

INTERACTIONAL LINGUISTICS: STUDYING LANGUAGE IN SOCIAL INTERACTION

The first textbook dedicated to interactional linguistics, focusing on linguistic analyses of conversational phenomena, this introduction provides an overview of the theory and methodology of interactional linguistics. Reviewing recent findings on linguistic practices used in turn construction and turn taking, repair, action formation and ascription, sequence and topic organization, the book examines the way linguistic units of varying size – sentences, clauses, phrases, clause combinations, particles – are mobilized for the implementation of specific actions in talk-in-interaction. A final chapter discusses the implications of an interactional perspective for our understanding of language as well as its variation, diversity, and universality. Supplementary online chapters explore additional topics such as the linguistic organization of preference, stance, footing, and storytelling, as well as the use of prosody and phonetics, and further practices with language. Featuring summary boxes and transcripts from recordings of everyday conversation, this is an essential resource for advanced undergraduate and postgraduate courses on language in social interaction.

ELIZABETH COUPER-KUHLEN is Distinguished Professor (Emerita) at the University of Helsinki, Finland. She has published widely on prosody and grammar in interaction; in addition to numerous journal articles, she has authored, co-authored, and co-edited many volumes on interactional linguistics, including *Prosody in Conversation* (with Margret Selting, 1996) and *Studies in Interactional Linguistics* (with Margret Selting, 2001).

MARGRET SELTING is Professor of Linguistics and Communication Theory at the University of Potsdam, Germany. She has published extensively on prosody and grammar in interaction, including *Prosody in Conversation* (with Elizabeth Couper-Kuhlen, 1996), *Studies in Interactional Linguistics* (with Elizabeth Couper-Kuhlen, 2001), and *Problems of Understanding* (1987).

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STUDYING LANGUAGE IN SOCIAL
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ELIZABETH COUPER-KUHLEN AND MARGRET SELTING



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Preface

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We dedicate our book to instructors and students alike, who will hopefully be as excited as we were to discover the extraordinary power of studying everyday language through a social interactional lens.

Helsinki and Potsdam, September 2016
Elizabeth Couper-Kuhlen and Margret Selting