

RESÚMENES EN INGLÉS DE LOS ARTÍCULOS DE LA REVISTA

La Gramática y la Biología en el género del español (2.^a parte), Ignacio M. Roca

This is the second part of a paper whose first part appeared in the previous issue of *RSEL*. It offers a full, integrated analysis of Spanish gender. The model that we arrive at is remarkably simple, and notably includes one perhaps a priori unexpected result. There are three components in Spanish gender: morphosyntactic (gender proper), phonological (the materialisation of gender, mainly through the desinence), and semantic (the meaning of gender, if any). In popular (and sometimes expert) belief gender is primarily a reflection of sex. The paper shows that this belief is mistaken (the everyday feminine word [*la*] *persona* 'person [of either sex]' illustrates beautifully), as is the identification of sex in the language with sex in the world. In particular, a crucial distinction needs to be drawn between biological sex and semantic sex, only the latter being relevant to gender. Formally, a semantic feature [\pm FEMALE] encodes sex where relevant to language. Crucially, this feature fails to saturate the representations, both lexically and in the surface, and consequently many forms (mainly, albeit not only, of masculine gender) fail to carry a sex implication. Expressions like *los ciudadanos y las ciudadanas*, with some currency in some quarters at present, are accordingly aberrant semantically, and usually also pragmatically.

El gerundio español como progresivo estático. Análisis cognoscitivo, Ricardo Maldonado

The study of the behavior of the progressive constructions in Spanish has only received initial interest in contemporary studies of linguistics. The most important considerations come from a formal type of studies, in which the use of the gerund in absolut constructions is reviewed. Although in general terms these characterizations are correct, the uses in dynamic situations are not distinguished from the uses in static contexts. The objective of this work is to analyze the aspectual behavior of the progressive constructions in static situations.

Caracterización neuroanatómica y neurofisiológica del lenguaje humano, Antonio Benítez Burraco

New and more discriminative and accurate neuroimaging techniques (PET, fMRI, ERPs, EEG, MEG) have increased our knowledge about anatomical and physiological basis of human language. According to new data, language develops as complex neuronal networks, which extend far beyond the so-called «traditional language centres», focused on Broca's and Wernicke's areas. In fact, both cortical and subcortical structures are involved on linguistic processing, and new neuronal subpopulations (mainly from cortical non-linguistic areas) are recruited, as demands of processing capacity increase. Neuronal circuitry for linguistic items seems to lay contiguously to that for non-linguistic elements, and functional implications of such design are discussed. Neuronal and anatomic correlates for grammar components (syntactic rules, lexicon structure, and working memory), but also for word and sentence processing are likewise discussed. In such a model questions about modular structure of human brain (and cognition) arise as a main topic. The scope of modularity is therefore discussed, not only in adult brains, but also during ontogenetic development. Future trends in biological characterization of human language, mostly concerning neurogenetics and molecular biology, are finally suggested.

Sobre los adverbios enunciativos españoles. Caracterización, clasificación y funciones pragmáticas y discursivas fundamentales, Margarita Porroche Ballesteros

An essential property of natural language is its faculty of referring to itself. Speakers have a variety of means for commenting not only on what they are saying—such as evaluative and modal adverbs—but also on their own speaking action. A certain group of adverbials, those I have been referring to as «enunciation adverbs», seems to have specialised in that function, namely modifying the illocutionary act.

This study offers a description of the syntactic, semantic and pragmatic properties of the «enunciation or illocutionary adverbs». The enunciation adverbs class is delimited and described. The difficulties of classification—caused by fuzzy edges between categories—are discussed. Likewise, taking into account the pragmatic and semantic identity of these adverbial forms, some reflexions are made about the communicative conditions that explain their occurrence.

Sobre el uso del pretérito indefinido y el pretérito perfecto en el español peninsular en acciones producidas durante el día del habla, Ilpo Kempas

The present article deals with the role of contextual and extracontextual factors—concentrating on geographic origin as a variable—in Peninsular Spanish, in the choice between the Pretérito Indefinido and the Pretérito Perfecto in reference to ho-

diurnal perfective past events, i.e. disconnected from the moment of utterance and having taken place during the day of the utterance. It is based on data obtained by means of an elicitation test carried out among students —mainly academic ones— hailing from the cities of Bilbao, Santander, León, Oviedo, Madrid, and Granada, as well as from the provinces surrounding them. Although Peninsular Spanish is characterized by its frequent use of the Pretérito Perfecto in the above contexts, the results obtained show that it is far from having replaced the Pretérito Indefinido completely. The latter proves to be clearly more common than the Pretérito Perfecto in certain time contexts. Moreover, geographic differences can be found in the use of the above tenses, as well as in that of the different types of the past subjunctive.

El burušaski, ¿una lengua aislada?, José Andrés Alonso de la Fuente

During a long time the burušaski has been considered an isolated language, that is to say, a language without recognized genetic kinship. Nevertheless, recent researches pointed out that burušaski can be considered an indoeuropean language.