

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-76267-0 - Questions: Formal, Functional and Interactional Perspectives

Edited by Jan P. de Ruiter

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>List of contributors</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
1 Introduction: questions are what they do JAN P. DE RUITER	1
Part I Questions: interplay between form and function	
2 Interrogative intimations: on a possible social economics of interrogatives STEPHEN C. LEVINSON	11
3 Structures and questions in decision-making dialogues JERRY R. HOBBS	33
4 Mobilising response in interaction: a compositional view of questions TANYA STIVERS AND FEDERICO ROSSANO	58
5 Wordless questions, wordless answers HERBERT H. CLARK	81
Part II The structure and prosody of questions	
6 Formal features of questions JERRY SADOCK	103
7 Some truths and untruths about final intonation in conversational questions ELIZABETH COUPER-KUHLEN	123

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-76267-0 - Questions: Formal, Functional and Interactional Perspectives

Edited by Jan P. de Ruiter

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

vi	Contents	
8	Shaping the intonation of Wh-questions: information structure and beyond AOJU CHEN	146
Part III Questions and stance		
9	Beyond answers: questions and children's learning STANKA A. FITNEVA	165
10	Navigating epistemic landscapes: acquiescence, agency and resistance in responses to polar questions JOHN HERITAGE AND GEOFFREY RAYMOND	179
11	Epistemic dimensions of polar questions: sentence-final particles in comparative perspective N. J. ENFIELD, PENELOPE BROWN, AND JAN P. DE RUITER	193
12	Multi-functionality of interrogatives: asking reasons for and wondering about an action as overdone MIA HALONEN AND MARJA-LEENA SORJONEN	222
	<i>Appendix: Key to glossing symbols</i>	238
	<i>References</i>	239
	<i>Index</i>	252

Figures

2.1	The question function space.	<i>page</i> 17
2.2	The question- and assertion-function space.	17
2.3	Common-ground model of information flow: Carnaps (measured information in \$) flows into the common ground from the answerer's supply, while the social value in Goffmans (€) is owed by questioner to questionee.	22
2.4	'Commitment slate' model of information exchange.	22
2.5	The increasing costs across the question-assertion function space.	25
2.6	Matching falling intonation in polar declarative question and answer. The blue (bottom) trace shows the pitch contour, the yellow (top) trace the intensity.	26
2.7	The question-to-assertion function space in Yéfi Dnye.	29
3.1	Ideal structure of plan to construct schedule.	42
3.2	Stages in determining decisions from decision-making dialogues.	47
4.1	Kitchen scene 1. Reproduced, with permission, from Stivers and Rossano 2010.	65
4.2	Kitchen scene 2. Reproduced, with permission, from Stivers and Rossano 2010.	70
4.3	Kitchen scene 3. Reproduced, with permission, from Stivers and Rossano 2010.	74
4.4	Revised model of response relevance.	78
8.1	Stylised versions of intonation contours used in the Wh-questions in Haan's (2001) corpus. Reproduced from Haan's Figures 4.3 and 4.4. (pp. 116–117). The boundary tones are depicted as a rise for the sake of illustration.	152
8.2	Illustration of the annotation scheme used.	154
10.1	Epistemic gradients for four questions.	181
11.1	Epistemic gradient of 'assertion' ('S↑-A↓' gradient): Speaker (S) has a high commitment (Cp) to the truth of the proposition (p); Addressee (A) has a low commitment.	194

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-76267-0 - Questions: Formal, Functional and Interactional Perspectives

Edited by Jan P. de Ruiter

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

viii	List of figures	
11.2	Epistemic gradient of ‘information question’ (‘S↓-A↑’ gradient): Speaker (S) has a low commitment (Cp) to the truth of the proposition (p); Addressee (A) has a high commitment.	194
11.3	Information questions can be pragmatically invoked by lowering the speaker’s commitment to the truth of the proposition (above), or by raising the addressee’s (below), in each case beginning from a position of symmetry, and bringing about an interrogative gradient (S↓-A↑).	195
11.4	Schematic diagram of how SFPs can lower speaker’s commitment, either by raising it from an existing state of unknowing (above) or lowering it from a prior state of greater certainty (below).	220
11.5	Schematic diagram of how SFPs can create interrogative gradient ‘S↓-A↑’ either by lowering speaker’s commitment (above), or raising addressee’s (below).	220