim of this paper is to analyse a certain type of demonstrative anaphora under the scope of the lexical specificity of the N used. More precisely, it intends to explain why a referent expressed by a subordinate term (e. g. doberman), and thus described at a certain level of abstraction, is taken again in second mention through an anaphoric demonstrative description of the type this N, where N is a basic term (e. g. dog). It is tried to give an explanation to this climbing up in the hierarchy and to find out which discursive factors are to be taken into account.

Marleen Van PETEGHEM

On the anaphoric uses of «tel»

57-78

In this article the author investigates the relation between the anaphoric and the correlative uses of indefinite tel in French and argues that all the uses can be explained by the correlative nature of tel. From the analysis of the two main anaphoric uses of tel, as a premodifier and as a preposed complement to the subject, it appears that tel can be compared to the demonstrative to the extent that it signals that the referent must be picked up from the (extra)linguistic context, but it differs from the demonstrative by the crucial role of the noun, which sums up an antecedent that is vaguely defined and non topical.

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