

Papers from the

**SIXTH SCANDINAVIAN CONFERENCE
OF LINGUISTICS**

Røros, June 19 - 21, 1981

Edited by

Thorstein Fretheim and Lars Hellan



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: electronic, electrostatic, magnetic tape, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without permission in writing.

CONTENTS

SYNTAX

ON THE SYNTACTIC REPRESENTATION OF SO-CALLED "EXISTENTIAL-PRESENTATIVE SENTENCES" IN NORWEGIAN AND GERMAN. A CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS John Ole Askedal	11
---	----

IS THERE ANY BACKWARD PRONOMINALIZATION? Milan Bily	26
--	----

ON FILLER-GAP DEPENDENCIES IN NORWEGIAN Kirsti Koch Christensen	34
--	----

VSO AND SVO LANGUAGES IN CONTACT: SENTENCE-THEMATIC PECULIARITIES OF HIBERNO-ENGLISH Markku Filippula	50
---	----

SEMANTIC AND FUNCTIONAL GOVERNMENT OF REFLEXIVES IN NORWEGIAN Lars Helan	60
--	----

ERGATIVE SUBSTRUCTURES IN "OBJECTIVE" LANGUAGES? Michael Henslund	75
--	----

COMBINATORY COORDINATION IN NORWEGIAN Svein Lie	84
NON-CLAUSE-BOUNDED REFLEXIVES IN ICELANDIC Joan Maling	90

SOME THEORETICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY OF NP-MOVEMENT IN SOME SCANDINAVIAN LANGUAGES Pierre Pica	107
--	-----

ADJECTIVES WITH NOUN PHRASE COMPLEMENTS IN SWEDISH Christer Platzack	117
---	-----

ON THE GOVERNING PROPERTIES OF INFINITIVAL MARKERS Eric J. Reuland	127
---	-----

TOPKALISERING I FRANSKA OCH SVENSKA Eva Larsson Ringqvist	142
THE HEAD OF S IN GERMANIC AND ROMANCE Knut Tarald Taraldsen	151

SEMANTICS OF TENSE

THE PROCESSING OF TENSE Eva I. Ejerhed and Lars-Erik Janlert	165
OPACITY AND TENSE Franciska de Jong and H.J. Verkuyl	177

TEXT AND DISCOURSE	
NORWEGIAN INTONATION PATTERNS IN DISCOURSE PERSPECTIVE Thorstein Fretheim	193
ER DET RELEVANT NOK? OM RELEVANSNORM, TEKSTANALYSE OG TEKSTLINGVISTIK Lars Heltoft	205
ELICITATION Anna-Brita Stenström	217
SPEECH ACT CATEGORIES IN TEXT ANALYSIS Vilgo Sørensen	227
THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEWS STORY Ole Togeby	236
PHONETICS TIMING AND STRESS IN FINNISH: PRODUCTION AND PERCEPTION DATA Jussi Niemi	247
INTERLANGUAGE ASPECTS OF FOSSILIZED INTERLANGUAGE: THE ENGLISH OF FINNISH AMERICANS Pekka Hirvonen	260
COMPETENT INTERLANGUAGE J. Rhodri H. Jones	269
SOCIOLINGUISTICS/DIALECTOLOGY ON EVALUATING OLDER TEXTS AS EVIDENCE FOR HISTORICAL LINGUISTICS Arnold Dalen and Jan Ragnar Hagland	274
LINGUISTIC ACCOMODATION: SOCIOLINGUISTIC OBSERVATIONS ON A SOCIOPSYCHOLOGICAL THEORY Peter Trudgill	284
FURTHER TOPICS LANGUAGE, DIALECTS & LINGUISTICS Jörgen Döör	300
SEMANTICS AND POLITICS Harry Perridon	308
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	318

PREFACE

The present volume is a collection of papers that were read before the Sixth Scandinavian Conference of Linguistics in 1981. The papers were presented partly in special workshops and partly as regular section papers. There was one plenary lecture, by Noam Chomsky, who also participated in the syntax workshop and delivered a paper there.

The book divides into seven sections: SWNTAX (13 papers), SEMANTICS OF TENSE (2 papers), TEXT AND DISCOURSE (5 papers), PHONETICS (1 paper), INTERLANGUAGE (2 papers), SOCIOLINGUISTICS/DIALECTOLOGY (2 papers), FURTHER TOPICS (2 papers).

The following papers were presented at the conference but were not receive for publication:

József Andor, Frames for frames
Robert Bryan, Time, tense and the chronology of events
Niels Davidsen-Nielsen, Phonological neutralization
Elisabet Engdahl, Multiple gaps in English and Swedish
Claus Færch & Gabriele Kasper, Communication strategies and strategy markers
Raven I. McDavid, Implications of American linguistic geography
Gunnel Melchers, Det nordiska inslaget i språket på Sletlandsöar
Hans Rossipal, Predikationsstypernas argumentationsværdi i et teksthandlingschema
Nina Thorsen, Phonetic evidence for the autonomy of prosodic categories in Danish.

Professor Chomsky's paper Topics in the Theory of Government and Binding was meant to be included in this volume but grew into something much more extensive, a book that is now published by the MIT Press in their Linguist Inquiry Monograph Series with the title Some Concepts and Consequences of the Theory of Government and Binding.

The editors would like to express their gratitude to the Interim Board of the University of Trondheim for covering part of the expenses of those participants who came to Røms from outside Scandinavia to read a paper, and to the Avdeling for Filologiske Fag of the University of Trondheim, whose grant enabled us to invite Professor Chomsky to the conference. One man deserves special mention in this connection, Jørn Sandnes, professor of history, Dean of Humanities, presently Rector of the University of Trondheim. His support was a tremendous help to the organizers.

Thorstein Fretheim

Lars Helian

THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEWS STORY

Ole Toegeby
 Institut for nordisk Filologi.
 University of Copenhagen

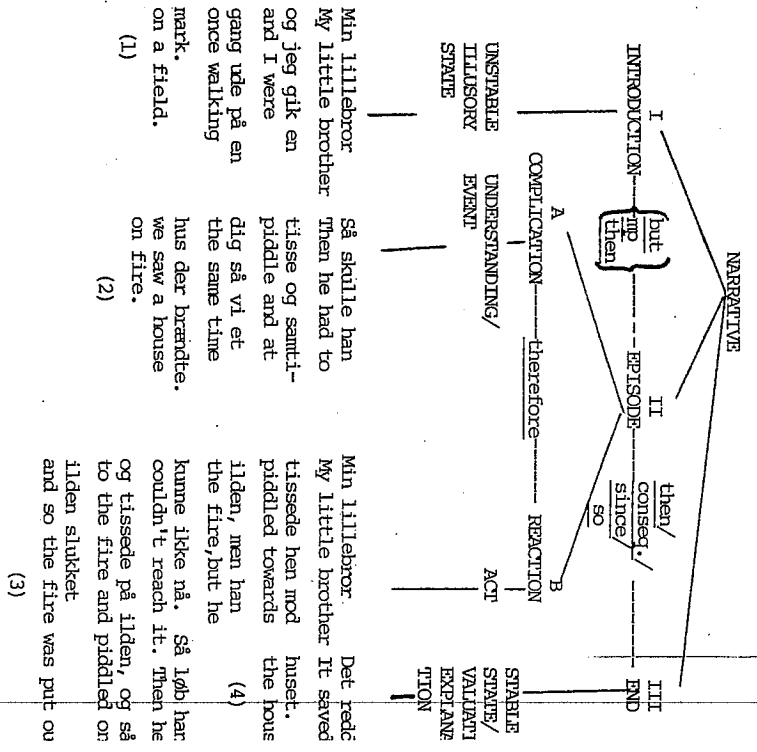
This paper deals with the structure of the news story; but as an introduction to the method of description, and by way of contrast to the news story, I shall first analyse a simple narrative.

A text can be described as a unity of parts called functions. Functions (marked by CAPITAL LETTERS) are segments of text defined by semantic relations to other functions. The semantic relations (marked by small letters underlined) are logical, temporal, causal, inferential or informational relations such as the following:

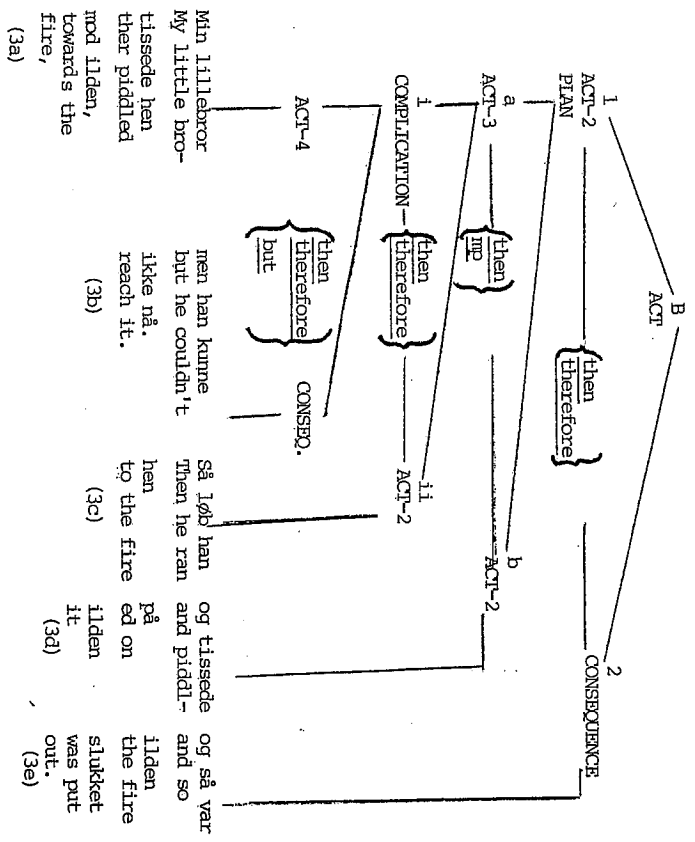
- FUNCTION---and---FUNCTION } *neutral*
- FUNCTION---or---FUNCTION } *neutral*
- EVENT---then---EVENT
- STATE---while---STATE
- CAUSE---therefore---EFFECT/CONSEQUENCE } *causal*
- CONSEQUENCE/EFFECT---because---CAUSE
- ARGUMENT---consequently---CONCLUSION } *inferential*
- CONCLUSION---since---ARGUMENT
- FUNCTION---but---CONTRAST } *contrastive*
- PRESUPPOSITION---mp (makes possible)---FUNCTION } *inferential*
- FUNCTION---presupposes---PRESUPPOSITION } *inferential*
- GS (GENERAL STATEMENT)---viz---SP (SPECIFICATION) } *informational*
- SP---so---GS

Two or more functions connected by semantic relations constitute a new function on a higher level, a macro-function. Thus text is a unity composed of a hierarchy of functions defined and connected by semantic relations.

According to many authors¹⁾ a simple narrative often has a structure like this:



The relations between I and II are not only contrastive (the contrast between the quiet state of walking, and the two problems, piddling and fire) but also informational (the piddling presupposes the existence of the boy) and temporal. The relations between II and III are either inferential, causal, temporal or informational; in this case they are inferential and informational. So the beginning and the end are related inferentially, but the description of the events is ordered by recursive rules of temporal and causal relations:

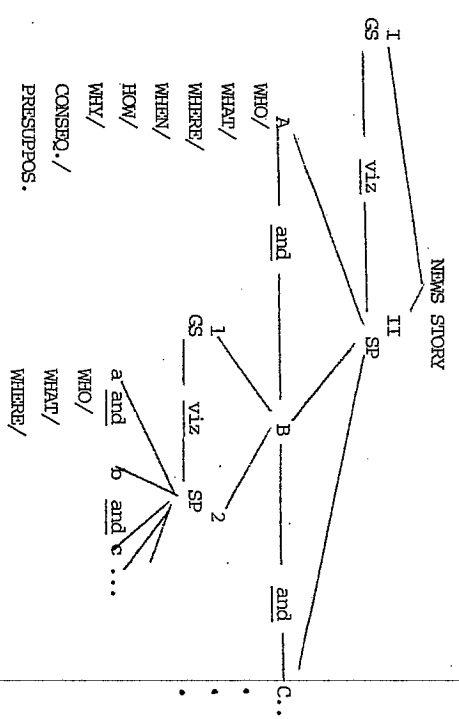


An act can be perceived and recounted as either a changing of the world (with consequences) (ACT-1), as a PLAN (with an intention and a following actualization) (ACT-2) or as an INTENTION (with a complication and a reaction to it) (ACT-3). In all kinds of action description of the dominant semantic relations are temporal and causal.

This is a very simplified theory of one kind of narrative, but as an illustration of the method of description, and as an example in contrast to the news story, it will do here.

The structure of the news story is quite different. The EVENTS are not narrated in succession, and they are not related by temporal or causal relations, but one central event is paraphrased and made more specific again and again. The typical structure of the news

story is the following:



The analysis of the following text is shown by hierarchical enumeration system: I(A(1(a...b...c)...2(a...))) and the name of the tions is marked with capital letters.

I.GS: Århus amtsråds udvalg for teknik og miljø reddede This Wednesday the technology and environment committee onsdag en af Silkeborgs største virksomheder - Silkeborg Århus County Council saved Silkeborg paper factory, one of papirfabrik fra at måtte lukke på grund af miljø-Silkeborg's biggest industries, from closure because of krav. (1) environment protection demands.

II.SP: A.HOW: I.GS: Det skete da udvalget godkendte virksomhedens forslag This happened when the committee approved the factory

till spildevandsrensning. (2)
waste cleansing proposals.

2.SP:a.WHAT: Projektet medfører væsentlig nedsættelse af
The scheme will bring about a significant reduction in the
udledningen af såkaldt suspenderet stof. (3)
discharge of so-called suspended matter.

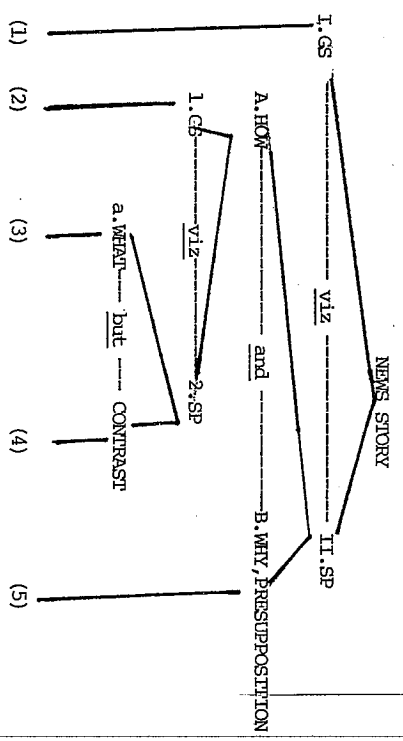
b.CONTRAST,EFFECT: Alligevel kommer virksomheden alene til
Nevertheless this factory alone will cause more suspended
at forurene Gudenåen mere med suspenderet stof end hoved-
mater pollution of Gudenåen than the greater part of the
parten af kommunens borgere tilsammen. (4)
county's population as a whole.

B.WHY,PRESUPPOSITION: Direktør H.Madelung, De forenede Papirfa-
H.Madelung, managing director of United Paperworks Ltd.

brikker A/S truede på et offentligt møde i februar med, at
warned at a public meeting in February that the paper
papirfabrikken med sine ca. 355 medarbejdere måtte lukke,
factory with its approx. 355 employees would have to
såfremt kravene til spildevandsrensning skærpedes blot få
close down if waste cleansing requirements were made even
procent i forhold til virksomhedens eget oplæg. (5)
a few percent more rigorous than the factory itself sug-
gested.

(Information, 31.3.1977)

(2) is not the event following the event mentioned in (1), but a
specification of HOW the saving in (1) took place. The saving was
done by the approval. The relation of specifications means that the
SPECIFICATION implies the GENERAL STATEMENT, and sometimes that the
sum of SPECIFICATIONS is a paraphrase of the GENERAL STATEMENT. At
the same time the anaphoric relations between the sentences are as
in other texts. A definite noun phrase in the specification may
presuppose something in the general statement. Det in (2) has as
its antecedent reddede in (1). At the same time godkendte in (2)
implies reddede in (1). (3) is not a description of the EFFECT of
the carrying out of the project, but a specification of the proposal
from the factory - and so on. The analysis of the text can be illus-
trated as a diagram:



A general statement (GS) can be specified in many ways. In this
the GS describes the saving of a factory. This saving can be sp
fied as to WHO was saved, WHO saved, WHERE and WHEN did it happ
HOW was it done, and WHY was it done (including the question fr
WHAT was it saved), WHAT was the danger, what were the PRESUPP
TIONS of the saving, and the CONSEQUENCES ?

All GENERAL STATEMENTS can be specified in all the ways that re
semble the deep cases of the verb.

The author of the news story may among all the possible spe
cifications choose only those specifications that are relevant t
readers. In this case time and place have been mentioned in the
general statement, so that the HOW and the WHY need most specif
cation. The order of the specifications is determined by the ma
of relevance too: First the specification most relevant and nec
sary for the understanding of the general statement, next what
now the most relevant topic and so on. What is taken account of
is the fact that many readers do not read the news story to the
end. If they drop out in the middle, they only loose the least
vant specifications of the story.

The text is structured for catching the attention of the re
not for discussing the impact of the event. The valuation of it
event in the text is made in the first sentence, in the general
statement, and all the following specifications imply this valu
What in this news story is called saving could as well be calle
lack of consideration for the environment. But this interpretat
is not possible for the readers of this news story.

As a contrast to this structuring of the description of the events in Århus County Council, let us see how the same story was told on TV. On TV it need not be feared that the audience will drop out during the presentation of the news story; the point of the story can be put at the end, but on the other hand the most important things must still be mentioned first:

I.GS: Århus amtsråd reddede i dag en af Silkeborgs største ledige Århus County Council saved one of Silkeborg's biggest industries from closure because of environment protection demands.

II.SP:A.HOW: Det skete da amtsrådet godkendte et spildsandsprojekt This happened when the Council approved a waste cleansing project som fabriken selv har foreslået. (2)
proposed by the factory itself.

B.HOW-NARRATIVE

I.INTRDUCTION:a.STATE: Den virksomhed det drejer sig om The industry concerned is Silkeborg

er Silkeborg papirfabrik, (3)
paper factory,

b. der bl.a. fremstiller papir til which among other things produces paper
vore pengesedler. (4)
for our bank notes.

c. Virksomheden beskæftiger omkring 350 medarbejdere (5)
The factory employs about 350 workers

d. og har været en væsentlig kilde til and has been a major source of
forureningen af Silkeborg. (6)
pollution in Silkeborg.

2.EPISODE:

a.COMPLICATION

1) ACT: Denne forurening har virksomheden nu tilbudt The factory has now offered to reduce this pollution
at nedbringe med 85%. (7)
by 85%.

ii)EFFECT CONTRAST: Men trods det vil den stadig forurene Nevertheless, it will still cause more pollution
mere end den øvrige del af Silkeborg. (8)
than the rest of Silkeborg.

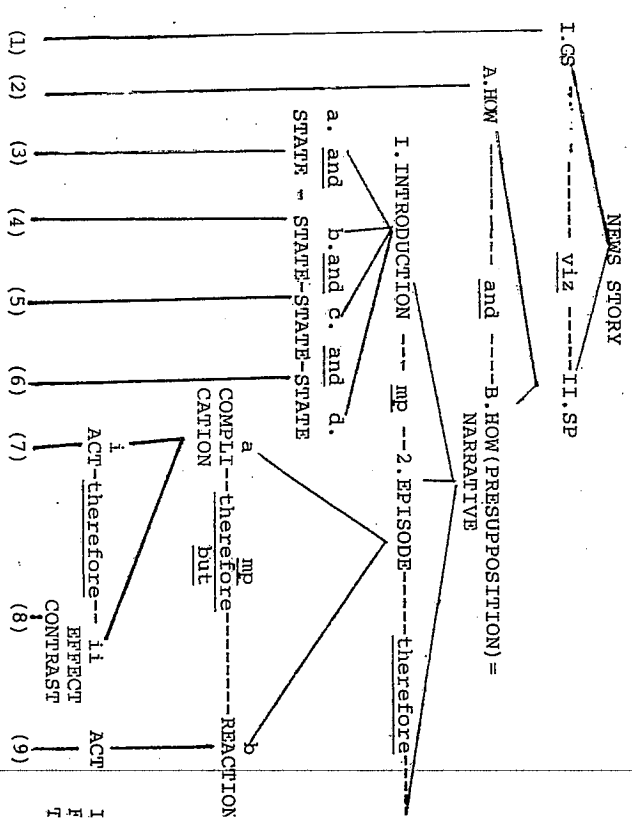
b. REACTION: Fabrikkens ledelse meddelte midlertid på et However, the management of the factory announced at a
offentligt møde i februar at man eventuelt måtte lukke hvis public meeting in February that they might have to close

man skulle investere yderligere i rensning. (9)
down if they has to invest more in cleansing operations.

3. END: Og det er nu det Århus amtsråd har løjlet sig for. (10)
And that is what Århus County Council has now accepted.

TV-avisen 30.3.1977

or as a diagram:



(3)-(6) could be analysed as a specification of the GS, but it not possible to interpret (7) as a specification of GS or of an other preceding sentence. (7) does not imply any of those sente and so it can not be a specification of any of them. The only w understand the coherence of the text is to interpret (3)-(10) a narrative structure embedded in the structure of the news story this version of the news story it becomes obvious to the audien that the factory is the hero in a narrative: it fights for the ployment of the workers, and is saved by the county council. Th moral of the story is the same as in the previous version, but more explicit, and more easy for the audience to grasp.

To summarise: the newspaper news story is structured primarily by informational relations. The temporal and causal relations between functions in the text disappear; the dominant relation is specification, and coordination of the specifications ordered according to their actuality and relevance for the readers. So the interpretation of the causal relations in the real world, the world told about, is blocked or prevented by the text structure, and the relation between the sender, the journalists, and the receiver, the readers, becomes the structuring factor. The narrative, on the other hand, is structured, except for the introduction and the end, by temporal and causal relations, and so the text permits a discussion of what is going on in the real world. The TV news story is often a combination of a news story structure and a narrative structure.

Different text types or genres can be described as a hierarchical structure of functions and macro functions connected by semantic relations from a limited set of relations. The difference of structure between the text types can to a certain degree be explained by the pragmatic context. The news story is printed in newspapers where the readers are expected to drop out in the middle of the story, while the narrative is told in situations where the audience is supposed to listen to the end.

- 1) E. Gillich & W. Raible: Linguistische Textmodelle, 1977 München; Wolfgang Dressler: Einführung in die Textlinguistik, 1973 Tübingen; William Labov & Joshua Waletzky: Narrative Analysis, Oral Versions of Personal Experience, in Essays on the Verbal and Visual Arts, ed. June Helm, 1967 Seattle; Ole Togeby: Theories of narrative in textlinguistics, in Thore Pettersson (ed): Papers from the fifth Scandinavian Conference of Linguistics, Frostavälen, April 27-29 1979, 1979 Stockholm.

PHONETICS