

## Referring Expressions, Pragmatics and Style

Reference is a major theme in the study of language and language use. Providing a relevance-theoretic account of reference resolution, this book develops our understanding of procedurally encoded meaning by exploring its function and role in reference resolution. A range of referring expressions are discussed, including definite descriptions, demonstratives and pronouns. Existing work on the pragmatics of reference has largely focused on how reference is resolved. However, speakers can do much more than just secure reference when they use a referring expression. A speaker's choice of expression might communicate information about their attitudes and their emotions, and referring expressions can also be used to create stylistic and poetic effects. The analyses in this book widen the focus to consider these broader effects, and the discussions and arguments presented take seriously the idea that referring expressions can contribute to meaning and communication in a way that goes beyond reference.

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# Referring Expressions, Pragmatics and Style

*Reference and Beyond*

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Kate Scott



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Cambridge University Press  
978-1-316-62847-8 — Referring Expressions, Pragmatics, and Style: Reference and Beyond  
Kate Scott  
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  
103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

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[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781316628478](http://www.cambridge.org/9781316628478)

DOI: 10.1017/9781316822845

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First published 2020

First paperback edition 2022

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

ISBN 978-1-107-17757-4 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-316-62847-8 Paperback

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For Marian

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## Acknowledgements

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Several of the chapters in this book are revised versions of material that has been published elsewhere. I would like to thank the publishers of this original material for permission to reuse it. Sections from Chapter 5 are adapted from Scott (2017) by permission from Springer Nature: Springer, *Semantics and Pragmatics: Drawing a Line* edited by Depraetere, I. and Salkie, R. [COPYRIGHT] (2017). Sections from Chapter 5 are reprinted from *Lingua*, 175–6, Scott, K., Pronouns and procedures: Reference and beyond, 69–82, Copyright (2016), with permission from Elsevier. Sections from Chapter 6 are reprinted from *Journal of Pragmatics*, 53, Scott, K., Pragmatically motivated null subjects in English: A relevance theory perspective, 68–83, Copyright (2013) with permission from Elsevier. Sections from Chapter 7 are reprinted from *Lingua*, 131, Scott, K., *This and that: A procedural analysis*, 49–65, Copyright (2013) with permission from Elsevier.

I am incredibly grateful for the support that I have received during the writing of this book. The work here is a development of my PhD thesis, and so my gratitude extends to all of those who have supported me throughout my studies. First and foremost, I owe a huge debt of thanks to my PhD supervisor Deirdre Wilson, not only for her inspirational ideas and theories, but also for her kindness, patience and encouragement.

I could not have developed the ideas in this book without the very many inspiring, insightful, and at times challenging conversations that I have been lucky enough to have with those working in pragmatics and linguistics – in particular Cris Chatterjee, Billy Clark, Ingrid Lossius Falkum, Alison Hall, Rebecca Jackson, Julia Kolkman, Pauline Madella, Dan Sperber, Catherine Wearing and Tim Wharton.

My special thanks go to Diane Blakemore and Robyn Carston for their advice, encouragement, guidance and kindness, and special thanks must also go to Ryoko Sasamoto – I could not have completed this project without our remote writing sessions, and I cannot imagine a better conference buddy.

Thanks to my colleagues at Kingston University, and in particular to my officemates Rosa Rodriguez-Garrido, Albert Pellicer Vilaradell, Sue Train, Kay Johnson and Hannah Sowden.

x Acknowledgements

I am hugely grateful to Helen Barton and the editorial team at Cambridge University Press for their work, support and encouragement, and to two anonymous reviewers for their hugely helpful and constructive feedback and comments on earlier drafts of this material.

Away from the world of academia, I have been supported in my endeavours by many wonderful friends. Many of those friends will find their names in the pages of this book, but particular thanks go to Clare Richardson, Judit Erdos, Luisa Gottardo, Jessica Lau and all of the Tecumsehs.

Finally, I am incredibly grateful to my father George for the ongoing support and for always believing that I could and would achieve something. My mother Marian died shortly before I completed the doctoral work on which this book is based. However, this book is a testament to her belief in me, and it is dedicated to her memory.