

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

SURVEY OF ENGLISH USAGE

Annual Report 1985-86

1. General

In November 1985 Her Majesty the Queen inaugurated the new buildings at the main entrance of University College. For the occasion the College arranged an exhibition representing the activities of the Faculties. The Survey was honoured by being selected to represent the Faculty of Arts, and Her Majesty was welcomed by the Director when she visited the Survey exhibit. We are grateful to Longman for sponsoring our exhibit.

Congratulations are due to Sir Randolph Quirk on his election in July 1985 as President of the British Academy. We omitted to mention in our last report this signal honour to the founder of the Survey.

We are grateful to the Sir Sigmund Sternberg Charitable Foundation for a generous donation of £4,000 payable over four years. We received this year the last of four annual payments of £5,000 from the College to match the first four years of the grant we have been receiving from Longman. The final payment of the five-year grant from Longman is due next year. We are indebted to the Sir Sigmund Sternberg Charitable Foundation, the College, and Longman (who financed the launch of the Survey in 1959) for demonstrating their confidence in the work of the Survey.

p.t.o.

The Longman Fellow for 1986-87 will be Professor Yoshihiko Ikegami of the University of Tokyo, who translated A University Grammar of English (by Randolph Quirk and Sidney Greenbaum) into Japanese. The Survey was fortunate in securing a Fulbright Fellowship for 1986-87. The successful candidate is Professor John Algeo of the University of Georgia. Professor Algeo was also awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship for the same period.

The Survey has acquired a second micro-computer, again an ACT Sirius I, which is linked to our Epson printer. The new computer is used by researchers for both word-processing and data-processing.

Most of our spoken material has been available in machine-readable form, though without grammatical analysis, in the London-Lund Corpus. The London-Lund Corpus consists of 87 spoken texts from the Survey corpus that were processed by the Survey of Spoken English at the University of Lund under the direction of Professor Jan Svartvik. The texts were put onto magnetic tape with a prosodic transcription that is a modified version of the transcription in the Survey files. Under the guidance of Dr Stenström, the Survey has begun to prepare the remaining Survey spoken texts for conversion into machine-readable form on the same reduced system that was used in Lund. When completed, the additional magnetic tape will contain 30 texts, 13 with normal speech and 17 with material read aloud from written sources. The London-Lund Corpus may be obtained at cost-price from the International Computer Archive of Modern English (ICAME), Norwegian Computing Centre for the Humanities, P.O. Box 53, N-5014, Bergen University, Norway. The Computing Centre also sells concordances for the 87 texts.

2. Visitors

The Longman Fellow for 1985-86 was Dr Anna-Brita Stenström of the University of Lund (Sweden). During her stay at the Survey, Dr Stenström made an inventory of pragmatic devices used in conversations in the Survey Corpus and processed the data on the Sirius micro-computer by the use of dBase II. Ultimately her research findings will appear in a book. Dr Stenström did some teaching in the Department of English at University College: she conducted a seminar on questioning for postgraduates, which was attended also by members of the Survey staff, and gave two lectures on questions and responses to undergraduates.

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

Prof. O.V. Alexandrova	University of Moscow	syntax
Prof. W.-D. Bald	Institut für Anglistik, RWTH Aachen	<u>if</u> -clause genitive
Prof. N. Belmore	Concordia University	word classification
Ms K. Beswick	Roehampton Institute, London	use of vocatives
Ms B. Erman	Stockholm University	pragmatic expressions
Dr N. Gvishiani	University of Moscow	linguistic terminology
Mr H. Hirschmüller	Freie Universität Berlin	history of the Survey
Dr C. Mair	University of Innsbruck	nonfinite complementation
Prof. M. Markus	University of Innsbruck	adjectives
Dr D. Nehls	University of Stuttgart	spoken English
Mr N. Papp	Budapest University	syntax

Dr S. Shmakov	Moscow Institute of Foreign Languages	translation
Dr J. Schmiedt	University of Bayreuth	relative pronouns
Mr P. Waterval	University of Nijmegen	<u>get</u>

Among scholars who paid us briefer visits were:

Dr K. Aijmer	University of Lund
Prof. J. Algeo	University of Georgia
Dr J. Coates	Roehampton Institute, London
Ms L. Dodova	University of Sofia
Prof. R. Filipovic	University of Zagreb
Prof. J. Firbas	Brno University, Czechoslovakia
Prof. M. Görlach	University of Cologne
Prof. G. Graustein	Karl-Marx University, Leipzig
Ms M. Hardcastle	Oxford University Press
Ms D. Hadzi-Jouancie	University of Belgrade
Prof. S. Johansson	University of Oslo
Prof. G. Leitner	Freie Universität Berlin
Prof. E.A. Levenston	Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Mr K. Minamide	Osaka Women's University
Ms M. Marengo	Turin University
Prof. T. Mitsunago	Nihon University, Japan
Ms E.M. Modrcejewska	University of Gdansk
Ms T. Nevalainen	University of Helsinki
Ms V. Rätty	University of Turku, Finland
Ms K. Reuter	University of Mainz
Ms Ruusuvuori	University of Turku, Finland
Dr G. Tottie	University of Uppsala
Mr R. Vellman	Royal Holloway & Bedford New College

3. Sylvia Chalker and Oonagh Sayce have continued to work on first-stage grammatical analysis, and have now completed another 22 texts. Valerie Adams and Tom Lavelle have collected additional material for the corpus; 194 of our proposed 200 texts have now been collected. Susan Boase has transcribed four spoken texts and provided them with prosodic and paralinguistic marking. Valerie Adams, Susan Boase, Robert Ilson, and Tom Lavelle have helped with the checking and proofreading of spoken texts or the proofreading of written texts. Vanessa Kuehner has continued to collect prosodic and paralinguistic features in the spoken texts, and Helen Simms (an undergraduate student) has collected punctuation marks in the written texts. René Quinault has continued to maintain the files of the extensive Survey offprint collection and to select and prepare tapes for the corpus. He has undertaken a systematic renumbering and labelling of slip cabinets.

Sir Randolph Quirk gave numerous lectures on the Survey and aspects of English grammar in London, Oxford, Singapore, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, and Jakarta. A book of his Singapore lectures on textual structure will shortly be published by Longman.

Professor Sidney Greenbaum lectured in Czechoslovakia at the universities in Prague, Brno, Olomouc, and Bratislava and spoke to teachers and advanced students at the Language School in Prague; and he lectured in Austria at the universities in Graz, Vienna, and Salzburg. He read a paper and chaired a session at an international conference on Language as Power in the East-West Center in Hawaii.

He also chaired a session and was a respondent at the International Conference of English Language Research on Computerized Corpora, which was held in Amsterdam.

Dr Robert Ilson read a paper at the Exeter Conference on the History of Lexicography, and gave lectures at the University of Exeter, the University of London Institute of Education, and Hammersmith and West London College. He served as an external examiner for the lexicography component of the MA at the University of Salford. Dr Stenström read a paper at the ICAME conference in Amsterdam and gave a seminar to MA students at the University of Reading. Sylvia Chalker taught at the University of London Summer School of English, and gave talks at the IATEFL Conference and at the Civil Service Staff College. Dr Sergei Shmakov, who is spending a year at the Survey under a British Council grant, gave a lecture at University College Cardiff.

Several members of the Survey staff contributed to the teaching (mainly of postgraduates) in the English Department at University College.

4. Publications

We would like to remind scholars who have used Survey material to send offprints to the Survey, so that we can include details of the publications in our annual report and in our lists of Survey publications. We do not list reviews (unless they are review articles) or articles in newspapers and popular magazines.

- Aijmer, K. (1984) 'Sort of and kind of in English conversation', Studia Linguistica 38, 117-128.
- Aijmer, K. (1985) 'Just', Papers on language and literature presented to Alvar Ellegård and Erik Frykman, ed. S. Bäckman and G. Kjellmer, 1-10. Göteborg: University of Gothenburg.
- Aijmer, K. (1985) 'What happens at the end of our utterances? The use of utterance-final tags introduced by and and or', Papers from the Eighth Scandinavian Conference of Linguistics, ed. O. Togeby, 117-127. Copenhagen: Institut for Nordisk Filologi, University of Copenhagen.
- Aijmer, K. (1986) 'Why is actually so popular in spoken English?', English in speech and writing: A symposium, ed. G. Tottie and I. Bäcklund, 119-129. Uppsala: University of Uppsala.
- Altenberg, B. (1986) 'Contrastive linking in spoken and written English', English in speech and writing: a symposium, ed. G. Tottie and I. Bäcklund, 13-40. Uppsala: University of Uppsala.
- Bäcklund, I. (1984) Conjunction-headed abbreviated clauses in English. Lund: Gleerup.
- Bäcklund, I. (1986) 'Beat until stiff. Conjunction-headed abbreviated clauses in spoken and written English', English in speech and writing: A symposium, 41-55. Uppsala: University of Uppsala.

- Biber, D. (1986) 'Spoken and written textual dimensions in English: Resolving the contradictory findings', Language 62, 384-414.
- Breivik, L.E. (1986) 'Some remarks on cleft sentences in present-day English', Linguistics across historical and geographical boundaries, vol. 2, ed. D. Kastovsky and A. Szwedek, 815-826. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Chalker, S. (1985) 'Like I said!' World Englishes 4, 257-260.
- Chalker, S. (1985) 'The dangling participle', Practical English Teaching 6, 55-56.
- Chalker, S. (1986) 'A positive look at the double negative', Practical English Teaching 6, 53-54.
- Erman, B. (1986) 'Some pragmatic expressions in English conversation', English in speech and writing: A symposium, eds. G. Tottie and I. Bäcklund, 131-147. Uppsala: University of Uppsala.
- Fill, A.F. (1986) ' "Divided illocution" in conversational and other situations - and some of its implications', IRAL 24, 29-34.
- Gnutzman, C. (1984) 'Textkonstitution and Textsortendifferenzierung. Zum Gebrauch der Englischen Demonstrativpronomina', Arbeiten aus Anglistik und Amerikanistik 9, 107-130.

- Greenbaum, S. (1985) 'C.C. Fries as grammarian', Towards an understanding of language: Charles Carpenter Fries in perspective, ed. P.H. Fries, 85-104. Amsterdam: Benjamins.
- Greenbaum, S. and C. Cooper, eds. (1986) Studying writing: Linguistic Approaches. Beverley Hills: Sage. 272 pages.
- Greenbaum, S. and J. Whitcut (1986), revision of The complete plain words by Sir Ernest Gowers, 3rd edition. London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office. xi + 288 pages.
- Haegeman, L. (1984) 'Pragmatic conditionals in English' Folia Linguistica 13, 485-502.
- Hermerén, L. (1986) 'Modalities in spoken and written English: An inventory of forms', English in speech and writing: A symposium, eds. G. Tottie and I. Bäcklund, 57-91. Uppsala: University of Uppsala.
- Ilson, R., ed. (1985) Dictionaries, lexicography and language learning in association with the British Council. Oxford: Pergamon press. viii + 135 pages.
- Ilson, R., consultant editor (1985) The right word at the right time: A guide to the English language and how to use it. London: Reader's Digest. 688 pages.

- Ilson, R., ed. (1986) Lexicography: An emerging international profession. Manchester: Manchester University Press in association with the Fulbright Commission. xiv + 167 pages.
- Ilson, R. (1986) 'British and American Lexicography', Lexicography: An emerging international profession, ed. R. Ilson, 51-72. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- Mindt, D. (1986) 'Futurisches Shall für den Hauptschüler', Vierzig Jahre Englischunterricht für alle, eds. I. Harks-Hanke and W. Zydatiss, 140-151. Berlin: Cornelsen-Velhagen and Klasing.
- Nässlin, S. (1984) The English tag question: a study of sentences containing tags of the type isn't it?, is it? Stockholm: Almqvist and Wiksell. x + 204 pages.
- Nevalainen, T. and M. Rissanen (1986) 'Do you support the do-support?', Papers from the third Scandinavian symposium on syntactic variation, ed. S. Jacobson, 35-50. Stockholm: Almqvist and Wiksell.
- Stenström, A.-B. (1986) 'What does really really do? Strategies in speech and writing', English in speech and writing: A symposium, eds. G. Tottie and I. Bäcklund, 149-163. Uppsala: University of Uppsala.

- Thavenius, C. (1984) 'Pronominal chains in English conversation',
Proceedings from the Second Nordic Conference for English
Studies, eds. H. Ringbom and M. Rissanen, 209-219. Åbo:
Åbo Akademi.
- Tottie, G. (1986) 'The importance of being adverbial: Adverbials of
focusing and contingency in spoken and written English',
English in speech and writing: A symposium, eds. G. Tottie and
I. Bäcklund, 93-118. Uppsala: University of Uppsala.
- Viitanen, O. (1986) 'On the position of only in English conversation',
English in speech and writing: A symposium, eds. G. Tottie and
I. Bäcklund, 165-175. Uppsala: University of Uppsala.
- Wales, K. (1984) 'Problems of pronoun concord, or noone's sexist,
are they?', UEA Papers in Linguistics 20, 28-45.

August 1986

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