SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS

PUBLICATIONS IN LINGUISTICS

Publication Number 59

EDITORS

Irvine Davis
Summer Institute of Linguistics

Virgil Poulter
University of Texas at Arlington

ASSISTANT EDITORS

Alan C. Wares

Iris M. Wares

CONSULTING EDITORS

Doris Bartholomew
Pam Bendor-Samuel
Phyllis Healey
Robert E. Longacre
Eugene Loos
William R. Merrifield
Kenneth L. Pike
Viola Waterhouse

THE FUNCTIONS OF REPORTED SPEECH IN DISCOURSE

Mildred Lucille Larson

A PUBLICATION OF

THE SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS

and

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

1978

ISBN 0-88312-073-9

Copyright 1978 by Summer Institute of Linguistics, Inc.

Copies of this publication and other publications of the Summer Institute of Linguistics may be obtained from

Summer Institute of Linguistics
Academic Publications
7500 W. Camp Wisdom Rd.
Dallas, TX 75211

EDITOR'S NOTE

This analysis of reported speech in the Aguaruna language of Peru was written by the author in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Texas at Arlington. It was completed in the fall of 1977 and is reproduced here in essentially the form in which it was submitted to the university.

Special acknowledgments are made by the author to Nelson Pujupat, a native speaker of Aguaruna who supplied much text material and helped to translate all the data in this study, to Eleanor McAlpine, who edited and typed the manuscript, and to Robert Longacre, who directed the writing of the dissertation.

Credit for quotations from the following published books and articles is acknowledged:

Ballard, D. Lee, Robert T. Conrad, and Robert E. Longacre. 1971. The deep and surface structure grammar of interclausal relations. Foundations of Language 7, 70-118. Dordrecht, Holland: D. Reidel.

Firth, J.R. 1968. Selected papers of J.R. Firth 1952-59, edited by F.R. Palmer. Bloomington Indiana: Indiana University Press.

Gleason, H.A., Jr. 1964. The organization of language. In: Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics 1964 (former title: Monograph Series on Languages and Linguistics, No. 17). Edited by C.I.J.M. Stuart. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press.

Grimes, Joseph E. 1975. The thread of discourse. The Hague: Mouton.

Hockett, Charles Francis. 1958. Course in modern linguistics. New York: Macmillan.

Longacre, Robert E. 1976. An anatomy of speech notions. Lisse, Belgium: Peter deRidder Press.

Wise, Mary Ruth. 1972. Some recent advances in tagmemic theory illustrated from Amerindian languages. Atti del XL Congresso International degli Americanisti. Tilgher, Genova.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Editor's note v

List of illustrations ix

List of charts x

List of abbreviations xi

Abstract xii

CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION 1

Purpose (1)--Language as a stratified communication system (6)--The communication situation (9)--Deep and surface structure (14)

CHAPTER II. REPORTED SPEECH WHICH REALIZES SPEECH ACTS . . 21

Reported speech as speech attribution (21)--Conversation versus dialogue (23)--Dialogue discourse, a portmanteau realization (26)--Embedded dialogue (37)--Nonrepartee speech acts (39)

CHAPTER III. REPORTED SPEECH FUNCTIONING RHETORICALLY . . . 58

Rhetorical quotations (58)--Highlighting participants in narrative discourse (60)--Highlighting events in narrative discourse (64)--Dialogue and narrative contrast at peak (68)--Highlighting closing events

(75)--Highlighting by repetition (76)--Pseudo-dialogue in expository discourse (77)

CHAPTER IV. OTHER FUNCTIONS OF REPORTED SPEECH 86

Causal relations (86)--Awareness attribution (95)--Specification (108)--Concepts (112)

CHAPTER V. DEEP STRUCTURE DISCOURSE GENRE 116

Semological features (116)--Illustrative semotactic networks (122)--Communication features (145)

CHAPTER VI. SURFACE STRUCTURE DISCOURSE TYPES 155

Contrastive surface types (155)--Grouping in surface structure (157)--Coherence in surface structure (170)--Prominence in surface structure (183)

CHAPTER VII. DIALOGUE AND DRAMATIC DISCOURSE 195

The narrative structure of dialogue discourse (195)--The structure of the reported speech of dialogue discourse (209)--The grammatical structure of dialogue discourse (217)--Contrastive features identifying dialogue discourse (222)--The surface structure of dramatic discourse (224)--Discrepancies between deep and surface structures (232).

CHAPTER VIII. CONCLUSIONS AND ILLUSTRATIVE TEXTS. 238

Conclusions (238)--Illustrative texts (241)--Narrative (246)--Dialogue texts (300)--Dramatic texts

(312)--Procedural texts (325)--Expository texts (344)--
Hortatory texts (380)--Stylistic texts (389)
APPENDIX 399
REFERENCES 406

ABSTRACT

The study of the functions of reported speech makes five major contributions to the current literature on discourse. (1) It highlights the multifunctional characteristics of reported speech; (2) it correlates these functions with discourse types; (3) it points out the necessity to separate the situational features from the deep structure organizational features and relates both to surface structure discourse types; (4) it defines more clearly the nature of dialogue discourse, that of a portmanteau realization of deep structure narrative and repartee; and (5) it shows for the first time within the stratificational grammar framework that contrastive discourse structures occur both in the semology and in the grammar of a language.

The study of reported speech was prompted by a dissatisfaction with the current treatment of quotations as the object or complement of the verb 'say'. A large corpus of text material in Aguaruna, an Amerindian language of Peru, South America, was examined for the purpose of identifying the functions of reported speech within the texts.

The study of the relationships between the deep and surface structures of the Aguaruna texts showed the following functions of reported speech in the surface structure of these discourses:

(1) to realize speech acts; (2) to highlight events and participants, and to mark peak; and (3) to realize nonspeech acts such as awareness attribution, causal relations, identification relations, and performatives.

The functions of reported speech correlate closely with contrastive discourse types. The realization of speech acts is found primarily in narrative, dialogue,and dramatic discourse. The use of reported speech to highlight is characteristic of narrative. The realization of awareness attribution is found in all discourse types but is especially characteristic of expository discourse. The realization of causal relations and identification relations is characteristic of procedural and expository discourse. Reported speech which realizes performatives occur in all discourse types but with a specific surface structure form for each type.

The semological features and the situational features which determine discourse deep structure genre are described and illustrated. The separation of these two sets of features in deep structure is an important step forward in the understanding of deep structure. The characteristics of the surface structure realizations of discourse is discussed and the formal grammatical markers of discourse types presented.

Dialogue is described as a portmanteau realization of deep structure narrative and repartee. In the description of surface structure discourse types, special emphasis is given to dialogue

and drama because the reported speech which occurs realizes deep structure repartee.

The model used is a synthesis of stratificational grammar and tagmemics. The conclusions of the study are illustrated by forty texts in which the functions of reported speech are labeled for the reader's easy examination.