Models of theoretical linguistics now emphasize the meeting points, or interfaces, between different aspects of our language capacity. Syntactic operations include structure-building, checking long-distance relationships between units, and connecting alternative word orders. This volume presents a collection of original studies that explore the mapping between these operations and other language-related areas such as word meanings, discourse contexts, the construction of meaning for larger units, and the alternative expressions of word order. It differs from previous traditional research on interfaces by bringing together studies and analyses from a range of languages, using monolingual and second language varieties. Case studies of different types of interfaces, as well as studies based on lesser-known sets of linguistic data, provide important examples that propose a new view of the connections between syntactic processes and other areas of grammar.

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Exploring Interfaces

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## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List of Figures</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Tables</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgments</td>
<td>xii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of Contributors</td>
<td>xiii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction: The Road to Interfaces</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MÓNICA CABRERA AND JOSÉ CAMACHO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### I Syntax–Lexicon Interface

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The L2 Acquisition of English Anticausative Structures by L1 Spanish Speakers</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MÓNICA CABRERA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dispositional Evaluative Adjectives: Lexical Alternations, Behaviors, and Sideward Movement</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIOLETA DEMONTE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Role of P in Spanish Unaccusative Constructions</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBERTO MAYORAL HERNÁNDEZ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Degree Achievements of Color</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MYTHILI MENON AND ROUMYÀNA PANCHEVA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### II Syntax–Semantics Interface

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Negative Idioms</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOSÉ CAMACHO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Scope, Syntax, and Prosody in Russian as a Second or Heritage Language</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TANIA IONIN AND TATIANA LUCHKINA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
vi  Contents

7  On the Syntax of Pronominal Clitics: A View from Greek 171
   PATRICIA SCHNEIDER-ZIOGA

III  Linearization 209

8  Merge, Restructuring, and Clitic Climbing in Spanish 211
   PASCUAL JOSÉ MASULLO

9  Linearization When Multiple Orderings Are Possible: Adjective
   Ordering Restrictions and Focus 232
   KATY MCKINNEY-BOCK

10 Dialectal Variation in VOS Word Order in Spanish 268
    LILIANA SÁNCHEZ AND PABLO ZDROJEWSKI

Index 300

Figures

1.1 Test item with alternating unaccusative verb in the AJT  page 23
1.2 Test item with transitive non-alternating verb in the AJT  23
1.3 Group results of the AJT  24
2.1 Syntactic tree of sentence (46)  57
3.1 Syntactic tree for Juan se fue “Juan left”  72
3.2 Unaccusative verbs that imply change and external causation  72
3.3 Unaccusative verbs that imply change and internal causation  75
6.1 Test picture (distributive scenario)  151
6.2 Study 1: results of native Russian speakers, from Ionin & Luchkina (2015, 2017, 2018) – mean rate of YES responses with distributive picture (Figure 6.1)  155
6.3 Study 1: results from heritage speakers and L2-learners of Russian, by learner type – mean rate of YES responses with distributive picture (Figure 6.1)  156
6.4 Study 1: results of heritage speakers and L2-learners of Russian, by proficiency level – mean rate of YES responses with distributive picture (Figure 6.1)  157
6.5 Study 2: results of native English speakers – mean rate of YES responses with distributive picture (Figure 6.1)  161
Tables

1.1 Verbs tested in the translation test and AJT  page 22
1.2 Examples of intransitive sentences used in the AJT  22
1.3 Percentage of corrections with alternating unaccusative verbs  26
1.4 Percentage of corrections with non-alternating transitive verbs  26
3.1 Use of se apareció “appeared” by country (CREA, 28 June 2017)  79
3.2 Use of se apareció “appeared” by country, ordered by percentage of “se apareció” (CREA, 28 June 2017)  80
4.1 Color expressions in Malayalam  99
4.2 Degree achievement verbs in Malayalam  100
5.1 Summary of negation status for N-idioms  124
5.2 Summary of negation status for N-idioms  128
6.1 Biographical information of learner participants  153
6.2 Breakdown of learners by proficiency  157
6.3 Learners of Russian (Study 1): fixed effect estimates (top) and variance estimates (bottom) for Binary Logit Model of YES responses  158
6.4 Native English speakers (Study 2): fixed effect estimates (top) and variance estimates (bottom) for Binary Logit Model of YES responses  162
9.1 Parallel N/V features  235
10.1 Grammaticality of VOS and VSO (cf. Gallego 2013; Zubizarreta, 1998; among others)  273
10.2 Parametric variation in Romance: Object Shift vs. p-movement (Gallego, 2013)  275
10.3 Buenos Aires Spanish and Lima Spanish VOS vs. VSO word order  277
10.4 Acceptability of VOS according to sentence type  279
10.5 VOS word orders in most Spanish varieties, and in Buenos Aires and Lima Spanish  280
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List of Tables</th>
<th>ix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.6 Variation in word order and focus on postverbal subjects</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.7 Distribution of structures with narrow focus on the subject across dialects</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preface

The chapters in this book illustrate the important role that the notion of interfaces (or levels of representation) has achieved in current generative linguistics. The volume is intended for readers with a background in linguistics (professional linguists, graduate students in linguistics, and researchers in allied fields). We believe that the breadth of topics covered and the range of data and methodologies that the contributions include should provide interesting materials both for advanced graduate seminars and for professional linguists.

MÓNICA CABRERA & JOSÉ CAMACHO
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