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Review of: Inflectional Morphology: A Theory of Paradigm Structure

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the transference of this shift to communities within Mexico as well.

Ch. 7 concentrates on language contact and bilingualism. She presents well-known theories on contact by Uriel Weinreich, Derek Bickerton, and Sarah G. Thomason and Terrence Kaufman. The section on pidgins and creoles is somewhat weak and dated, with some key topics and seminal works not discussed; however, this is a minor point in an otherwise excellent text. The final chapter looks at Spanish in the US. This is a very detailed chapter, providing both historical perspective and analysis of the current situation. She includes here discussions on the impact of Spanish on English, bilingualism, and on the English Only vs. the English Plus movements.

Among the many strengths of the text are the practical exercises found in the conclusion to each chapter, which motivate both classroom discussion and assignments. Furthermore, even though there is a clear demarcation of topics into distinct chapters, there is a healthy overlap when appropriate, making the text very accessible. In addition, terms are introduced where appropriate and made understandable by the language samples and contexts provided. Finally, for nonnative Spanish-speaking researchers like myself who have chosen to publish in Spanish, she has provided a wealth of useful Spanish terms not previously found in one volume. [ELIZABETH GRACE WINKLER, *University of Arizona.*]

Inflectional morphology: A theory of paradigm structure. By GREGORY T. STUMP. (Cambridge studies in linguistics 93.) Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001. Pp. xvi, 308. \$65.00.

Although the presence or absence of inflection in a language has been a cornerstone of typology since before Wilhelm von Humboldt, a consensus regarding inflectional morphology as a distinct component of linguistic structure has yet to emerge. This book is an attempt to formalize what can be deduced about inflectional paradigms based on a rigorous inspection of the data. Gregory Stump calls his approach paradigm function morphology (PFM), describing it as an 'inferential-realizational' theory that regards 'the paradigm and not merely the word' (28) as the primary focus of analysis with respect to inflectional morphology. The book develops the idea that paradigms are not epiphenomena of the morphosyntax but rather 'constitute a central principle of morphological organization' (32).

The most crucial arguments are presented in Ch. 1 (1–30), which demonstrates the superiority of inferential over lexical theories of inflection and reali-

zational over incremental theories. Also discussed are three properties of inflection—preference for affixal inflection, recurring crosslinguistic patterns of inflectional affix ordering, and the tendency for affixes of the same position class to be featurally coherent—that cannot be explained as arising from PFM, yet in no way contradict the theory either. Competing proposals such as the concrete functional head hypothesis (Margaret Speas, *Phrase structure in natural language*, Dordrecht: Kluwer, 1990) are contradicted by these empirical facts in significant ways. S cites Joan Bybee (*Morphology: A study of the relation between meaning and form*, Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 1985) to explain the first two properties as artifacts of diachronic word formation processes; the third he explains by elaborating upon Paninian morphological principles.

Each of the remaining chapters develops a particular facet of PFM and explores the contrast with other theories. Ch. 2 (31–61) uses the Bulgarian verb to illustrate the notion of paradigm functions, arguing in contrast to Stephen R. Anderson (*A-morphous morphology*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992) that realization rules belonging to the same rule block are resolved by Panini's principle and need not be intrinsically ordered. Ch. 3 (62–95) delves further into the issue of rule competition, using the Potawatomi verb as illustrative material. Ch. 4 (96–137), entitled 'Headedness', explores inflection in light of certain nonconcatenative aspects of morphology. Ch. 5 (138–68) rejects the template metaphor, arguing that all inflectional morphology crosslinguistically can be accounted for using paradigm functions without recourse to an unmotivated templatic prosthesis. Ch. 6 (169–211) discusses stem alternations, and Ch. 7 (212–41) explores the issue of syncretism. Finally, Ch. 8 (242–76) contrasts PFM with network morphology, probably the most similar alternative proposal for dealing with inflectional paradigms.

The book's strong points are undoubtedly the author's methodical evaluation of competing theoretical interpretations of the data and the rigor with which he investigates the implications of his own conclusions. Some (including the present reviewer) may be inclined to regard this approach as overly formalistic, a possibility S himself concedes (29–30); but the basis for this criticism is largely nullified by the author's impeccably clear justification of his own methodological choices. Readers disinclined toward detailed formalisms at the expense of typologically rich linguistic descriptions will likewise welcome the extensive inclusion of data from genetically diverse languages.

My one substantive disappointment with the book is that it avoids defining the notion of lexical stem with the same rigor applied elsewhere in the discussion. In particular, I had hoped to see greater elabora-

tion of S's brilliant demonstration (Gregory Stump, 'Templatic morphology and inflectional morphology', *Yearbook of morphology 1996*, ed. by Geert Booij and Jaap van Marle, 217–41, Dordrecht: Kluwer, 1997) that some forms of derivation, as well as all forms of inflection, are 'templatic' in the ways first defined by Jane Simpson and Meg Withgott ('Pronominal clitic clusters and templates', *Syntax and semantics 19: The syntax of pronominal clitics*, ed. by Hagit Borer, 149–74, Orlando, FL: Academic Press, 1986). The interface between lexeme and inflection for 'templatic' stems remains unresolved. No study of morphosyntax, or of inflectional paradigms in particular, can really be considered definitive without a rigorous, theoretically sound demarcation of stem from inflection and between derivation and inflection in particular. But whoever hopes to extend S's study of inflectional paradigms from this vantage point will have to live up to his standards of argumentation. [EDWARD J. VAJDA, *Western Washington University*.]

An introduction to syntax. By ROBERT D. VAN VALIN, JR. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001. Pp. xvi, 239. \$65.00.

Written by a scholar known for his innovative analyses of genetically and typologically varied languages, this comprehensive introduction will not disappoint the student or teacher yearning for a more diverse sampling of languages. At the same time, the discussion is attentive to various competing syntactic formalisms and offers a firm grounding in contemporary linguistic theory along with exposure to a wide range of typological variation. Engaging and logical from beginning to end, it opens with the practical, yet intriguing question, 'How does an Aborigine from central Australia, a Basque from Spain or an inhabitant of the island of Madagascar put a sentence together?' (xiii). The answer to this deceptively simple question occupies the rest of the book.

The discussion is arranged in six chapters. Ch. 1, 'Syntax, lexical categories, and morphology' (1–20), introduces the book's holistic approach to syntactic phenomena which includes as much attention to morphosyntax and semantic factors as to phrase structure per se. Ch. 2, 'Grammatical relations' (21–85), provides a crosslinguistic survey of the syntactic notions 'subject', 'direct object', and 'indirect object'. Ch. 3, 'Dependency relations' (86–109), explores head and modifier relationships. This chapter also introduces the notion of valence, making a clear distinction between semantic roles such as AGENT OF PATIENT and purely syntactic categories such as SUBJECT and OBJECT. Ch. 4, 'Constituent structure' (110–43), discusses phrase structure and form classes across lan-

guages. Ch. 5, 'Grammar and lexicon' (144–71), examines the relationship between syntax and lexeme. The final chapter, 'Theories of syntax' (172–226), provides a refreshingly balanced comparison of four important syntactic models of language: relational grammar, lexical-functional grammar, the government-binding version of principles and parameters theory, and, finally, the author's own role and reference grammar. Each chapter closes with suggestions for further reading and a set of problems that test student comprehension.

The language index on pp. 234–35 contains reference to 60 languages from over three dozen families distributed on five continents—a mere fraction of the world's linguistic diversity. Still, anyone tired of syntax descriptions limited to dueling formalisms, and applied mostly to simple English sentences, ought to be well satisfied. The book's attention to morphosyntax, in particular, makes it of great practical value for anyone interested in typology. I used the book as an auxiliary text in a course on morphology and appreciated its clear differentiation between syntactic and semantic valence. The only significant defect is the lack of a glossary; my students often found it difficult to locate clear and concise definitions of key terms. However, the book's pedagogical benefits far outweigh this single shortcoming. [EDWARD J. VAJDA, *Western Washington University*.]

Language and its functions: A historicocritical study of views concerning the functions of language from the pre-humanistic philology of Orleans to the rationalistic philology of Bopp. By PIETER A. VERBURG. Translated by PAUL SALMON, in consultation with ANTHONY J. KLIJNSMIT. (Amsterdam studies in the theory and history of linguistic science 84.) Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 1998. Pp. xxxiii, 577. \$121.00.

This is the first published English translation of Pieter Verburg's classic study *Taal en Functionaliteit* (Wageningen: Veenmann & Zonen, 1952), originally published in Dutch as the commercial edition of his doctoral dissertation (submitted to the Free University of Amsterdam in 1951). *Language and its functions* is a historiographical study that charts conceptions of functions of language in philosophical and linguistic theories from the twelfth century until the beginning of the nineteenth century. A possible source of confusion for readers is the fact that Verburg's use of the term 'function' is different from the sense that is most widespread nowadays (as also