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MAX NIEMEYER VERLAG TÜBINGEN

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MED die Unmöglichkeit einer strikten Unterscheidung dadurch, daß sie häufig Kombinationen unter Rubriken wie "Compounds and combinations" usw. zusammenfassen.

Insgesamt hat Novak aber die Wortbildungsforschung wieder ein Stück weiter gebracht und lohnende Aspekte für weiterführende Forschungen aufgezeigt, insbesondere im Hinblick auf die Textfunktion von NNK.

DRESDEN

HANS SAUER

Tuija Virtanen. *Discourse Functions of Adverbial Placement in English: Clause-Initial Adverbials of Time and Place in Narratives and Procedural Place Descriptions*. Åbo: Åbo Akademis Förlag – Åbo Akademi University Press, 1992, xii + 395 pp.

In this book a long-standing grammatical problem is approached from a textual perspective. The author's aim is to show that the placement of adverbials can be affected or even determined by the linguistic and situational context. Of course a number of clause-external motivations for the positioning of adverbials have long been identified (e.g. given before new information, emphasis, contrast, scene-setting). However, going beyond this motley collection of observations, the book under review is the first volume-sized attempt to provide a more systematic treatment of such factors.

The challenge in this ambitious endeavour is that it brings together the linguistic domains of the syntax and semantics of adverbials on the one hand, and the notions of text, context and discourse on the other, both of which have gained a dubious reputation for confusingness and slipperiness. As a result, to keep the enterprise under control, severe limitations as to the scope of the study had to be introduced. Thus only clause-initial adverbials of time and place are investigated, as is indicated in the subtitle. Text-typologically, the book is restricted to the study of fairy-tales and tourist-guide articles. In order to get to grips with the volatile influence of linguistic and situational context, three relevant factors are identified and isolated: First, how is adverbial placement affected by the requirements and conventions of a certain text type? Second, what is the function of text strategies and especially text-strategic continuities (e.g. continuity of time, place, participants)? Third, in what way can studies of information dynamics and functional sentence perspective contribute to our understanding of the clause-initial placement of adverbials? Although all three aspects are discussed with great competence and in considerable depth, it is evident that the author has put her whole heart into a detailed analysis of the text-strategic continuities of time and place in two fairy tales and two tourist-guide articles (129-247).

The book starts with an introduction of the basic concepts. Here, as in the rest of the book, the author shows a scrupulous and transparent use of terminology. In the second chapter, the placement and classification of adverbials is discussed from a sentence-grammatical point of view with recourse to a reasonably-sized selection of the relevant literature. On this basis, it is argued that although place and time adverbials are frequently placed clause-initially, this position is still syntactically marked. Since, as the author convincingly argues, "syntactically marked structures are, however, typically unmarked textually" (28), clause-initial place and time adverbials are seen as a suitable testing-ground for textual and discoursal motivations of adverbial placement.

In chapter 3, fairy-tales and tourist-guide articles are introduced and justified as material for an empirical investigation. The main reason given is that fairy-tales abound with clause-initial time adverbials and tourist-guides with clause-initial place adverbials. Admittedly, the frequency of the linguistic phenomenon one is interested in must play a crucial role when it comes to selecting one's material. On the other hand, an exclusive reliance on this criterion always involves the danger of circularity, an issue to which I will return at the end of this review.

The fourth chapter begins with the outline of a text-typological model which is firmly based on a functional view of language. (Existing typologies of texts by Werlich [1979], Kinneavy [1980], Longacre [1983] and Biber [1986] are discussed in chapter 5 and later used to support the classification of the sample texts.) The most remarkable feature of the proposed model is that the purpose of a text (called *discourse type*) is distinguished from its realization (*text type*). This distinction allows the author to accommodate mismatches between the two levels in her typology without having to shoe-horn a given text into one category. For example when a text producer wants to persuade someone (= *discourse function*), he or she may realize the argumentative *discourse type* in the form of a narrative *text type*, as is often the case in fables or parables. Following Enkvist (whose ideas on style and text have left their mark on the whole book), the notion of *text strategy* is then introduced into the model. The term refers to the textually relevant decisions that a text producer makes with a certain communicative goal in mind. The most prominent of these text strategies are the so-called text-strategic continuities which are defined as "thematic or topical uniform text-structuring orientation[s] chosen to attain, in view of the communicative goal, a maximally profitable text organization, for the benefit of a text receiver" (85). Behind this central notion of the study lies the assumption that, depending on the text type, such text strategies as continuity of time, place, participant(s), topic(s), action and theme are employed to structure a text in such a way that the receiver can understand it as easily as possible.

Having thus laid out the theoretical framework, the author provides an extended exemplary application. Two fairy-tales (discourse and text

type: narrative) and two tourist-guide articles (discourse type: procedural; text type: descriptive) are analysed linguistically with regard to their dominant text-strategic continuities. For narratives this is the temporal type and for procedural descriptions the spatial. All four texts are analysed in the same three steps. First, they are segmented into sections, subsections, episodes or moves with a method borrowed from story grammars (e.g. Rumelhart 1975). Next, the initially-placed time or place adverbials which occur at the borders between these textual units are examined with regard to their function in the text (e.g. *Once upon a time . . .*, *One evening in spring . . .*, *The next morning . . .*, *All of a sudden . . .*). Finally, other text-structuring devices (e.g. conjunctions, conjuncts, breaks in participant continuity) are identified and related to the pattern of the dominant text strategy. As an overall picture it emerges that initially-placed adverbials of time (in the stories) and place (in the descriptions) fulfil two complementary textual functions: on the one hand they create cohesion and coherence by supplying the dominant text-strategic continuity, and on the other hand they signal the major shifts and breaks in this continuity. For example, when a sentence (and paragraph) in a fairy-tale begins with the adverbial *On the next morning*, this is a clear sign that the temporal thread along which the reader has been following the story is continued. But it also marks the beginning of a new temporal stage and the reader realizes that a new section or episode in the story begins. Both functions obviously facilitate the understanding of the text. Unfortunately, the many other interesting observations (e.g. those concerning the natural order of mention or 'experiential iconicity') that are made in the course of the analysis cannot be mentioned here.

In chapter seven, which is written in a more tentative spirit, the data obtained from the four sample texts is related to questions concerning functional sentence perspective and information dynamics. For that purpose the simple dichotomy between given and new information is replaced by the more refined taxonomy put forward by Prince (1981), and the contrast between sentence-initial 'old' and sentence-initial 'crucial' information (Enkvist 1987) is introduced. With the aid of this more differentiated descriptive apparatus, the author shows that the sentence-initial adverbials of place and time in the sample stories mainly provide information which is evoked by or inferable from the text-strategic continuity, and not new information. According to the rules of functional sentence perspective this alone suggests a clause-initial position. In addition, the adverbials provide textually 'crucial' information because, as we have seen, they mark textual boundaries, breaks and shifts, and this seems to be another motivation for placing them in the sentence-initial position.

What is it, then, that this illuminating and eminently readable book demonstrates? The answer really depends on the perspective. From a bird's-eye view, one can fully agree with the author's claim that text type, text strategies, information dynamics, and experiential iconicity

may influence the placement of adverbials. Similarly, from a worm's-eye view, the procedure and results of the sample analysis are absolutely convincing. It is an intermediate perspective, however, that unveils a potential methodological flaw in the investigation of text-strategic continuities. The problem is that the author's main concern, i.e. the contribution of clause-initial adverbials to text-strategic continuities, can only be shown with such persuasiveness because the texts have been handpicked with precisely that aim in mind. If other types of texts, e.g. newspaper articles, scientific treatises or short stories, had also been taken into account, the text-structuring role of sentence-initial adverbials would certainly have been less conspicuous.

In short, what the study of the sample texts actually demonstrates is that in two -specific and relatively uniform types of texts, place and time adverbials fulfil a number of systematic textual functions which are facilitated by the clause-initial position of the adverbials. As far as other types of texts are concerned, however, such a systematic account of the textual role of adverbial placement has yet to be provided.

MÜNCHEN

HANS-JÖRG SCHMID

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English, 5th ed. Ed. Jonathan Crowther. Oxford/Berlin: Oxford University Press/Cornelsen, 1995, x + 1365 S., DM 45.90.

Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, 3rd ed. Ed. Delia Summers. München: Langenscheidt-Longman, 1995, xxii + 1668 S., DM 45.90.

Die beiden wichtigsten einsprachigen Wörterbücher des Englischen für Lehrer und fortgeschrittene Lernende, das *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English* (ALD) und das *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* (DCE), haben ihren Wettbewerb um eine möglichst umfassende, sachgerechte und nicht zuletzt auch benutzerfreundliche Darbietung des gegenwärtigen Kernwortschatzes fortgesetzt und sind 1995 in einer jeweils wesentlich überarbeiteten Neuauflage erschienen. Für das nunmehr von Jonathan Crowther herausgegebene ALD ist das bereits die fünfte Fassung, für das weiterhin von Deila Summers betreute DCE die dritte.

Beide Wörterbücher beruhen jetzt hinsichtlich der Lexikauswahl auf dem inzwischen vorliegenden *British National Corpus* sowie weiteren, verlagseigenen Datensammlungen. Sie differieren jedoch nach der Überarbeitung nicht unbeträchtlich in bezug auf den Umfang des aufgenommenen Wortschatzes. So wurden im ALD zwar ca. 2300 Wörter und Wendungen neu verzeichnet, aber - wie eine Stichprobe ergab - auch nicht wenige im Sinne einer noch stärkeren Konzentration auf