CK.0000074061

OXFORD
LINGUISTICS

Pragmatics

SECOND EDITION

Yan Huang

ỦYÊN
IỆU

OXFORD TEXTBOOKS IN LINGUISTICS

OXFORD TEXTBOOKS IN LINGUISTICS

Pragmatics

Second edition

Oxford Textbooks in Linguistics

Published

Pragmatics
Second edition
by Yan Huang

Compositional Semantics
An Introduction to the Syntax/Semantics Interface
by Pauline Jacobson

The Grammar of Words
An Introduction to Linguistic Morphology
Third edition
by Geert Booij

A Practical Introduction to Phonetics
Second edition
by J. C. Catford

Meaning in Use
An Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics
Third edition
by Alan Cruse

Natural Language Syntax
by Peter W. Culicover

Principles and Parameters
An Introduction to Syntactic Theory
by Peter W. Culicover

A Semantic Approach to English Grammar
by R. M. W. Dixon

Semantic Analysis
A Practical Introduction
by Cliff Goddard

The History of Languages
An Introduction
by Tore Janson

Diachronic Syntax
by Ian Roberts

Cognitive Grammar
An Introduction
by John R. Taylor

Linguistic Categorization
Third edition
by John R. Taylor

In Preparation

The Lexicon
An Introduction
by Elisabetta Ježek

Functional Discourse Analysis
by Evelien Keizer

Semantics and Pragmatics
Meaning in Language and Discourse
Second edition
by Kasia M. Jaszczolt

Translation
Theory and Practice
by Kirsten Malmkjaer

Speech Acts and Sentence Types in English
by Peter Siemund

Linguistic Typology
Theory, Method, Data
by Jae Jung Song

Pragmatics

Second edition

Yan Huang

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford, OX2 6DP,
United Kingdom

Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford.
It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship,
and education by publishing worldwide. Oxford is a registered trade mark of
Oxford University Press in the UK and in certain other countries

© Yan Huang 2007, 2014

The moral rights of the author have been asserted

First Edition published in 2007
Second Edition published in 2014
Impression: 6

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in
a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the
prior permission in writing of Oxford University Press, or as expressly permitted
by law, by licence or under terms agreed with the appropriate reprographics
rights organization. Enquiries concerning reproduction outside the scope of the
above should be sent to the Rights Department, Oxford University Press, at the
address above

You must not circulate this work in any other form
and you must impose this same condition on any acquirer

Published in the United States of America by Oxford University Press
198 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016, United States of America

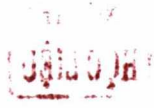
British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data
Data available

Library of Congress Control Number: 2014936066

ISBN 978–0–19–957776–7

Printed and bound by
Ashford Colour Press Ltd, Gosport, Hampshire

Links to third party websites are provided by Oxford in good faith and
for information only. Oxford disclaims any responsibility for the materials
contained in any third party website referenced in this work.



Dedication

In loving memory of and with profound gratitude to my mother,
Hexia Feng (1921–2010), and my father,
Yongzeng Huang (1922–2013)

Contents

Preface to the second edition xiv
Acknowledgements to the second edition xvi
Preface to the first edition xix
Acknowledgements to the first edition xxi
Symbols and abbreviations xxiii

1. Introduction 1
   1.1. What is pragmatics? 1
      1.1.1. A definition 1
      1.1.2. A brief history of pragmatics 2
      1.1.3. Two main schools of thought in pragmatics: Anglo-American versus European Continental 4
   1.2. Why pragmatics? 7
      1.2.1. Linguistic underdeterminacy 7
      1.2.2. Simplification of semantics and syntax 9
   1.3. Some basic notions in semantics and pragmatics 13
      1.3.1. Sentence, utterance, and proposition 13
      1.3.2. Context 16
      1.3.3. Truth value, truth condition, and entailment 17
   1.4. Organization of the book 21
   Key concepts 22
   Exercises and essay topics 22
   Further readings 23

Part I Central topics in pragmatics 25
2. Implicature 27
   2.1. Classical Gricean theory of conversational implicature 28
      2.1.1. Grice's notion of non-natural meaning or meaning_{nn} 28
      2.1.2. Grice's co-operative principle and the maxims of conversation 29
      2.1.3. Relationship between a speaker and the maxims 30

2.1.4. Conversational implicature$_O$ versus conversational implicature$_F$ 31
2.1.5. Generalized versus particularized conversational implicature 38
2.1.6. Properties of conversational implicature 39
2.2. Two neo-Gricean pragmatic theories of conversational implicature 43
2.2.1. The Hornian system 44
2.2.2. The Levinsonian system 49
2.3. Some current debates about conversational implicature 66
2.4. Embedded (conversational) implicature 68
2.4.1. What is an embedded implicature? 68
2.4.2. The main problem 69
2.4.3. Analyses 70
2.5. Conventional implicature 73
2.5.1. What is conventional implicature? 73
2.5.2. Properties of conventional implicature 75
2.6. Summary 78
Key concepts 78
Exercises and essay questions 79
Further readings 83

3. Presupposition 84
3.1. Phenomena of presupposition 85
3.1.1. What is presupposition? 85
3.1.2. Some representative examples of presupposition 86
3.2. Properties of presupposition 89
3.2.1. Constancy under negation 89
3.2.2. Defeasibility 90
3.2.3. The projection problem 95
3.3. Analyses 97
3.3.1. Three main issues 98
3.3.2. The filtering-satisfaction analysis 100
3.3.3. The cancellation analysis 104
3.3.4. The accommodation analysis 108
3.4. Summary 113
Key concepts 114
Exercises and essay questions 114
Further readings 117