Abstract

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Two Competing Systems: Sentence Grammar vs Discourse Grammar

The main goal of this paper is to argue that linguistic discourse organization operates on two different planes, involving two different systems, namely that of sentence grammar and of discourse grammar. Each of the two systems has its own internal structure, and the two tend to be separated from one another both syntactically and prosodically. The way these systems interact differs greatly between spoken and written linguistic communication.

Building on recent reasearch on parenthetical structures (e.g., Dehé and Kavalova 2007, Kaltenböck 2007, Brinton 2008, Heine and Kuteva 2010), the paper aims on the ond hand at defining the main characteristics of the two systems; on the other hand, it looks into the question of how the two interact in the construction of utterances.

References

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