

Survey of English Usage

Annual Report 1984-85

1. General

This year witnessed the publication by Longman of A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language by four scholars closely associated with the Survey: Professor Sir Randolph Quirk (founder and first Director of the Survey), Professor Sidney Greenbaum (its present Director) Professor Geoffrey Leech, and Professor Jan Svartvik (formerly Assistant Director). Professor David Crystal, who began his career by working at the Survey, compiled the index of 113 pages. The new grammar is the climax of twenty years of collaborative work by the four authors. Building on A Grammar of Contemporary English, acknowledged since its publication in 1972 as the standard reference work in the field, it is an even more comprehensive synthesis of current grammatical description of the English language.

Congratulations are due to Professor Quirk on his knighthood, announced in January 1985. Sir Randolph Quirk retired as Vice-Chancellor of the University of London in August 1985 after a distinguished four years of office. He will be returning to the Survey to continue his research and writing.

Longman has renewed for another seven years (beginning 1985) its generous donation of the Longman Research Fellowship, which is attached to the Survey. The fellowship was advertised early in 1985, and a large number of excellent applications were received. The Longman Fellow for 1985-6 will be Dr Anna-Brita Stenström, one of the

researchers at the Survey of Spoken English, University of Lund. Dr Stenström has written extensively on spoken discourse.

A new one-year M.A. course was successfully inaugurated this year. The students were trained in the grammatical analysis used in the Survey and also in the Survey system for transcribing prosodic and paralinguistic information in spoken texts.

2. Visitors

The Longman Fellow for 1984-5 was Dr Jan Firbas of Brno University (Czechoslovakia), the leading authority on Functional Sentence Perspective. During his stay at the Survey, Dr Firbas wrote several papers and began work on a book that will be a synthesis of his researches into functional sentence perspective. He conducted a weekly seminar for members of the Survey, attended also by staff and graduates from other London colleges, and gave a lecture to undergraduates in the Department of English at University College.

During this year we have been pleased to welcome the following visiting scholars who have made use of our materials:

Prof. M. Akimoto	Aoyama Gakuin University, Shibuya-Ku, Tokyo	idioms
Prof. O.V. Alexandrova	Moscow University	syntax
Dr A. Maman	Hebrew University	syntax
Mr D. Dokov	Sofia University	phrasal verbs
Mr. J. Elsness	Oslo University	tense
Dr G. Fill	Graz University, Austria	discourse
Mr R. Geluykens	Reading University	discourse
Dr S. Granger	College Erasmus, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium	<u>have</u> + NP + nonfinite
Prof. K. Kawada	Tokyo University	syntax

Dr J. Rusiecki	Warsaw University	syntax
Prof. I. Schlesinger	Hebrew University	psycholinguistics

Among scholars who paid us briefer visits were:

Professor C-J. Bailey	University of Berlin
Professor W-D Bald	University of Aachen
Dr. D. Biber	University of Southern California
Professor R. de Beaugrande	University of Florida
Professor E. Finegan	University of Southern California
Mr M. Irving	University of L'Aquila (Italy)
Mr A. Jabusch	University of Hamburg
Ms B. Kirkpatrick	Edinburgh
Dr M. Krenn	University of Munich
Professor T. Kuwahara	University of Tohoku
Professor L. Lipka	University of Munich
Ms A. Lucas	University of Glasgow
Ms L. Moxey	University of Glasgow
Ms McAteer	University of Glasgow
Ms L. Opdahl	University of Bergen
Professor A. Sanford	University of Glasgow
Ms B. Schlichter	University of Aachen
Mr M. Spencer	Manchester University Press
Ms B. Stendel	University of Hamburg
Ms T. Tobin	Edward Arnold Ltd.
Dr G. Tottie	Uppsala
Mr L. Urdang	Verbatim, The Language Quarterly
Mr L. Wang	University of Reading
Professor E. Ze Amvela	University of Yaoundé, Cameroon

3. The Year's Work

Sylvia Chalker, Oonagh Sayce, and Tom Lavelle have continued to work on first-stage grammatical analysis; some analysis was also undertaken by Bas Aarts and Nicholas Jones, students on the M.A. course. Between them they have analysed fifteen texts, bringing the total of texts analysed and filed so far to 152 (66 written and 86 spoken). Susan Boase transcribed four spoken texts and provided them with prosodic and paralinguistic marking. Valerie Adams checked spoken transcriptions and with Tom Lavelle proofread the typed texts. Grace Stewart and Vanessa Kuehner collected the prosodic and paralinguistic features in the spoken texts. René Quinault has continued to maintain the files of the Survey offprint collection and to select and prepare tapes for transcription. Several other members of the Survey team have assisted in the selection and recording of new texts.

Professor Greenbaum gave a paper and chaired a session at the conference on grammatology at the Freie Universität Berlin, chaired a session at the Sixth International Conference of English Language Research on Computerized Corpora at Lund, and lectured at the University of Lancaster. He also gave the annual Saussure lecture sponsored by the Polytechnic of Central London.

Dr Robert Ilson has become a member of the editorial board of the new OED. He gave papers at conferences at the universities of Leeds and Lodz, and lectured at the University of London Institute of Education and the universities of Exeter and Birmingham. He was interviewed on lexicography by the BBC World Service. Apart from the publications listed in the following section he wrote regularly for the EFL Gazette and the Times Educational Supplement.

Dr Firbas delivered lectures at the universities of Essex, Lancaster, Leeds, and Reading. R.A. Close read a paper at the IATEFL

conference. Janet Whitcut lectured in Delhi on a tour sponsored by the British Council. Professor Akimoto, who spent a year at the Survey, gave a paper at the LACUS conference.

4. Publications

We occasionally fail to record publications. Scholars who have used Survey material are urged to send offprints to the Survey. If publications from previous years have not been listed, please let us know. We keep lists of Survey publications, and we bring them up to date periodically.

We do not list reviews (unless they are review articles) or articles in newspapers or popular magazines.

The Survey has an extensive collection of offprints on all aspects of modern English Language and in related fields. We welcome offprints of printed articles and working papers.

Altenberg, B. (1984) 'Causal linking in spoken and written English', Studia Linguistica 38, 20-69.

Bald, W-D. (1984) 'Markedness and Diachrony', Tagungsberichte des Anglistentags, ed. B. Carstensen and H. Grabes, 240-247. Giessen: Hoffman.

Chalker, S. (1984) 'Let alone ...', World Language English 4, 53-54.

Chalker, S. (1984) 'There can be no doubt - or can there?', Practical English Teaching 5, 55-56.

Chalker, S. (1985) 'Is the past-perfect a before-past?', ELT Journal 39, 48-49.

Chalker, S. (1985) 'Are pronouns always pro-nouns?' Practical English Teaching 5, 59-60.

Geluykens, R. (1984) Focus phenomena in English: An empirical investigation into cleft and pseudo-cleft sentences. Antwerp papers in linguistics 36. Antwerp: University of Antwerp Linguistics Dept. 135 pages.

Granger, S. (1983) The 'be' + past participle construed in Spoken English with special emphasis on the passive. North-Holland Linguistic Series 49, Amsterdam.

- Greenbaum, S. (1984) Good English (Inaugural lecture). London: University College. 25 pages.
- Greenbaum, S., C.F. Meyer, and J. Taylor (1984) 'The image of the dictionary for American college students', Dictionaries 6, 31-52.
- Greenbaum, S., ed. (1985) The English language Today. Oxford: Pergamon Press. xviii + 345 pages.
- Ilson, R. (1985) 'Usage problems in British and American English', in Greenbaum (1985), 166-182.
- Ilson, R. (1985) 'British and American English: a personal look', Practical English Teaching 5, 57-58.
- Ilson, R. (1985) 'The linguistic significance of some lexicographic conventions', Applied Linguistics 6, 162-172.
- Ilson, R. (1985) 'The Survey of English Usage', AILA Bulletin 1985, Last Issue, pp 79-85.
- Krenn, M. (1985) Probleme der Diskursanalyse im Englischen: Verweise mit this, that, it und Verwandtes. Tübingen: Gunter Narr. x + 269 pages.
- Krenn, M. (1985) 'Proformen und Diskursorganisation', Grammatik, Semantik, Textlinguistik, ed. W. Kürschner and R. Vogt, 355-362. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer.
- Lott, B. (1984) 'ELT and the British Council', ELT Journal 283-285.
- Lott, B. (1984) 'A note on the history of the Survey', ELT Journal 39, 145.
- Quirk, R. (1984) 'A changing language in a changing curriculum', Teaching and the Teacher, ed. S. Holden, 7-13. London: Modern English Publications.
- Quirk, R. (1984) 'The printed word in global English', Library Association Record 86.
- Quirk, R. (1985) 'Natural Language and Orwellian intervention', in Greenbaum 1985, 48-54.
- Quirk, R. (1985) 'Language in a global context', in Quirk and Widdowson (1985), 1-6.
- Quirk, R., S. Greenbaum, G. Leech, and J. Svartvik (1985) A comprehensive grammar of the English language. London and New York: Longman. x + 1779 pages.
- Quirk, R. and H. Widdowson, ed. (1985) English in the World. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. xi + 275 pages.
- Rusiecki, J. (1985) Adjectives and comparison in English: A semantic study. London and New York: Longman. xiv + 206 pages.
- Rycker, T. de (1984) Imperative structures: Form and function in

conversational English. Antwerp papers in Linguistics 38.
Antwerp: University of Antwerp Linguistics Dept. 147 pages.

Stenström, A-B. (1985) 'English in speech and writing', Papers and studies in contrastive linguistics, ed. J. Fisiak. Poznan: Adam Mickiewicz University.

Svartvik, J. (1985) 'Habeas corpus electronicum', Datamaskinen og språket: Hedersskrift till Kolbjörn Heggstad, 170-172. Bergen: Logos AS.

Svartvik, J. and A-B. Stenström (1985) 'Words, words, words: the rest is silence?' Papers on language and literature, ed. S. Bäckman and G. Kjellmer, 342-353. Gothenburg: University of Gothenburg.

Wales, K. (1985) 'Generic' your and Jacobean drama: The rise and fall of a pronominal usage', English Studies 66, 7-24.

Whitcut, J. (1985) 'English, my English', in Greenbaum (1985), 159-165.

Sidney Greenbaum
August 1985