The Semantics of Metaphor

Levin, Samuel R.

Published by Johns Hopkins University Press

Levin, Samuel R.
The Semantics of Metaphor.

For additional information about this book
https://muse.jhu.edu/book/71828
Contents

Preface xi

I

Pragmatic Deviance 1

1. The scope of linguistics 1
2. The issue of deviance 3
2.1. Pragmatic deviance 4
2.1.1. Speech act deviance 5
2.1.2. Indexical deviance 8
2.2. The freezing of pragmatic deviance 9
2.3. Grice’s theory of conversational implicature 11
3. Summary 12

II

The Problem of Linguistically Deviant Expressions 14

1. The orthodox transformational-generative approach to deviant sentences; some early views 14
1.1. Chomsky 15
1.2. Ziff 16
1.3. Katz (1964) 17
1.4. Summary 18
2.1. Weinreich’s proposal 18
2.2. Katz (1972) 21
2.3. Jackendoff 22
2.4. Additional remarks on Weinreich’s proposal 23
3.1. Extensions of Weinreich’s proposal: Baumgärtner 25
3.2. Abraham and Braunmüller 27
3.3. Van Dijk 28
4. Aggrammatization 30

III

Modes of Construal 33

1.1. Semantic representation of The stone died 33
2.1. Anomalous and contradictory sentences 35

viivii
2.2. Restricted feature transfer  
2.3. Need for freer functioning of feature transfer  
3.1. The positioning of transfer features  
4. The six modes of construal  
4.1. Adjunction  
4.1.1. \( N \leftarrow V \); disjunctive reading  
4.1.2. \( N \leftarrow V \); conjunctive reading  
4.1.3. \( N \rightarrow V \); disjunctive reading  
4.1.4. \( N \rightarrow V \); conjunctive reading  
4.2. Displacement  
4.2.1. \( N \leftarrow V \)  
4.2.2. \( N \rightarrow V \)  
4.3. Six interpretations of *The stone died*  
4.3.1. The six underlying transformations  
4.4. Ordinary language exemplifications of the six construal routes  
4.4.1. Discussion of 4.4a  
4.4.2. Discussion of 4.4b  
4.4.3. Discussion of 4.4c  
4.4.4. Discussion of 4.4d  
4.4.5. Discussion of 4.4e  
4.4.6. Discussion of 4.4f  
4.5. Extension of meaning  
5.1. Comparison of our six modes of construal with the modes of van Dijk  

**IV**  
*The Construal Rules*  

1.1. The semantic component  
2. Adjunction and displacement of semantic markers  
2.1. Adjunction  
2.1.1. \( N \leftarrow V \); disjunctive reading  
2.1.2. \( N \rightarrow V \); disjunctive reading  
2.1.3. \( N \leftarrow V \); conjunctive reading  
2.1.4. \( N \rightarrow V \); conjunctive reading  
2.2. Displacement  
2.2.1. \( N \leftarrow V \)  
2.2.2. \( N \rightarrow V \)  
3.1. Some differences between construal on \( N \leftarrow V \) and \( N \rightarrow V \)  
4.1. On the relation of the construal rules to the grammar
### Contents

#### V

**Comparison of the Theory (T) with Other Theories of Metaphor**

1. The theories of Aristotle and Quintilian  
   1.1. Quintilian  
   1.2. Limitations of Quintilian’s account  
   1.3. Aristotle  
      1.3.1. Aristotle’s first two types  
      1.3.2. Aristotle’s third type  
      1.3.3. Aristotle’s fourth type (analogy)  
      2.1. The problem of encyclopedic knowledge  
      3.1. *Le groupe μ*

#### VI

**Metaphor and Truth**

1. Semantic deviance taken literally  
   1.1. Nondenoting singular terms  
   1.2. Nondenoting general terms  
   1.3. The difference between semantic deviance and failure of denotation  
      2.1. Ryle’s position on semantic deviance  
      2.2. Semantic deviance and oblique contexts  
      2.3. Refutation of Ryle’s position  
      3.1. Indirect evidence for the conceivability of “absurd” states of affairs  
      4.1. The implicit context of poems  
      5.1. Truth conditions of deviant sentences in a poem

#### VII

**Poetic Metaphor**

1. Linguistic and poetic construal  
   1.1. The status of nondeviant expressions in poetry  
   1.2. Phenomenalistic construal  
      2.1. The role of simile  
      3.1. Intensional and extensional semantics of metaphor

Notes  
Bibliography  
Index