VERB MEANING AND THE LEXICON

The relationship between the meaning of words and the structure of sentences is an important area of research in linguistics. Studying the connections between lexical-conceptual meaning and event-structural relations, this book arrives at a modular classification of verb types within English and across languages. Ramchand argues that lexical-encyclopedic content and structural aspects of meaning need to be systematically distinguished, and that thematic and aspectual relations belong to the latter domain of meaning. The book proposes a syntactic decompositional view of core verbal meaning, and sets out to account for the variability and systematicity of argument-structure realization across verb types. It also proposes a novel view of lexical insertion.

GILLIAN CATRIONA RAMCHAND is Professor of Linguistics at the University of Tromsø. Her previous publications include Aspect and Predication (1997) and Handbook of Linguistic Interfaces (2006, with Charles Reiss).
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VERB MEANING AND THE LEXICON
A FIRST-PHASE SYNTAX

GILLIAN CATRIONA RAMCHAND

University of Tromsø, CASTL
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Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in the glosses:

ACC  accusative case
CAUSE  causative
CLASS  classifier
DAT  dative case
DEC  declarative
DIR  directional marker
ERG  ergative case
F  feminine agreement
FUT  future tense
IMP  imperfective
INF  infinitival form
INSTR  instrumental case
LOC  locative marker
M  masculine agreement
NOM  nominative case
OBL  oblique case
PASS  passive
PAST  past tense
PERF  perfective
PERFPART  perfect participial form
PL  plural agreement
PRES  present tense
PROG  progressive
SG  singular agreement
TOP  topic
1  first-person agreement
3  third-person agreement