The Grammar of Knowledge

A Cross-Linguistic Typology

EDITED BY

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Language and Culture Research Centre
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Preface

Every language has a way of talking about knowledge, and expressing information source. Some languages have a grammatical system of evidentials; others employ additional means to express information source and the ways in which speakers know what they are talking about. The marking, and the conceptualization of knowledge, vary across languages and cultures. This volume aims at investigating the varied facets of evidentiality, information source, and associated notions.

The volume starts with a typological introduction outlining the marking, and the meaning, of evidentials and other ways of marking information source, together with cultural and social aspects of the conceptualization of knowledge in a range of speech communities. It is followed by revised versions of twelve of the fourteen presentations from the International Workshop 'The grammar of knowledge', held at the Language and Culture Research Centre, James Cook University, 16–21 July 2012. An earlier version of Chapter 1 had been circulated to the contributors, with a list of points to be addressed, so as to ensure that their detailed studies of individual languages were cast in terms of a common set of typological parameters. (This is the seventh monograph in the series *Explorations in Linguistic Typology*, devoted to volumes from the International Workshops organized by the co-editors.)

The week of the workshop was intellectually stimulating and exciting, full of good discussions and cross-fertilization of ideas. Each author has undertaken intensive fieldwork, in addition to experience of working on linguistic typology, historical comparative issues, and problems of areal diffusion. The analysis is cast in terms of basic linguistic theory—the cumulative typological functional framework in terms of which almost all descriptive grammars are cast—and avoids formalisms (which provide reinterpretations rather than explanations, and come and go with such frequency that any statement made in terms of them is likely soon to become inaccessible).

It is our hope that this volume will provide a consolidated conceptual and analytic framework. We aim at covering the major parameters of variation in the expression of evidentiality, information source, and knowledge in general across languages of the world.

We are grateful to all the participants in the Workshop and colleagues who took part in the discussion and provided feedback on presentations at various stages, particularly, Michael Wood, Yongxian Luo, Grant Aiton, Hannah Sarvasy, Mikko Salminen, Dineke Schokkin, Esther Stützle-Csaja, and Lidia Suarez. We owe a special debt of gratitude to Brigitta Flick and to Elena Rhind, for helping us organize the Workshop in a most efficient manner. Brigitta Flick's support and editorial assistance was, as always, invaluable. A very big 'thank you' goes to Amanda Parsonage, for her assistance and cheerful support during the preparation of the final manuscript.

As with all previous volumes emanating from our International Workshop (also published in the series *Explorations in Linguistic Typology*), we owe a considerable debt to John Davey, our editor at Oxford University Press. His support, and encouragement, make our books feel welcome.

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Abbreviations

1	1st person
2	2nd person
3	3rd person
III	third nominal group
IV	fourth nominal group
V	fifth nominal group
VII	seventh nominal group
I–V	gender markers
A	transitive subject
ABL	ablative
ABS	absolutive
ABST	absent at the present moment
ACC	accusative
ACHI	achievement
ADJ	adjective
ADV	adverb
AFF	affect (Chapter 10)
AFF	affirmative (Chapter 7)
AGR	agreement
ALL	allative
ALOC	animate location
ALSO	also (no abbreviation)
ANAPH	anaphoric pronoun
ANT	anterior
AP	antipassive
APPLIC	applicative
ASP	aspect
ASSERT	assertive
ASSUM	assumed
AUG	augmentative
AV	actor voice

AUX	auxiliary
BEN	benefactive
BR	bound root
CATEG	categorical future (tense)
CAUS	causative
CEXP	counter-expectation
CL	classifier
CMPLZ	complementizer
CNTF	counterfactual
COMIT	comitative
COMPL	completive
COMPL.CL	complement clause
CONC	concessive
COND	conditional
CONJ	conjunction
CONT	continuous
CONTA	location with contact
CONVB	converb
COP	copula
CORE	core case
COS	change of state
CTM	co-temporal
DAT	dative
DBT	dubiative
DEC	declarative
DEF	definite
DEM	demonstrative
DER	derivational affix
DESID	desiderative
DET	determiner
DIM	diminutive
DIR	directional
DM	discourse marker
DS	different subject
du, DU	dual
DUB	dubitative

-DY	past tense suffix in Tatar
e	eyewitness
E	extension to core (Chapter 11)
E	edible (Chapter 8)
EGO	position of the speaker (Chapter 12)
EGO	Egophoric (Chapter 5)
EP	epenthetic
EMPH	emphasis
EQ	equative
EQUAT	equative
ERG	ergative
EVID	evidential
EVID.MOD	modified situation
EVID.NPOT	anti-potential
exc	exclusive
EXCLAM	exclamative
EXIS	existential
EXIST	existential
EXP	experiential
EXPE	experiential
FEM, F, f	feminine
FOC	focus
FP	far past
FUT	future
-GAn	resultative past tense suffix in Tatar
GEN	genitive
HAB	habitual
HESIT	hesitation pro-form
HON	honorific
HPL	human plural
HT	high transitivity
ICP	intransitive copy pronoun
IDEO	ideophone
IMMED	immediate
IMP	imperative

IMPER	imperfect
IMPERS	impersonal
IMPERV	imperfective
IN	location 'in'
inc	inclusive
INCH	inchoative
incl	inclusive
INCOM	incompletive
INDEF	indefinite
INDEP	independent
INDIC	indicative
INDIR	indirectivity
INESS	inessive
INFER	inferred
INFIN	infinitive
INST	instrumental
INT	intentional
INTER	interrogative
INTERJ	interjection
INTR	intransitive
IRR	irrealis
JOINT	joint perception
JUS	jussive
KIN	kinship
LAT	lative
LINK	linker
LOC	locative
LOG	logophoric
LV	locative voice
MASC, M, m	masculine
MC	Mandarin Chinese
min, MIN	minimal
MIR	mirative
MIRAT	mirative
MOD	modal

NARR	narrative
NCL	noun class
NEG	negation
NEUT, N	neuter
NF	non-final
nf	non-feminine
NFIRSTH	non-firsthand evidential
NHPL	non-human plural
NIGHT	nightime
NMASC	non-masculine
NOM	nominative
NOMZ	nominalizer
NONVIS	non-visual
NP	noun phrase
NPAST	non-past
NPOSSD	non-possessed
nsg	non-singular
NWIT	non-witnessed evidential
O	transitive object
OBJ	object
OBL	oblique
ONOM	onomatopoeia
OTR	first person 'other'
OPT	optative
ORD	ordinal number
p	person
PART	particle
PARTIC	participle
PASS	passive
PAST	past
PERV	perfective
PF	pause filler
pl, PL	plural
PN	pronoun
POSS	possessive

POT, pot	potential
PR	polite request
PRED	predicative (word)
PREF	prefix
PREP	preposition
PRES	present
PRES.NONVIS	present non-visual
PREST	present speaker
PRN	proper noun
PROG	progressive
PROHIB	prohibitive
PROS	prospective
PURP	purposive
PV	patient voice
Q	question particle
QP	question particle
QUOT	quotative
RC	relative clause
REAL	realis
REAS	reason
REC	recent
REC.P.NONVIS	recent past non-visual
RECIP	reciprocal
REDUP	reduplicated
REF	referential
REFL	reflexive
REGR	regressive
REL	relative
REM	remote
REP	reported
REPET	repetitive
RES	resultative
REV	reversive
S	intransitive subject
s.th.	something

S$_a$	'active' S, marked like A
SEQ	sequential
sg, SG	singular
SIM	simultaneous
S$_o$	'stative' S, marked like O
SLF	first person 'self' (narrator)
SPEC	speculative
SPECUL	speculative
SPR	location 'on'
STAT	stative
SU	subject
SU>OBJ	subject of marked clause is object of controlling clause
SUB	subordinator
SUBORD	subordinate
SUPRESS	superessive
SVC	serial verb construction
TAG	tag particle
TAM	tense-aspect-mood
TEL	telic
TEMP	temporal
TERM	terminative
TOP	topic
TOP.NON.A/S	topical non-subject
TR	transitive
UNCERT	uncertain(ty)
UNWIT	unwitnessed
VBLZ	verbalizer
VEN	ventive
VIS	visible (Chapter 8)
VIS	visual
VN	verbal noun
VOC	vocative
WIT	witnessed

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