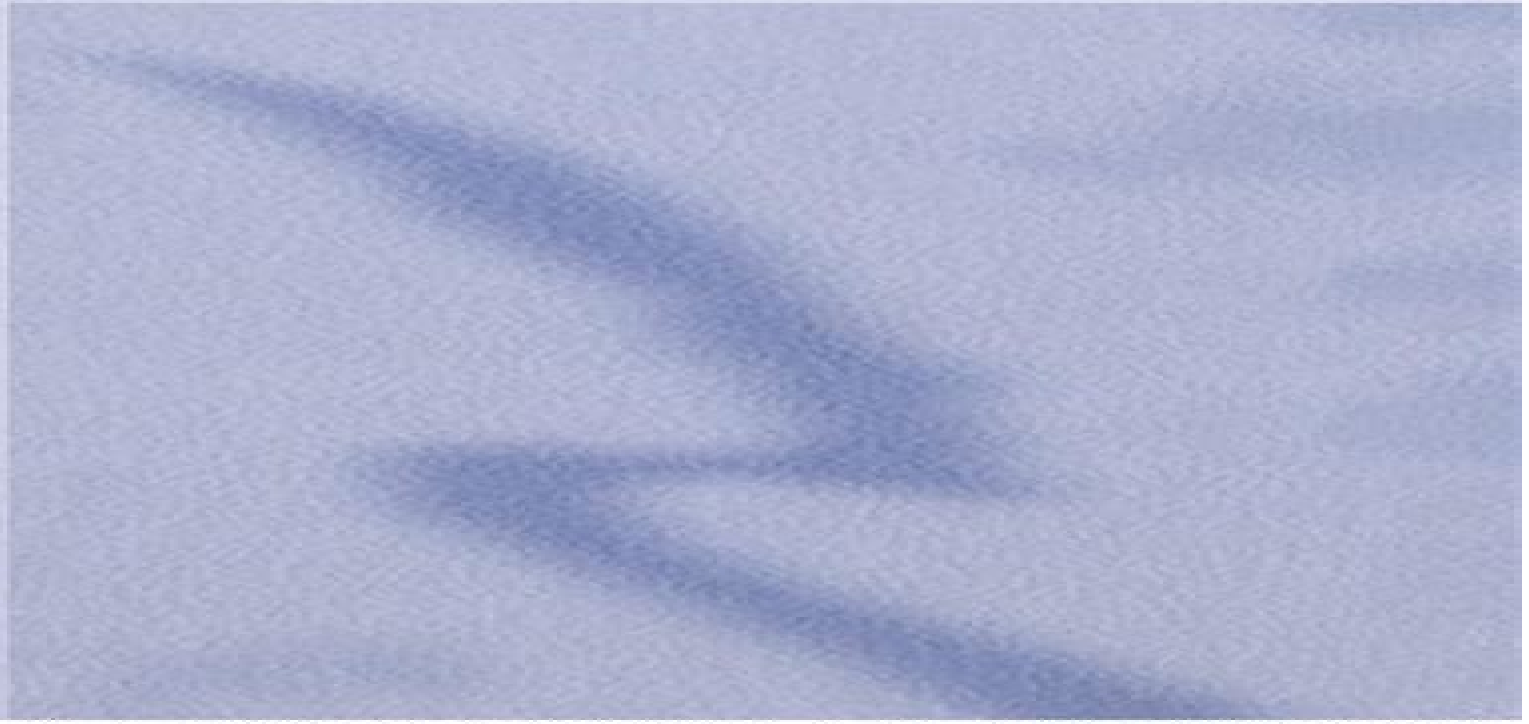
Functional Categories and Parametric Variation

Jamal Ouhalla

Theoretical Linguistics Series

ROUTLEDGE



Functional Categories And Parametric Variation

AW Rasmussen

Functional Categories And Parametric Variation:

Functional Categories and Parametric Variation Jamal Ouhalla,2003-09-02 This book explores the idea that functional categories are the flesh and blood of grammar From within the context of the Principles and Parameters framework put forward by Chomsky and others Jamal Ouhalla develops the argument that much of what we understand by the term grammar and grammatical variation involves functional categories in a crucial way His main thesis is that most if not all of the information which determines the major grammatical processes and relations movement agreement case etc and consequently parametric or crosslinguistic variation is associated with functional categories By identifying parameters with a limited set of lexical properties associated with a well defined group of functional categories the book offers a new and highly constrained version of the theory of Lexical Parametrization Dr Ouhalla begins by identifying a set of lexical properties which distinguish functional categories from substantives arguing that each of them represents a parameter in its own right He then goes on to argue on the basis of evidence drawn from a broad range of languages that functional categories most of which are bound morphemes behave in important respects like independent syntactic categories and therefore should be assigned a full categorial status on a par with substantives The remainder of the book contains detailed discussions of how this conclusion together with the theory of Lexical Parametrization developed account naturally for some major typological differences having to do mainly with word order in sentences and noun phrases Although the various discussions it contains are conducted within the Chomskyan framework Functional Categories and Parametric Variation is comprehensible to linguists of all theoretical persuasions It is an original and important contribution to syntactic theory in general

Functional Categories and Parametric Variation Jamal Ouhalla,1991 From within the context of the Principles and Parameters framework put forward by Chomsky and others Jamal Ouhalla develops the argument that much of what we understand by the term grammar involves functional categories Functional Categories, Argument Structure and Parametric Variation C. S. Rhys,D Adger,A. von Klopp,1994 **French Applied Linguistics** Dalila Ayoun,2007-01-01 Focuses on French applied linguistics *A Restrictive Theory of Functional Categories and Their Parametric Variation* Yeun-Jin Jung,1992 Chapter 4 is a study of parametric differences defined over the hierarchical relations between functional projections It shows what aspects of the hierarchy are regulated by independent principles and what aspects are governed by parametric operations Chapter 5 further elaborates the theory of functional categories and shows that fundamental parametric variations across languages are defined over the composition and the order of internal layers of the Kase grids Also this chapter demonstrates by examining the cross linguistically pervasive phenomenon of nominalization that the categorial parameter like other parametric phenomena can also be narrowed down to the specification of F features in the lexicon The Function of Function Words and Functional Categories Marcel den Dikken,Christina Tortora,2005-01-01 LC number 2005048395 Functional Categories in Language Acquisition Annette Hohenberger,2011-04-20 This study

investigates the acquisition of Functional Categories e g INFL AGR TNS DET COMP from the perspective of self organization in generative grammar Language is conceived of as a dynamical system which evolves in time and bifurcates when critical thresholds are reached The emergence of syntax as evidenced by the acquisition of Functional Categories is the major bifurcation in child language acquisition Target values of syntactic parameters are attractors which children approach on individual trajectories A proposed tripartite scenario of change from a simple stable state A via symmetry breaking in a liminal phase B characterized by variation to a new complex stable state C accounts for the dynamics in early grammatical development Traditional generative issues such as the acquisition of case marking finiteness V2 and wh questions are discussed as well as new issues such as functional neologisms and sentential blends Dynamical notions like precursor oscillation symmetry breaking and trigger are important explanatory tools The growing child phrase marker is a fractal mental object which represents syntactic information by way of self similar extended projections The book addresses researchers in language acquisition from various theoretical camps generative functional connectionist by giving new answers to old questions in the light of a novel challenging theory self organization **Theoretical Comparative Syntax** Naoki Fukui,2006-04-18 1 Specifiers and projection 2 LF extraction of naze some theoretical implications 3 Strong and weak barriers remarks on the proper characterization of barriers 4 Parameters and optionality 5 A note on improper movement 6 The principles and parameters approach a comparative syntax of English and Japanese 7 Symmetry in syntax merge and demerge 8 Order in phrase structure and movement 9 An A over A perspective on locality 10 The uniqueness parameter 11 Nominal structure an extension of the Symmetry Principle 12 Phrase structure 13 The Visibility Guideline for functional categories verb raising in Japanese and related issues **A Morphosyntactic Investigation of Functional Categories in English and Izon** Odingowei Kwokwo,2016-02-04 Doctoral Thesis Dissertation from the year 2012 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies Linguistics University of Ibadan language English abstract Existing studies on Izon language have concentrated on unilingual application of traditional grammar in constructing well formed sentences thereby neglecting critical descriptions of the ways morphosyntactic features ensure the derivation of convergent structures A contrastive examination of English a standard for universal grammar analysis and Izonn languages can properly characterise these syntactically significant features This work therefore investigates the morphosyntactic features in English and Izon languages with a view to identifying and describing the morphosyntactic features that make the structures of the two languages converge The study adopts Chomsky s Minimalist Program which emphasises checking of morphological features The research is based on Standard English and the Kolokuma dialect of Izon used in education and the media and is mutually intelligible with other dialects Data on English were collected from various books on English grammar and those on Izon were collected from native speakers in Kolokuma and Opokuma clans in Bayelsa State where the dialect is spoken and complemented with the researcher s native speaker s introspective data Since the study is competence based completely

grammatical structures from each language were used for the analysis Clausal and phrasal syntactic structures of English and Izon languages were comparatively analysed based on the feature checking processes of the Minimalist Program to identify shared and idiosyncratic features Universal features common to both languages include phrases clauses syntactic heads and wh fronting However English and Izon opt for different head parameters Heads in English precede their complements while heads in Izon follow their complements Although Nominative Case licensing occurs in Spec head structures in both languages Accusative Case is licensed in head complement relationship in English and complement head structure in Izon Both English and Izon permit wh fronting at Spec CP but Izon wh expressions obligatorily co occur with focus particles ki or ko which are functional elements that licence wh elements Whereas English constructs relative clauses with overt and interpretable complementizers such as who which precede their complement clauses Izon constructs relative clauses without overt interpretable wh expressions except an overt amee that which follows its complement clause **The Acquisition of Functional Categories** Joseph Galasso,2003 The Acquisition of Spanish Morphosyntax Ana Teresa Pérez-Leroux,Juana Muñoz Liceras,2002-12-31 Recent developments in linguistic theory as well as the growing body of evidence from languages other than English provide new opportunities for deeper explorations into how language is represented in the mind of learners This collection of new empirical studies on the acquisition of Spanish morphosyntax by leading researchers in the field of language acquisition specifically contributes to the characterization of the L1 L2 connection in acquisition Using L1 and L2 Spanish data from children and adults the authors seek to address the central questions that have occupied developmental psycholinguists in the final decades of the previous century and that will no doubt continue engaging them into the present one **The Role of Formal Features in Second Language Acquisition** Juana M. Liceras,Helmut Zobl,Helen Goodluck,2008 This edited volume dealing with formal features in Second Language Acquisition is defined within current generative grammatical theory such as the Principles and Parameters Theory and the Minimalist Program Formal features are essential to any account of language acquisiton because they are basic components of lexical and functional categories This is a subject of much current research as evidenced by the number of published articles in journals and in conference proceedings This is what the editors say While L2 acquisition is the focus of our volume the papers address the role of features in the current versions of generative grammar and explore the role of features for learnability theory as it relates to native and non native acquisition To our knowledge the volume represents the first scholarly contribution specifiacally devoted to features in language acquisition There are many generativists in SLA including our two series editors Susan Gass and Jacquelyn Schacther When asked if the formalist bias will be a big detraction Jacquelyn said The formal features book will definitely be formalist in tone McGill Working Papers in Linguistics ,2002 **FAIS Journal of Humanities** ,2000 **Language** ,2008 *Geschichte Der Sprachwissenschaften* Sylvain Auroux,2000 Journal of Slavic Linguistics ,2003 **Pan-Asiatic Linguistics** ,1991 **Linguistics and Language**

Behavior Abstracts ,2009 *Meeting Handbook* Linguistic Society of America,2000

Functional Categories And Parametric Variation Book Review: Unveiling the Power of Words

In some sort of driven by information and connectivity, the power of words has are more evident than ever. They have the capability to inspire, provoke, and ignite change. Such is the essence of the book **Functional Categories And Parametric Variation**, a literary masterpiece that delves deep into the significance of words and their affect our lives. Compiled by a renowned author, this captivating work takes readers on a transformative journey, unraveling the secrets and potential behind every word. In this review, we will explore the book is key themes, examine its writing style, and analyze its overall impact on readers.

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Table of Contents Functional Categories And Parametric Variation

1. Understanding the eBook Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - The Rise of Digital Reading Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Exploring Different Genres
    - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
    - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
    - Popular eBook Platforms
    - Features to Look for in an Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Personalized Recommendations
    - Functional Categories And Parametric Variation User Reviews and Ratings
    - Functional Categories And Parametric Variation and Bestseller Lists

5. Accessing Functional Categories And Parametric Variation Free and Paid eBooks
    - Functional Categories And Parametric Variation Public Domain eBooks
    - Functional Categories And Parametric Variation eBook Subscription Services
    - Functional Categories And Parametric Variation Budget-Friendly Options
6. Navigating Functional Categories And Parametric Variation eBook Formats
    - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
    - Functional Categories And Parametric Variation Compatibility with Devices
    - Functional Categories And Parametric Variation Enhanced eBook Features
7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
    - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Highlighting and Note-Taking Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Interactive Elements Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
8. Staying Engaged with Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Joining Online Reading Communities
    - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
    - Following Authors and Publishers Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Benefits of a Digital Library
    - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
    - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
    - Minimizing Distractions
    - Managing Screen Time
11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Setting Reading Goals Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Functional Categories And Parametric Variation
    - Distinguishing Credible Sources
13. Promoting Lifelong Learning

- Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
- Exploring Educational eBooks

14. Embracing eBook Trends
    - Integration of Multimedia Elements
    - Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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