#### CHAPTER 6

# Clinical Discourse Analysis: A Functional Approach to Language Assessment

Jack S. Damico

"If you just listen to him, he seems to have a problem. He's hard to follow and the other kids don't really like to interact with him. His trackers say that he isn't a very good student . . . but I can't seem to find any specific problems according to my diagnostic battery." Many speech-language pathologists have made similar statements, especially in reference to older children with suspected language difficulties. The professional's clinical judgment and informal observations indicate problems, but the objective assessment tools do not support these impressions. Why not?

At least part of the explanation may be found in the assessment procedures commonly used. The tools that make up our diagnostic batteries are not sensitive to some of the functional aspects of communication, especially those that are affected in older language impaired individuals. This chapter discusses a procedure, entitled Clinical Discourse Analysis, that has been designed to assess functions of language. It is useful for identifying language impairments in school-age children. The chapter discussion is intended both to tell part of the story behind the development of Clinical Discourse Analysis and to explain what it is.

# BACKGROUND

In the fall of 1976, I was faced with a situation experienced by most speach-language pathologists. I left the protection of a university graduate pages and entered the "real world" Specifically, I was hired as a speech-language pathologist for the Albuquerque Public Schools. A number of subscious were forced upon me at that time, but none more unsettling than the fact that my training in language assessment was inadequate.

This restination was made clear after I convinced the teachers in my school that, as a language specialist, I could help them. I had conducted

# <u>Discourse Analysis And Evaluation Functional</u> <u>Approaches</u>

**Maaike Laura Beliën** 

## **Discourse Analysis And Evaluation Functional Approaches:**

Discourse Analysis and Evaluation Henk Pander Maat, Leo Lentz, 1997 Functional approaches to the study of language may not only be used to characterize discourse structures but also to assess their communicative quality In fact discourse analysis and evaluation are conceptually related activities In this volume the link between analysis and evaluation is explored in seven studies discussing a variety of discourse genres like package inserts telephone openings survey interviews meetings government brochures and direct mail letters. The analytical concepts used stem from different strands of research into language including cognitive linguistics pragmalinguistics conversational analysis and persuasion research Discourse and Corpus Approaches to Systemic Functional Grammar Chenquang Chang, Josef Schmied, Matthias Hofmann, 2021-03-18 The present volume draws on the experience of the Workshop held in Germany in late 2018 to combine the specialisations of the two linguistic research teams of the two partner universities Sun Yat sen University in China and Chemnitz University of Technology in Germany It combines more theoretical approaches by experienced scholars and case studies by young researchers on topics and texts on current Chinese developments The contributions can also serve as a general model for open and critical international and intercultural academic discourse **Children's composing** José van der Hoeven, 2022-06-13 In this volume a relatively new approach to writing process research is attempted time is included as a very important factor in describing the writing process The link between the writing process of 12 year old students the quality of the compositions and writing skills is investigated in six studies discussing the importance of genre knowledge linguistic skills and cognitive skills in writing Including linguistic and cognitive skills gives new perspectives on the relationship between the writing process and the resulting composition The concepts used in these studies are drawn from the fields of both linguistics and cognitive psychology Passive and Perspective Louise H. Cornelis, 1997 The passive construction in Dutch represents a long standing problem both in linguistics and in written communications This book proposes a new analysis of the passive in Dutch integrating insights from theoretical especially cognitive linguistics and rhetoric composition. The point of departure is the observation that the Dutch passive has a demonstrable perspective effect in texts the passive discourages identification with the agent and this in fact is the meaning of the Dutch passive construction This meaning forms the basis for a solution to a number of text problems including the problem of how to best use the passive in computer manuals We can also understand the passive s role in specific texts For example it becomes clear why policy paper writers use so many passives Finally in one of the case studies it is shown why passives were used differently in the NRC Handelsblad a Rotterdam daily newspaper and in the Parool from Amsterdam when they both reported that Ajax Amsterdam's football team became the national soccer champion Reader feedback in text design Menno de Jong, 2022-06-08 Brochures play a significant role in governmental public information provision Every year many brochures are distributed to inform instruct or persuade people These brochures may benefit from a systematic design process

including applied research such as pretesting Among communication professionals the importance of pretesting is practically undisputed Readers from the target audience are assumed to provide valuable insights into whether a document really works Organizations therefore increasingly try to include a pretest in the design process of important documents Various pretest methods have been developed and are being used in practice However little is known yet about the merits and restrictions of the available approaches This book provides a framework for scholarly research into pretesting and presents a series of studies into the validity of one particular pretest instrument a combination of the plus minus method and a semi structured questionnaire This is one of the prevailing pretest approaches in the Dutch public information sector The validity of the pretest instrument is assessed in two complementary ways First the question is addressed as to whether a revision on the basis of pretest results actually leads to an improvement in the functional quality of brochures Second a study is presented in which text and subject matter experts judge the importance of pretest results The pretest instrument appears to yield a large amount and a great variety of reader feedback which in a subsequent revision may contribute to significant improvements in the effectiveness of brochures Writing and Speaking in the Technology Professions David F. Beer, 2003-07-04 An updated edition of the classic guide to technical communication Consider that 20 to 50 percent of a technology professional s time is spent communicating with others Whether writing a memo preparing a set of procedures or making an oral presentation effective communication is vital to your professional success This anthology delivers concrete advice from the foremost experts on how to communicate more effectively in the workplace The revised and expanded second edition of this popular book completely updates the original providing authoritative guidance on communicating via modern technology in the contemporary work environment Two new sections on global communication and the Internet address communicating effectively in the context of increased e mail and web usage As in the original David Beer's Second Edition discusses a variety of approaches such as Writing technical documents that are clear and effective Giving oral presentations more confidently Using graphics and other visual aids judiciously Holding productive meetings Becoming an effective listener The new edition also includes updated articles on working with others to get results and on giving directions that work Each article is aimed specifically at the needs of engineers and others in the technology professions and is written by a practicing engineer or a technical communicator Technical engineers IEEE society members and technical writing teachers will find this updated edition of David Beer's classic Writing and Speaking in the Technology Professions an invaluable guide to successful communication Language, Education and Discourse Joseph Foley, 2005-12-05 This collection of essays by leading functional linguists presents the latest perspectives on language and discourse in educational settings The book questions the idea of discourse to reveal that the social processes of learning are imbued with the ideologies of the society and education system within which learning takes place The contributors take into account the historical and cross cultural perspectives of both classroom practices and the student s own awareness of the ideological meanings of language activities

Language Education and Discourse is divided into two sections Part one covers early childhood and the growing development of a language system from the basic semiotic system of the infant This is followed by an analysis of the beginnings of literacy in kindergarten the introduction to writing in primary school and the ideological content of reading material Part two furthers this analysis by looking at discourse in secondary and tertiary education The contributors pose questions about the role and importance of teaching grammar in the school system and finally examine how to refine the discourse of education This book will be useful to academics interested in the latest functional perspectives on language as it is used in education

Tracing the Trail of Time ,2024-08-26 **Aspect and Temporal Ordering** Ronny Boogaart, 1999 contributions in linguistics and philology Instituut voor Dialectologie, 1997 **Perspectives on Discourse Analysis** Laura Alba Juez, 2009-05-27 Perspectives on Discourse Analysis Theory and Practice provides the student reader with the basic theoretical knowledge and the empirical tools of some of the most relevant approaches to the analysis of discourse It has been mainly conceived of as a general university course on Discourse Analysis but it can also be useful for any person or group whose main concern is to acquire the basic necessary knowledge and skills for analyzing any type of discourse The subject matter of the book could not only be of use for linguists or prospective linguists given its interdisciplinary character its findings can be and in fact are used and applied by practitioners and scholars from different fields such as sociology psychology medical science computer science and so on Thus the book can be used by any person who having certain linguistic knowledge is interested in exploring the fascinating world of discourse All the chapters contain both a theoretical and an empirical section the latter containing examples of analysis as well as exercises Practice and self evaluation questions whose answers can be found at the end of the book in the Practice key and Key to self evaluation questions sections The book is divided into 12 chapters The first two introduce basic information about discourse analysis and text linguistics as well as the necessary techniques for gathering data including a very brief introduction to corpus linguistics Chapters 3 11 present and discuss some of the most prominent and well known approaches to discourse analysis namely Pragmatics Interactional Sociolinguistics Conversation Analysis The Ethnography of Communication Variation Analysis and Narrative Analysis Functional Sentence Perspective Post Structuralist Theory and Social Theory Critical Discourse Analysis and Positive Discourse Analysis and Mediated Discourse Analysis Finally Chapter 12 deals with crucial and further issues such as the type of discourse chosen for the analysis the strategies and functions of discourse or the problem of choosing an appropriate unit of analysis which will suit the aims of research Perspectives on Discourse Analysis Theory and Practice may prove of value to all those who are professionally involved in the area of discourse and pragmatic studies or simply to those who wish to acquire the necessary basic knowledge and techniques for analyzing any type of discourse from medical journalistic or political discourse to computer mediated humoristic or hegemonic discourse where the use and abuse of power is an important issue just to name a few of the innumerable possibilities A desirable and intended effect of this book is also the

development of an open and tolerant mind which will eventually lead to a better understanding of the different and varied manifestations of language culture and communication in human society **Computational Linguistics** ,1998 Word Constructions, Constraints, and Construal Maaike Laura Beliën, 2008 Perspectives on Prepositions H. Cuyckens, Günter Radden, 2002 In the past two decades the study of prepositions has grown steadily. The papers collected in this volume bring together the multifaceted perspectives on prepositions that have been developed in contemporary linguistics Some papers mainly discuss syntactic and morphological aspects of prepositions other papers predominantly focus on cognitive aspects All the papers are however concerned with the semantics of prepositions This volume evolved from a workshop on prepositions held at Hamburg University on June 26 and 27 1998 **Functional Approaches to Writing** Barbara Couture, 1986 **Current Contents. Arts & Humanities** Institute for Scientific Information, An Evaluation of the Functional Approach to International Organization James Patrick Sewell,1962 *Neurogenic Communication Disorders* Linda Worrall, Carol M. Frattali, 2011-01-01 This book is the first to fully define and describe the functional approach to neurogenic communication and swallowing disorders Featuring contributions from leading experts and researchers worldwide this volume outlines diverse treatment and assessment strategies using the functional approach also examining them from a consumer and payer perspective These strategies are designed to improve the day to day life of patients while providing third parties with the practical outcomes they seek This outstanding book is ideal for SLPs and graduate students Pragmatics at Work María Pilar Navarro Errasti, Rosa Lorés Sanz, Silvia Murillo in speech language pathology programs Ornat, 2004 This volume is a collection of eight articles on the general topic of translation The common element running through them all is the analysis of samples of tourist literature and their translations from a pragmatic point of view The languages concerned are mainly English and Spanish but examples of German and French texts are also included The theoretical approaches are multifaceted Relevance theory systemic functional linguistics and discourse analysis are some of the theoretical standpoints taken as a background The book covers phenomena as varied as translation quality assessment audience design and perlocutionary effects dealing also with more specific features like thematic structure inference and propositional meaning discourse markers and grammatical metaphor in order to provide a wide range of analyses for the specialised reader

The Enigmatic Realm of **Discourse Analysis And Evaluation Functional Approaches**: Unleashing the Language is Inner Magic

In a fast-paced digital era where connections and knowledge intertwine, the enigmatic realm of language reveals its inherent magic. Its capacity to stir emotions, ignite contemplation, and catalyze profound transformations is nothing in short supply of extraordinary. Within the captivating pages of **Discourse Analysis And Evaluation Functional Approaches** a literary masterpiece penned by a renowned author, readers set about a transformative journey, unlocking the secrets and untapped potential embedded within each word. In this evaluation, we shall explore the book is core themes, assess its distinct writing style, and delve into its lasting affect the hearts and minds of those that partake in its reading experience.

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