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Pieter Muysken  
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## FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES

In every language there are descriptive lexical elements, such as *evening* and *whisper*, as well as grammatical elements, such as *the* and *-ing*. The distinction between these two elements has proven useful in a number of domains, but what is covered by the terms ‘lexical’ and ‘grammatical’, and the basis on which the distinction is made, appear to vary according to the domain involved. This book analyses the grammatical elements (‘functional categories’) in language, a topic that has drawn considerable attention in linguistics, but has never been approached from an integrated, cross-disciplinary perspective. Muysken considers functional categories from the perspective of grammar, language history, language contact, and psychology (including child language and aphasia). Empirically based, the book examines the available converging evidence from these various disciplines, and draws on comparative data from a wide range of different languages.

PIETER MUYSKEN is Professor of Linguistics at the Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands. His previous publications include *One Speaker, Two Languages* (with Lesley Milroy, 1995), *Bilingual Speech. A Typology of Code-Mixing* (2000), and *The Languages of the Andes* (with Willem Adelaar, 2004).

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*Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen*



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Contents

	<i>List of tables</i>	page xi
	<i>List of figures</i>	xiv
	<i>Preface</i>	xv
	<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xvii
1	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
	Theoretical perspectives on categorisation	3
	The perspective taken in this book	5
	Disclaimers	7
	The organisation of this book	8
	GRAMMAR	
2	<b>Functional categories and language typology</b>	<b>13</b>
	Structuralism: Sapir and Jakobson	14
	The notional classification of functional categories	15
	Expanding the range of functional categories in language description	16
	Towards a new classification	20
	Conclusions	25
3	<b>Lexical, morphological, and phonological dimensions of functional categories</b>	<b>26</b>
	Lexical realisation	26
	A case study: Quechua	29
	Other criteria	32
	Primitives at the interface	39
	Clitics	40
	Conclusions	41
4	<b>Semantics and pragmatics</b>	<b>42</b>
	Semantic features of functional categories	42
	The syntax/semantics interface and the interpretability of features	46
		vii

viii    *Contents*

	Deletability and expression as a null form	47
	The special status of discourse markers	48
	Interjections	51
	Conclusions	52
<b>5</b>	<b>Theoretical syntax: the generative tradition</b>	<b>53</b>
	Historical overview	54
	Theoretical considerations	58
	Diagnostic criteria	61
	The category P	65
	Conclusions	70
HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS		
<b>6</b>	<b>Grammaticalisation</b>	<b>73</b>
	Different dimensions of the grammaticalisation process	76
	Frequently emerging functional categories	77
	Grammaticalisation theory and generative models of functional categories	83
	Conclusions	86
<b>7</b>	<b>Linguistic reconstruction</b>	<b>88</b>
	Functional categories in Indo-European	90
	The evidence from Proto-Uralic	91
	The evidence from Afro-Asiatic	93
	The evidence from Amerind	95
	Conclusions	96
PSYCHOLINGUISTICS		
<b>8</b>	<b>Speech production</b>	<b>99</b>
	Production models: evidence from speech error studies	100
	Garrett's distinction between functional and positional structure	105
	Frequency effects	106
	Evidence from neurolinguistic studies	108
	Conclusions	110
<b>9</b>	<b>Language development</b>	<b>111</b>
	First language development	111
	Child bilingual development	116
	Second language development	119
	Conclusions	125

<b>10</b>	<b>Agrammatic aphasia and Specific Language Impairment</b>	<b>127</b>
	Agrammatism	127
	Case marking and adpositions in agrammatic speech	133
	Structural interpretations of agrammatic speech	138
	Specific Language Impairment	139
	Conclusions	142
<b>11</b>	<b>Language attrition and death</b>	<b>143</b>
	The study of attrition	143
	Gaelic in Scotland	146
	Dyirbal in north-eastern Australia	147
	Hungarian in the United States	148
	German in London	150
	Low German in western Siberia	150
	Conclusions	151
	LANGUAGE CONTACT AND BILINGUAL SPEECH	
<b>12</b>	<b>Sign languages</b>	<b>155</b>
	The study of sign languages	155
	Mouthing	156
	Grammaticalisation	156
	Reference tracking and agreement	159
	Classifiers	161
	Conclusions	162
<b>13</b>	<b>Code-switching and code-mixing</b>	<b>163</b>
	The basic phenomenon	163
	The wider phenomenon	165
	Language distance and equivalence	167
	Problem areas	168
	The proper definition of functional categories	172
	Conclusions	176
<b>14</b>	<b>Lexical borrowing</b>	<b>177</b>
	Spanish borrowings in Bolivian Quechua	178
	Romance borrowings in Maltese Arabic	183
	Conclusions	187
<b>15</b>	<b>Pidgin and creole genesis</b>	<b>188</b>
	Pidgins and creoles	189
	Tok Pisin	193



x    *Contents*

	Saramaccan	198
	Negerhollands	201
	Creole lexical and functional categories	205
	Conclusions	209
<b>16</b>	<b>Mixed languages</b>	<b>211</b>
	Issues of definition and delimitation	211
	Classical mixed languages: Media Lengua	213
	Split languages: Michif	219
	Reverse split type	222
	Reverse type: Spanish Romani or Caló	224
	Functional categories and relexification	225
	Conclusions	226
<b>17</b>	<b>Foreigner Talk</b>	<b>227</b>
	Simple codes	229
	The study of Foreigner Talk	230
	Maxims, strategies, and models for Foreigner Talk	234
	Conclusions	237
	CONCLUSIONS	
<b>18</b>	<b>Conclusions: towards a modular and multi-dimensional perspective</b>	<b>238</b>
	Main findings from grammar	240
	Main findings from historical linguistics	241
	Main findings from psycholinguistics	241
	Main findings from language contact studies	242
	A differentiated perspective on functional categories	244
	Functional categories from an evolutionary perspective	245
	Prospects	253
	<i>References</i>	255
	<i>Author index</i>	278
	<i>Subject index</i>	284
	<i>Language index</i>	294

Tables

---

2.1.	A crude sub-classification of three types of functional categories.	<i>page</i> 16
3.1.	Classification by Alpatov (1979) of functional categories into three morpho-lexical groups or expression types.	28
3.2.	Part of the Dutch non-personal pronoun paradigm.	33
3.3.	The morphological structure of the third person referential elements in Movima.	35
4.1.	Primary and secondary functions of discourse markers on the different levels of discourse structure defined by Schiffrin (1987).	50
5.1.	A sample of the Dutch prepositions classified for eight diagnostic features.	69
6.1.	Core Pichi TMA-system.	74
6.2.	Non-core Pichi TMA-system.	75
6.3.	An overview of the changes in English treated in Hopper and Traugott (2003) under the label ‘grammaticalisation’ with respect to the four dimensions involved: morpho-lexical, phonological, semantic, and syntactic.	78
6.4.	An overview of the changes in the Romance languages treated in Hopper and Traugott (2003) under the label ‘grammaticalisation’ with respect to the four dimensions involved: morpho-lexical, phonological, semantic, and syntactic.	79
6.5.	An overview of the changes in other Indo-European languages treated in Hopper and Traugott (2003) under the label ‘grammaticalisation’ with respect to the four dimensions involved: morpho-lexical, phonological, semantic, and syntactic.	80
6.6.	An overview of the changes in non-Indo-European languages treated in Hopper and Traugott (2003) under the	

xii *Tables*

	label 'grammaticalisation' with respect to the four dimensions involved: morpho-lexical, phonological, semantic, and syntactic.	81
6.7.	The number of grammaticalisation paths for different categories listed in Heine and Kuteva (2002).	83
6.8.	Notions involved in case markers/adpositions and auxiliaries in Heine and Kuteva (2002), letters A–C.	84
7.1.	Rating of a few classes of functional categories in terms of their instability on three dimensions.	90
7.2.	The possibility of reconstructing different functional categories for Proto-Indo-European (PIE) according to Beekes (1995).	91
8.1.	Exchanges and stranded functional elements in the English part of the Fromkin speech error corpus.	101
8.2.	Wrongly attached functional elements in the English part of the Fromkin speech error corpus.	103
8.3.	Word exchanges and stranded functional elements in the German speech error corpus prepared by Richard Wiese.	104
8.4.	Schematic presentation of the different levels of representation in the model proposed by Garrett (1975), with the relevant psycholinguistic processes linking them and the speech errors associated with these processes.	106
9.1.	Features determining the occurrence of functional elements in early child speech.	113
9.2.	The development of negation in L2 English.	124
10.1.	Percentage of omissions of obligatory free grammatical and lexical morphemes (cell sizes 8 or more).	134
10.2.	Percentage of correctly produced case markers for two Japanese agrammatic speakers (Mr. Saitoo and Mrs. Tanaka) and one crossed agrammatic speaker (Mrs. Hayasi).	137
11.1.	Variability in case marking in varieties (A–D) of the Altai dialect of Plautdiitsch.	151
12.1.	Instances of grammaticalisation within the sign languages themselves reported on in Pfau and Steinbach (2006).	157
13.1.	The four morpheme classes defined in the 4-M model.	174
13.2.	Revised grammatical classification of five morpheme classes.	175
15.1.	The Tok Pisin pronoun system.	195

	<i>Tables</i>	xiii
15.2. The Saramaccan pronoun system.		198
15.3. The Negerhollands pronoun system.		202
15.4. The contribution of different source languages to the Saramaccan inventories in the different lexical classes, in percentages.		208
15.5. The number of restructured items of the total number of items for the different source languages in the Saramaccan inventories in the different lexical classes, in absolute figures.		209
16.1. Schematic overview of the four main types of mixed languages.		212
16.2. The personal pronouns of Media Lengua contrasted with those of Quechua and Spanish.		218
16.3. Spanish borrowings into Media Lengua.		219
16.4. Contribution of different languages to the Michif word inventory.		220
16.5. Contribution of the different languages to the morpho-syntactic categories in Michif.		221
16.6. Overall text count of the Copper Island Aleut lexicon in terms of word classes and etymological source.		222
16.7. Contribution of Aleut and Russian to the morpho-syntactic categories in the nominal and verbal domain.		223
16.8. Possibilities for the intact preservation of source language semantic and syntactic organisation of functional categories when relexified.		225
17.1. Schematic overview of findings for different grammatical variables in a number of studies of Foreigner Talk.		233
18.1. Features of functional categories focused upon in the different chapters.		239

# Figures

---

2.1.	Primary and secondary links between the two main lexical and a number of functional categories.	<i>page 22</i>
18.1.	Chains of related categories, arranged from lexical to functional from the outside inwards.	245
18.2.	Rough semantic map of a number of notions likely to be expressed by functional categories.	246
18.3.	Jackendoff’s (2002) scenario for the development of grammar.	249

## *Preface*

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This book grew out of an earlier paper, ‘Accessing the lexicon in language contact’, and took a long time in getting conceived. Once I had realised that all the material I wanted to cover could not conceivably be crammed into a single paper the actual planning became much easier, and then it was just a question of keeping the manuscript to a manageable size. Countless people commented on earlier versions of the material presented here, at conferences, summer schools, and seminars at Szeged, Groningen, Amsterdam, Utrecht, Nijmegen, Düsseldorf, and Girona, and at a lecture at the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences in Amsterdam. Given my own research background, it should come as no surprise that the topic of language contact figures quite prominently in this book.

Much of the material for this book grew out of the research that I could do with the support of the Spinoza Prize 1998 of the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research NWO. In particular I am grateful to the people in the research team in Nijmegen on the languages of Bolivia and Rondonia, Mily Crevels, Swintha Danielsen, Rik van Gijn, Katja Hannss, Katharina Haude, and Hein van der Voort, and to Simon Musgrave and Marian Klamer who worked on the SCALA typology database. Margot van den Berg and Adrienne Bruyn commented on the pidgin and creole chapter, and Anna Fenyvesi commented extensively on an earlier draft of the article version. Helena Halmari helped with the Finnish Foreigner Talk examples. When writing this book, exploring various corners of linguistics, I realise that some of the ideas grew out of work together with colleagues over a long time. I want to mention a few people in particular, although the list is actually much longer. Henk van Riemsdijk taught me much of what I know about syntactic categories, and with Catherine Snow I worked on issues of simplification and Foreigner Talk. I also would like to acknowledge the invaluable advice of Peter Bakker on the issue of mixed languages, and of Roeland van Hout in our work together on borrowing. Neil Smith gave insightful comments on the pre-final draft on behalf of Cambridge University Press, but his work and that of his students also helped me in the

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xvi *Preface*

writing of several of the chapters. Similarly, Adrian Stenton, working on behalf of the Press, also helped to improve the quality of the manuscript considerably.

I am grateful to the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies (NIAS) in Wassenaar for hosting me while I wrote the final text in the Spring semester of 2006, and to their editorial staff, particularly Anne Simpson. At NIAS my colleagues in the Nucleus on Restricted Linguistic Systems as Windows on Language Genesis, in particular Anne Baker, Sandra Benazzo, Rudi Botha, Adrienne Bruyn, Bernd Heine, Tania Kouteva, Henriette de Swart, and Christa Vogel also were very helpful in commenting on chapters, as were our visitors, among them Gertjan Postma, Riny Huijbregts, Tonjes Veenstra, and Arie Verhagen. Monique Lamers commented on the neurolinguistic material, and made helpful suggestions. At a presentation of some of the material here in Nijmegen, Melissa Bowerman pointed out to me the importance of Roger Brown's *A first language*, which turned out to be most helpful. It takes a perspective on functional categories similar to that of Ray Jackendoff's *Foundations of language*, another important source of inspiration for the present work.

Needless to say, the misrepresentations and errors in interpretation in this work are all my sole responsibility.

# Abbreviations

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1 . . .	first . . . person
4	fourth person, i.e. first person inclusive
2D	two-dimensional
exc	exclusive
f	feminine
in	inanimate
inc	inclusive
m	masculine
n	neuter
ob	object
p	plural
s	singular
ABL	ablative case
ABS	absolutive
AC	accusative case
ADV	adverbial marker
AF	affirmative
AFO	affected object
AGR	agreement
AM	adjectival marker
AN	animate
ART	article
ASP	aspect
ASS	associative
AU	augmentative
BEN	benefactive
C	class marker
CAS	case marker



xviii *Abbreviations*

CAU	causative
CIS	cislocative
CL	classifier
CL1, 1a	noun class 1, 1a marker
CLI	clitic
COMP	complementiser
CON	connector pronoun
COND	conditional
CONF	confirmative
DA	dative case
DEF	definite
DEL	delimiter ('just')
DEM	demonstrative
DET	determiner
DIM	diminutive
DIR	directional
DIS	discourse marker
DR	bivalent direct marker
DS	different subject subordinator
DSC	discontinuity marker
DUB	dubitative
DUR	durative
ELAT	elative
EMPH	emphasis marker
ERG	ergative
EXH	exhortative
FOC	focaliser
FU	future tense
FV	final vowel
G	Pfau
GE	genitive
GM	general class marker
HES	hesitation marker
IL	illative
IM	imperative
IMP	impressive
IMPF	imperfective
IMPP	imperfect past

IND	indefinite
INE	inessive
INF	infinitive
INS	inessive
ITN	intentional
LOC	locative
MEA	measure
M.LOC	locative case in modal function
M.PROP	propriative case in modal function
NEG	negative
NFU	non-future
NOM	nominaliser
NOMI	nominative
NPST	non-past
OB	oblique
OBV	obviative
P	adposition
PASS	passive
Part	particle
PERF	perfective aspect
PERL	perlative
PM	predicate marker
PN	pronoun
PO	possessive
POT	potential
PR	progressive aspect
PRC	process verbalisation
PRE	present tense
PRO	pronoun
PROX	proximity to speaker
PST	past tense
Q	question marker
QA	quantifier
RC	relative clause
RE	relator
REC	recent past
REF	reflexive
REL	relative marker

xx *Abbreviations*

REP	reportative
SD	sudden discovery tense or evidential
SM	specific class marker
SOC	sociative
SS	same subject subordinator
SU	subject
SUB	subordinator
SUPER	superessive
TA	transitive animate verb
TF	transformative
TO	topic marker
TR	transitiviser
VBL	verbaliser
Wh	Wh-type question word
WI	with

A	adjective
AP	adjective phrase
Adv	adverb
ADVP	adverbial phrase
AgrP	agreement phrase
AgrS	subject agreement
C	complementiser
CP	complementiser phrase
Comp	complement
D	determiner
Deg	degree marker
DegP	degree phrase
DP	determiner phrase
I, INFL	inflection
IP	inflection phrase
MP	measure phrase
N	noun
NP	noun phrase
PP	prepositional phrase
QP	quantifier phrase
S	sentence
Spec	specifier

T	tense
V	verb
VP	verb phrase
TMA	tense-mood-aspect
Ar	Arabic
Du	Dutch
E	English
F	Fongbe
Fr	French
It	Italian
Lat	Latin
ML	Media Lengua
Pap	Papiamentu
Port	Portuguese
Q	Quechua
Sc	Sicilian
Sp	Spanish