

The Rise of Discourse Markers

Discourse markers constitute an important part of linguistic communication, and research on this phenomenon has been a thriving field of study over the past three decades. However, a problem that has plagued this research is that these markers exhibit a number of structural characteristics that are hard to interpret based on existing methodologies, such as grammaticalization. This study argues that it is possible to explain such characteristics in a meaningful way. It presents a cross-linguistic survey of the development of discourse markers, their important role in communication, and their relation to the wider context of sociocultural behavior, with the goal of explaining their similarities and differences across a typologically wide range of languages. By giving a clear definition of discourse markers, it aims to provide a guide for future research, making it essential reading for students and researchers in linguistics, and anyone interested in exploring this fascinating linguistic phenomenon.

Bernd Heine is Emeritus Professor at the Institute of African Studies and Egyptology, University of Cologne. His main research areas are grammaticalization theory, endangered languages in Africa, and discourse grammar. His publications include more than 40 books and over 200 articles.

Gunther Kaltenböck is Professor of English Linguistics at the University of Graz in Austria. His main research interests are cognitive-functional grammar, corpus linguistics, language variation and change.

Tania Kuteva is Professor of English Linguistics at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, and Professorial Research Associate of SOAS, University of London. Her main interests include grammaticalization, linguistic typology, language evolution, and discourse grammar.

Haiping Long is Professor at the English Department, School of Foreign Languages, Sun Yat-sen University. His research interests include grammaticalization, linguistic typology, historical linguistics, and discourse grammar.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-83385-1 — The Rise of Discourse Markers
Bernd Heine , Gunther Kaltenböck , Tania Kuteva , Haiping Long
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

The Rise of Discourse Markers

Bernd Heine

University of Cologne

Gunther Kaltenböck

University of Graz

Tania Kuteva

Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf/SOAS, University of London

Haiping Long

Sun Yat-sen University



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-108-83385-1 — The Rise of Discourse Markers
 Bernd Heine, Gunther Kaltenböck, Tania Kuteva, Haiping Long
 Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
 One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
 314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
 New Delhi – 110025, India
 79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108833851

DOI: 10.1017/9781108982856

© Bernd Heine, Gunther Kaltenböck, Tania Kuteva, and Haiping Long 2021

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2021

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Heine, Bernd, 1939– editor. | Kaltenböck, Gunther, – editor. | Kuteva, Tania, 1958– editor. | Long, Haiping, editor.

Title: The rise of discourse markers / [edited by] Bernd Heine, Gunther Kaltenböck, Tania Kuteva, Haiping Long.

Description: Cambridge, UK ; New York : Cambridge University Press, 2021. |

Includes bibliographical references and indexes.

Identifiers: LCCN 2021011504 (print) | LCCN 2021011505 (ebook) |

ISBN 9781108833851 (hardback) | ISBN 9781108987288 (paperback) |

ISBN 9781108982856 (epub)

Subjects: LCSH: Discourse markers. | BISAC: LANGUAGE ARTS & DISCIPLINES / Linguistics / Semantics

Classification: LCC P302.35 .R57 2021 (print) | LCC P302.35 (ebook) |

DDC 401/.41–dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021011504>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021011505>

ISBN 978-1-108-83385-1 Hardback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-83385-1 — The Rise of Discourse Markers
Bernd Heine , Gunther Kaltenböck , Tania Kuteva , Haiping Long
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

For Helen Barton

Contents

<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>page</i> viii
<i>Preface</i>	ix
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	x
1 The Development of Discourse Markers: An Introduction	1
2 Concepts of Analysis	56
3 English Discourse Markers	91
4 French Discourse Markers	144
5 Japanese Discourse Markers	167
6 Korean Discourse Markers	196
7 Discourse Markers in Language Contact	211
8 Discussion	236
9 Conclusions	267
<i>References</i>	273
<i>Language Index</i>	299
<i>Author Index</i>	300
<i>Subject Index</i>	304

Tables

2.1 The parameters and criteria of grammaticalization of Lehmann ([1982] 2015: 132)	page 63
2.2 Contrasting changes typically observed in expressions undergoing cooptation and grammaticalization	77
3.1 Hypothesized dates of cooptation of some English DMs	143
4.1 Hypothesized dates of cooptation of some French DMs	166
5.1 Contrasting changes typically observed in expressions undergoing cooptation and grammaticalization	179
5.2 Century of first attestation of <i>na</i> elements in the history of Japanese	185
5.3 Stages in the semantic development of Japanese <i>sate</i>	189
5.4 Hypothesized dates of cooptation of some Japanese DMs	195
6.1 Grammatical properties of twenty-five Korean DMs	197
6.2 Quantitative distribution of placement slots occupied by twenty-five Korean DMs	199
6.3 Hypothesized dates of cooptation of some Korean DMs	209
7.1 Spanish <i>entonces</i> “then, therefore, thus” borrowed as a DM in some Amerindian and Austronesian languages	217
7.2 Italian <i>allora</i> “then, at that time” borrowed as a DM in some languages	218
8.1 Common source expressions of DMs	245
8.2 Deictic temporal adverbs as sources for DMs in some languages	248
8.3 Korean insubordinate DMs	249
8.4 Canonical imperatives of perception verbs as sources for DMs in some languages	257
8.5 Variation in some Romance DMs derived from “look” imperatives	258
9.1 Grammatical changes typically to be expected in grammaticalization and cooptation	269

Preface

Discourse markers have been the subject of a wide range of studies over the course of the last decades. The data on which the present book rests are to a large extent taken from published and unpublished studies carried out by many researchers drawing on large text corpora and presenting detailed analyses on all aspects of the grammar and the history of discourse markers. We are grateful to these colleagues for not only sharing their research findings with us but also for guiding us in our attempts to arrive at viable interpretations of their findings.

Mentioning all the colleagues who have accompanied our study with comments, suggestions, and data would be near to impossible. Suffice it therefore to mention the following long list of colleagues who have contributed substantially to the present study in some way or other: Mikyung Ahn, Karin Aijmer, Mohammad Amouzadeh, Kate Beeching, Laurel Brinton, Claudia Claridge, Ulrike Claudi, Alexandra D'Arcy, Liesbeth Degand, Csilla Ilona Dér, Gaétane Dostie, Benjamin Fagard, Olga Fischer, Bálint Péter Furkó, Soleiman Ghaderi, Sylvie Hancil, Maj-Britt Mosegaard Hansen, Alexander Haselow, Christa König, Diana Lewis, Belén Méndez-Naya, Heiko Narrog, Azam Noora, Noriko Onodera, Sophie Prévost, Seongha Rhee, Anne-Marie Simon-Vandenberg, Reijirou Shibasaki, Ryoko Suzuki, Elizabeth Traugott, and Richard Waltereit. The first and the third-named authors are deeply grateful also for the valuable support of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. We also wish to thank Elena Andonova, Isabella Greisinger, Sophia Lock, Danna Chandra Menendez, Janine Rehbehn, Lukas Mateusz Ostrowski and Anne Wolters, who have contributed to this work in various ways. Finally, we wish to express our gratitude to two anonymous readers for all their feedback on an earlier version of this book, and to Liz Steel for all the insightful work she did on editing this book.

The interpretations proffered in this study are not always entirely in accordance with the views expressed by some of the colleagues mentioned, and we apologize if there remain any misinterpretations in the present text. It goes without saying that none of these colleagues are to be held responsible for any views, shortcomings, or other deficiencies to be found in the book.

Abbreviations

1, 2, 3	first, second, third person
a.n.	note added by the present authors
ABL	ablative
ACC	accusative
ADD	additive
ADN	adnominal
ALL	allative
AUX	auxiliary
ATTR	attribute
BEN	benefactive
COMP	complementizer
CONN	connective
CONV	converb
COP	copulative verb
CRCM	circumstance
CU	coopted unit
DAT	dative
DEM	demonstrative
DET	determiner
DIM	diminutive
DM	discourse marker
DO	direct object
EMPH	emphasizer
END	sentence ender
EVID	evidential
EZ	<i>ezafe</i> marker
F	feminine
FP	final particle
FUT	future
GEN	genitive
GER	gerundive form
HESI	hesitation marker

List of Abbreviations

xi

HON	honorific
HOR	hortative
IMP	imperative
Lit.	literal meaning
LK	linker, linking form of verb
LOC	locative
NC1, 2, etc.	noun class 1, 2, etc.
NEG	negative marker
NF	non-finite marker
NML	nominalizer
NOM	nominative, nominalizer
O	object marker
PAS	passive
PAST	past tense
PE	polite ending
PL	plural
PM	pragmatic marker
POL	politeness
POSS	possessive
PREF	prefix
PRES	present tense
PROB	probability
PROG	progressive
PROM	prominence
PTC	particle
Q	interrogative marker
QP	question particle
QT	quotative marker
QUO	quotative
RESP	respectful
SB	subject marker
SFP	sentence final particle
SG	singular
SIM	simultaneous adnominal
SUBJ	subjunctive
SUF	suffix
T	transitivizing suffix
TMA	marker of tense, modality, or aspect
TOP	topic marker
V	verb
VOC	vocative