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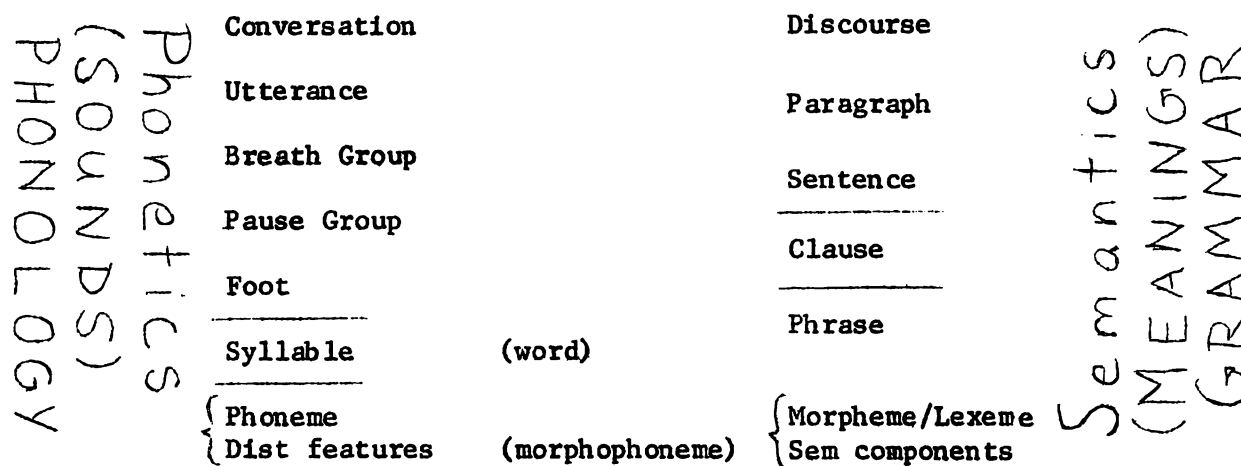
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A PROPOSED STRUCTURAL MODEL
David Thomas



PRAGMATIC
PHONO-
GRAMMAR

Tentative definitions

These definitions or characterizations are general norms, which individual languages may reinterpret in different ways.

Phonological hierarchy

Distinctive features: the emic articulatory/acoustic characteristics.

Phoneme: a minimum significant systemic linear segment of sound

Syllable: a stretch containing a vocalic wave with any onsets and codas

Foot: a stretch containing a stressed syllable and any associated unstressed syllables.

Pause group: a stretch between potential or actual pauses, containing one or more feet.

Breath group: a stretch uttered in a single breath, containing one or more intonation spans.

Utterance: a stretch uttered by one speaker with terminal silence before and after.

Conversation: a stretch containing a single language-using situation, covering one or more utterances.

Note that distinctive features often have prosodic functions.

Grammatical hierarchy

The grammatical hierarchy is complex, containing parallel deep structure, surface structure, and field structure elements. Deep structures are most commonly manifested by their parallel surface structures, though they may freely be manifested by other ranks (levels) of surface structure. The field structures give taxonomic, synonymic, antonymic, collocational, and other similar information.

Semantic components: the emic real-world features.

Morpheme/Lexeme: the lexeme is the minimum segment of meaning that has surface manifestation (e.g. 'big'). The morpheme is the minimum manifesting segment that has meaning (e.g. big). The lexeme field structures include taxonomies, classifications, components, and collocations. This is the dictionary rank (level) of a language.

Phrase: the deep phrase is the minimum unit of identification or description composed of a head lexeme plus any modifiers (e.g. Item - house, Quantity - two, Quality - big). A surface phrase is a stretch containing at least one morpheme, identifying a clause role or predicate (e.g. two big houses). The phrase field structure gives information such as synonymy/contrastive relations between participants in a discourse, and collocational restrictions between heads and modifiers (e.g. John = my uncle = the man wearing an overcoat = he).

Clause: the deep clause is the minimum unit of described action (predication) composed of an action plus any associated role fillers (e.g. Predicate - saw, Actor - Bill, Patient - the dog). A surface

clause is a stretch containing a predicate and any identified participants (e.g. Bill saw the house). The clause field structure gives information such as synonymy/contrastive relations between events in a discourse, and collocational restrictions between events and participants (e.g. John ran away = his action = John's fleeing = that).

Sentence: the deep sentence is the minimum unit with illocutionary force and a locution; the locution may contain one or more related events or descriptions (e.g. Cause - the bull saw red, Result - the bull charged the matador, Illoc. force - statement). A surface sentence is a stretch containing at least one main clause, with any dependent clauses (e.g. The bull charged the matador because it saw red.) The sentence field structure gives information such as the logical and implicational chains and collocational restrictions in the cultural setting of the discourse (e.g. bull-fighting collocational implications may be assumed in Spanish cultural setting, not in British cultural setting).

Paragraph: the deep paragraph is the minimum unit with a purposeful wave of illocutions having a common topic or focus, a common set set of major participants, location, general time, and vantage point. A surface paragraph is a stretch of one or more sentences with a common time and location horizon and a common focus. The paragraph field structure gives information such as the speaker's vantage-point, and speaker-hearer relations and restrictions.

Discourse: a deep discourse is a unit embodying all the discussion on a subject. A surface discourse is a stretch of one or more

paragraphs with a common theme. The discourse may be viewed perhaps as simply an independent paragraph structure.

Transformational interrelations of structures

Surface structures are considered to be manifestations of deep structures. The various surface structures manifesting the same deep structure (whether on the same or different surface ranks) are considered to be transforms of each other. When manifested on a lower rank the transform is generally seen as an embedding.

A deep structure lexeme may be commonly manifested (conditioned or freely variant) as a morpheme (e.g. John) or a phrase (Jack-in-the-pulpit).

A deep structure phrase (Item - man, Quality - tall, Definiteness-the) may be commonly manifested as a surface structure phrase (the tall man), a clause (the man being tall), or a simple sentence (The man is tall). Also Item - George, Description - king, becoming King George or George is king.

A deep clause (Predicate - ran away, Actor - the man) may be commonly manifested as a surface clause (as the man ran away), or a simple sentence (The man ran away.)

A deep sentence (Condition - John comes, Consequence - you will talk to him, Illoc. force - interrogative) may be commonly manifested as a surface sentence (If John comes, will you talk to him?), a clause (after asking whether you would talk to John if he comes), or a simple paragraph (I asked if you would talk to John if he comes.)

A deep paragraph (Time - the next morning, Location - Mudville, Topic - everyone sad) may be commonly manifested as a surface paragraph

(The next morning, July 8, everyone in Mudville was sad. Casey had struck out.), a surface sentence (This was because everyone in Mudville was sad that morning, mighty Casey having struck out the day before.), or a simple discourse (On July 7, 1898, mighty Casey, the town hero, struck out. So the following morning everyone in Mudville, Tenn., was sad.).

A deep discourse may be commonly manifested as a surface discourse (The Tale of Casey. In Mudville, Tenn., Casey, the slugger on the baseball team, was the town hero. On July 7, 1898, Casey struck out in a crucial game, to the disappointment of the entire town.), or a surface paragraph (To illustrate my point, I'll tell you about Casey. Casey, the town hero of Mudville, Tenn., struck out in a crucial game on July, 1898, disappointing the entire town.)

General processes

There are some language processes which may be applied on any rank (level) in the structure.

Negation: morpheme negation (illogical, non-unique), phrase negation (not the man in the brown coat, didn't go), clause negation (not because I didn't want to not in order to get better), sentence negation (It's not the case that he was absent.)

Foregrounding: On the phrase rank the noun head (verb head, etc.) is automatically foregrounded; on the clause rank one or another of the participants may be foregrounded (active vs. passive, etc.); on the sentence rank one of the clauses is usually given the status of main clause, with the other clauses case as subordinate clauses; on the paragraph rank one sentence is usually the topic sentence;

on the discourse rank one paragraph is usually the climax of the discourse, with the other paragraphs building up to or stepping down from the climax.

Compounding: Contrastive compounding (John was sick but Bill wasn't). Equivalent compounding (John was sick; he had malaria); there may be varying degrees of equivalence. Alternative compounding (Either John was sick, or I don't know sickness when I see it.). Additive compounding (John was sick, and Mary had an appointment). It is presumed that all four of these compounding types can appear in some form at all ranks of the grammatical hierarchy.

Debts

This proposed model owes to Kenneth Pike the concepts of plural hierarchies, emicness, manifestation, and roles (with Charles Fillmore), to Robert Longacre the higher grammatical levels and the interaction between deep and surface structures, to Zellig Harris transformations, to Henry Hiz batteries of transformation, to Harold Conklin lexemes, to John Crawford, David Bendor-Samuel, and Kenneth Pike some of the higher-level phonology, to Eugenie Henderson and others some prosodic concepts, to J.L. Austin, J. R. Searle, and others the terms 'locution' and 'illocution', and to Alan Healey, Bruce and Barbara Hollenbach, Joseph Grimes, and others, many details not apparent from this sketch.