research into the acquisition of time talk and also some guidelines for further research in such areas as expanding semantic concepts and universality of stages.

Apart from the wide coverage of second language tense-aspect research, the major strength of the book lies in the sample studies reported at the end of Chapters 2–6 where Bardovi-Harlig introduces the reader to the research methodology and also the typical results of each major approach to the study of temporality, i.e. meaning-oriented and form-oriented approaches. It is not quite clear to this reviewer, however, why the author classifies the study of 'pragmatic devices (such as use of chronological order or building on an interlocutor's discourse that provides temporal reference)' [p. 13]), under the meaning-oriented approach while the study of the role of discoursal devices (such as that of grounding or narrative structure in the distribution of tense-aspect morphology [p. 285]) is considered to be a form-oriented one. The unnecessary verbosity of the text also flaws the work. For instance, while introducing the aspect hypothesis in Chapter 4 (p. 192), the author compares it with the discourse hypothesis (to be introduced later in Chapter 5) with regard to its theoretical roots. As the reader has, as yet, no idea what the discourse hypothesis is, such foreshadowing of future discussions remains ineffective and useless. On the other hand, there are times when Bardovi-Harlig introduces a term and then uses it extensively without explaining it properly. It is only later that the reader attains some intuitive understanding of the concept in question. An example of this writing style is the author's account of the Aspect Hypothesis (Chapter 4) where she relates both the theoretical and empirical significance of the hypothesis without explicitly stating the hypothesis itself in the first place.

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ANDREAS H. JUCKER, GERD FRITZ AND FRANZ LEBSANFT (eds), *Historical Dialogue Analysis.* Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 1999. 478 pp. ISBN 90 272 5080 4

This volume can be read as a sequel to Jucker's groundbreaking volume *Historical Pragmatics* (1995). The first article by the editors provides background information about the diachronic study of dialogues with a review of earlier major contributions to the field in the English, Germanic and Romance traditions. Furthermore, it serves the purpose of (a) setting the aims pursued in the historical study of dialogues, and (b) presenting the articles and the methodology used by the authors.

In the articles by Gloning and Schwitalla, the authors elegantly unravel the main communicative features and strategies of spoken language present in Renaissance German pamphlets. Schwitalla also centres on the aggressive tone

used in controversial issues, and he supports his argument with contemporary illustrations showing unfriendly gestures against the other participant in the exchange. Oesterreicher also focuses on the concept of violence, this time in historiographic texts dealing with the talks between Atahualpa (an Inca ruler) and Fray Vicente de Valverde (a Spanish Dominican priest) in 1532. The study highlights the necessity of analysing the communicative contexts in a discourse-traditional perspective. The other side of the coin is the concept of politeness that is comprehensively covered in Beetz. This author concentrates on aspects of politeness in replies, and the variants of forms of apologizing depending on different factors such as time and gender.

Bax describes the language of chivalry of medieval knights in seven Middle Dutch romances. He uses Wittgenstein's concept of 'language game' to focus on the speech activity of warriors, i.e. the challenging procedure. In Kästner and in Honegger, the authors study dialogic features in songs. Kästner presents the structure of *Minnesang* and the rules of interaction exemplified in this type of medieval love song, whose description allows the reconstruction of courtly speech. Honegger lists the typical features found in medieval dawn songs and applies them to two early dawn songs in English in order to analyse the parting acts of lovers.

Watts, Taavitsainen and Lebsanft focus on the use of dialogicity in didactic, medical and sales dialogues in literary texts. Watts explains the linguistic forms in didactic dialogues and relates speech and context in his analysis. Taavitsainen shows the use of dialogues for instruction in the medical field. Emotive features are also the object of study in this contribution to the study of thought-style changes in the history of English writings. According to the author, some of the texts, such as the *Rudiments of Physick*, show the question–answer technique to introduce topics and develop the conversation in the problem-solution type. Similarly, Schrott centres on questions in the Old French text *Jeu d'Adam*. The author claims that the illocutionary value of a question is context-determined. Variation in questions is explained by the fact that, as illocutions change, so may the external form of an interrogative act. However, the author claims that types of interrogative acts are historically determined by 'the socially and ethically established communicative principles of a community' (p. 353).

Culpeper and Kytö study hedges in their 254,062-word corpus of dialogues (1550–1750). The results of this and future work will greatly contribute to the study of text-type evolution and, particularly, to oral style in English. In the same vein, Herlyn focuses on examples from Middle English and Present-Day English to show the functions of multiple dialogue introducers in oral language and their textual dimensions.

Ramge studies legal dialogue sequences in early German showing the way in which oral texts enter the realm of written records. Research here concerns variants in different versions and highlights the communicative strategies used in these texts. Finally, Koch applies the parameters of 'communicative immediacy' to Latin and Romance court records and cartoons in order to characterize

dialogicity in these texts. The author concludes that there is a need to frame writing characterized by linguistic immediacy. The way in which this frame or staging is achieved differs in the texts studied here (e.g. institutional frame, frame of persuasive propaganda).

This volume represents an outstanding contribution to the field of historical linguistics. However, though it is true that concepts such as the contextual component may shed light on our understanding of the use of particular linguistic forms through history, I doubt whether this knowledge per se may be considered as explanations for language change. This social (contextual) approach to linguistic variation can only be used to explain preferences for particular linguistic items in written and spoken modes, rather than to explain linguistic changes in themselves. Yet, it is certain that the knowledge obtained from historical pragmatic research may be used in our search to formulate solid rules that may formally account for linguistic change. Furthermore, historical dialogue analysis can only offer a partial view of spoken language since it is constrained by the fact that the data are only available in the written medium. In spite of these few reservations, I strongly recommend this book to researchers in the field of historical pragmatics and historical linguistics in general. It is an important contribution to text-type studies and the shift from the oral to the written mode.

REFERENCE

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ULLA TUOMARLA, *La citation mode d'emploi: Sur le fonctionnement discursif du discours rapporté direct*. Helsinki: Academia Scientiarum Fennica, 1999. 258 pp. ISBN 951 41 0875 2.

Ulla Tuomarla's *La Citation: Mode d'emploi* explores the formal and discursive dynamics underlying the use of direct reported discourse (DRD) in written French, by means of a qualitative examination of contemporary journalistic and scholarly texts. Drawing inspiration from a variety of discourse-analytic approaches to the topic, the author has produced a thorough and carefully argued work that challenges a number of longstanding assumptions regarding the nature of DRD.

This study is based upon the analysis of DRD in two distinct textual corpora, the first consisting of a collection of journalistic writings culled from various French newspapers and magazines, and the second, a set of seven scholarly articles drawn from French linguistic journals. Tuomarla's primary focus is on the cotextualization of reported utterances, a sphere that encompasses such formal phenomena as introductory phrases and quotative verbs; pragmatic connectors