## Contents

### List of Figures
- page x

### List of Tables
- xiv

### Preface
- xv

### Acknowledgements
- xvii

### Notational Conventions
- xix

1. **The Impulse to Gesture: Spontaneous but Constrained**
   - 1.1 The Impulse to Gesture
   - 1.2 *Grammar in Motion* and the Grammar–Gesture Nexus
   - 1.3 Gesture Form, Organisation, and Function
   - 1.4 Recurrent Gestures and Gesture Families
   - 1.5 Negation and the Open Hand Prone Gesture Family
   - 1.6 Corpus of Spoken Language Interactions
   - 1.7 Identifying the Grammar–Gesture Nexus
   - 1.8 Methods of Gesture Analysis
   - 1.9 Road Map

   - 2.1 Introduction
   - 2.2 The Horizontal Palm Gesture
     - 2.2.1 The Horizontal Palm and the Expression of Negation
     - 2.2.2 Basis in Everyday Action
     - 2.2.3 Variation in Articulation of the Horizontal Palm
   - 2.3 Grammar–Gesture Nexus of the Horizontal Palm
     - 2.3.1 Clausal Negation and ‘Sweeping Away’ (the Palm Down Across)
     - 2.3.2 Exclusions and ‘Clearing Aside’ (the 2-Palms Down Mid)
     - 2.3.3 Rejections and ‘Cutting Through’ (2-Palms Down Across)
   - 2.4 Discussion

3. **Sync Points in Speech: Evidence of Grammatical Affiliation for Gesture**
   - 3.1 Introduction
     - 3.1.1 Node, Scope, and Focus of Negation
     - 3.1.2 Temporal Coordination of Gesture and Speech
     - 3.1.3 Grammatical Affiliates for Gesture

© in this web service Cambridge University Press  
www.cambridge.org
3.2 Negative Particles
  3.2.1 *not* (Sentential Negation) 52
  3.2.2 *no* and *never* 57
  3.2.3 Strokes, Holds, Hitches, and Beats 61
3.3 Scope of Negation 62
  3.3.1 Negative Polarity Items 62
  3.3.2 Focused Elements 68
  3.3.3 An Ordering Principle for Sync Points in Speech 71
3.4 Discussion 72

4 Gesture as Construal: Blockage, Force, and Distance in Space and Mind 73
  4.1 Introduction 73
    4.1.1 Space, Force, and Distance in Conceptual Space 74
    4.1.2 The Vertical Palm Gesture 77
    4.1.3 Where Negation, Conceptualisation, and Gesture Intersect 79
  4.2 Gesture Space as Conceptual Space 79
    4.2.1 Blocking and Stopping 80
    4.2.2 Throwing Aside, Separating, and Screening from View 89
    4.2.3 Wiping Away, Removing, and Pushing 94
  4.3 Discussion 102

5 Gesture Sequences: Wrist as Hinge for Shifts in Discourse 104
  5.1 Introduction 104
    5.1.1 The Kinesic Context and Hand Transformations 106
  5.2 Gesture Sequences 108
    5.2.1 Palm Up to Horizontal Palm Gesture Sequence 108
    5.2.2 Palm Presenting to Vertical Palm Sequence 114
    5.2.3 Broader Sequences 118
  5.3 The Status of Gesture Sequences 122

6 Patterns of Gesturing: The Business of ‘Horizontal Palming’ 125
  6.1 Introduction 125
    6.1.1 From Recurrent Gestures to Recurrent Gesturing 126
    6.1.2 Data and Context 127
    6.1.3 Capturing the Complexity of the Horizontal Palm 128
  6.2 A Micro-Analysis of Horizontal Palm Gesturing 130
    6.2.1 A Flexible Formational Core 131
    6.2.2 Complexity of Kinesic Contexts 131
  6.3 The Business of Horizontal Palming 144
    6.3.1 From Gesture in Discourse to Practice 145
    6.3.2 Practice 1: Breaking Down Hierarchies 147
    6.3.3 Practice 2: Managing Interpersonal Relations 150
    6.3.4 Practice 3: Monitoring Follow-Up 152
    6.3.5 The Horizontal Palm Gesture – A ‘Key-Gesture’ in Business Discourse? 153
  6.4 Towards a Gestural Genre 156
Appendix 158
Contents

7 Wiping Away: Embodied Interaction in Speech and Sign 159
  7.1 Introduction 159
  7.1.1 Gestural Action and Practical Action 160
  7.1.2 Gestures and Signs in Interaction 161
  7.2 Wiping Away the World 163
    7.2.1 More or Less Gesture-Like Phenomena 163
    7.2.2 Doing Wiping Away 170
  7.3 Gesture and Sign in Interaction 178
    7.3.1 Interactive Functions of Gestures in Signing 179
    7.3.2 Linguistic Functions of Gestures in Signing 180
  7.4 Discussion 185

8 Impulse Theory: How, When, and Why We Gesture 186
  8.1 Introduction 186
    8.1.1 The Impulse to Gesture 186
    8.1.2 Current Chapter 190
  8.2 Situating Impulse Theory 190
    8.2.1 Multimodal Construction Grammar 191
    8.2.2 Multimodal Grammar 193
    8.2.3 The Growth Point 194
  8.3 Evaluating Impulse Theory 196
    8.3.1 Implicit Knowledge about Gesture (Interviews) 196
    8.3.2 Socially Shared Knowledge about Gesture (Focus Groups) 201
  8.4 Extending Impulse Theory 206
    8.4.1 Beyond Negation 206
    8.4.2 The Diversity of Recurrency 213
  8.5 Concluding Impulse Theory 214

Bibliography 216
Index 228