Index

“Abweisung, Die,” 107n5
accident, 102, 125, 126; prevention and insurance, 67–72, 77, 79
aesthetic, 69, 75; achievement, 37; appreciation, 130; autonomy, 77n22; cheats, 36; dimension of reading, 11; escape, 230; experience 29, 230; judgment, 10, 25, 34, 37, 159; means of narration, 64; overcoming of movement, 130
aesthetics, 26, 39, 130; ethics and, 37–38
affect, tempo of, 174
Agamben, Giorgio, 86
Alexander the Great, 65–66, 198
allegory/allegorical, 40, 51, 83, 97, 109, 113, 166, 183, 190, 227
Allemann, Beda, 18n1, 136, 229
allusion, 12, 16, 75, 97–98, 102, 230n13
Amerika. See Der Verschollene
ambiguity, 27, 32, 84, 102, 135, 150, 163, 130n20
anagnorisis, 85
 analepsis, 29, 171, 223
“analogical apperception,” 113
analogy, 63, 64, 91
antithesis, 116, 142, 171–72, 181
“anti-conquest,” 164
Apuleius: The Golden Ass, 43
Aristotle, 26
art, 10, 12, 58, 66, 74, 91, 132, 136
Aryan, conflict between Semite and, 61, 76
association, 75, 77, 155, 156
audience, 2, 4, 10, 23–25, 28, 30, 31, 32, 35, 36, 73, 76, 86, 104, 152
158–59; authorial, 23–24, 28, 30, 31–32, 35, 36, 38, 158
Aufregung (“agitation”), 205–7, 211–13
Augusterlebnis (“August experience”), 60, 67
Austerlitz, battle of, 64
Austria, 63–65; accident prevention in, 68; analogy linking China with, 63–64; artists’ association for “Greater Austria,” 63, 65, 73
author, 2, 4, 6, 10, 11, 13, 25, 27, 66, 72, 76, 130, 132, 138, 152, 179, 191, 197, 214, 221; implied, 17, 23–25, 38, 43, 150, 159, 166n3; realist, 197
authorial agency, 10, 90
authorial design, 26
autobiographical, 92, 109, 132, 142, 174
autobiography, 173

Baetens, Jan, 27, 35
Baghdad Railway, 73
Bal, Mieke, 77n11
Barthes, Roland, 75, 92n10
“Bau, Der” (“Burrow, The”), 135, 137–38, 165, 183
Bauer, Felice, 4, 19, 229; letters to, 187, 213–15
“Bäume, Die” (“Trees, The”), 139; deviation in, 139
Beamtenwesen (“being of the bureaucrat”), 189–90
“Before the Law.” See “Vor dem Gesetz”
Beicken, Peter, 18n2, 135–36, 146n11
“Beim Bau der chinesischen Mauer.” See “Building the Great Wall of China”
“Being Unhappy.” See “Unglücklichsein”
Beißner, Friedrich, 3–6, 13, 18n2, 136, 228
Benjamin, Walter, 174, 194n11; Arcades Project, 194n7
“Bericht für eine Akademie, Ein” (“Report to an Academy”), 92n6, 172
Berman, Russell, 31

Beschreibung eines Kämpfes (Description of a Struggle), 72, 100, 145n8
Betrachtung (Contemplation), 17, 139, 225; agitation in, 205–7, 211; alienation in, 203; dynamics of narration in, 196–213; equilibrium in, 198; Erhebung in, 198; harmony with humanity in, 201, 203, 205; hovering/oscillation in, 209, 212; illusion of solidarity in, 197; immobility in, 199–201; isolation in, 199–201, 203–5, 213; liberation in, 210; nature in, 197; normality vs. abnormality in, 208–9, 211, 213; optimism in, 198–200, 213; order vs. disruption in, 209–11; pessimism in, 200, 213; reflection of themes in Kafka’s life in, 221; rest vs. movement in, 209–11; shame in, 203; silence in, 202–4; social conformity in, 197, 200, 203; social mobility in, 204–6; stasis in, 197, 205, 207, 211, 221; states of mind in, 197
Bierce, Ambrose: “An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge,” 37
Binder, Hartmut, 141, 143
Blanchot, Maurice, 110, 117, 152, 166n6
Bloch, Grete, 218
Blumfeld fragment, 145n10
Bohrer, Karl Heinz, 12, 58, 59, 60, 68, 71, 74, 76
Bonaparte, Napoleon, 64
Booth, Wayne C., 111; The Rhetoric of Fiction, 23
Borges, Jorge Luis: “The Library of Babel,” 118
Borovský, Karel Havlíček, 65
Brecht, Bertolt, 18n6; “street scene,” 126
Brief an den Vater (“Letter to his Father”), 184
Brod, Max, 6, 14, 76n2, 109, 115, 120, 125, 141, 143, 193n3, 228, 229, 230; letters to, 10, 127, 139–40, 181; “Man darf nicht sagen,” Kafka’s response to, 130; oral reading
of “kleine Automobilgeschichte,” 124–26
Buber, Martin, 65, 73
“Bucket Rider, The” (“Kübelreiter, Der”), 137
“Building the Great Wall of China” (“Beim Bau der chinesischen Mauer”), 2, 12, 18, 63, 146n13. See also Chinese stories
“Burrow, The.” See “Bau, Der”

Carrard, Philippe: “September 1939,” 167n12
“Castle, The.” See Schloß, Das
Cavell, Stanley, 50–51
Centre for Advanced Study (Oslo), 1
Chaplin, Charlie, 125
“Children on the Country Road.” See “Kinder auf der Landstraße”
China, analogy linking Austria with, 63–64; crystallized culture of, 64; domestic affairs of, 65; history of, 63–64; Ming Dynasty, 64; petrifaction of culture of, 64–65; as shorthand for cultural condition, 64
Chinese stories, 58–76; narrative strategy of, 59
“City Coat of Arms, The.” See “Stadtwappen, Das”
“clash of cultures,” 61
Cleland, John: Fanny Hill, 96
Cockburn, David, 56n4
code(s), 11, 88, 90
Coetzez, J.M., 165; Waiting for the Barbarians, 167n16
cognitive typology, 61
coherecence/connectedness, 4, 13, 15, 37, 43, 123, 126, 128, 159, 220, 221, 222. See also “Zusammenhang”
colonialism, European, 157, 162, 164; contact zone of, 164
communication, 10, 18, 24, 43, 54, 55, 95, 119, 224; narrative progression and, 4; problem of, 12–14
comparative ethnography, 67–68
composition, method of, 14
Conrad, Joseph, 156; Lord Jim, 37
consciousness, 4, 6, 23, 47, 49, 85, 99, 104, 116, 172–73, 182, 191, 200, 224
Constantine, David, 19n15
Contemplation. See Betrachtung
contradiction, 44, 91, 113, 115, 118, 133, 134, 146, 192
Corngold, Stanley, 16–17, 18n1, 19n14, 167n13, 175, 192–93, 194, 229
“Country Doctor, A.” See “Landarzt, Ein”
cultural studies vs. literary scholarship, 58, 74, 76
culture, 12, 58, 60, 61, 64, 65, 74
“Decisions.” See “Entschlüsse”
Deleuze, Gilles, 19n7
Derrida, Jacques, 90, 92–93, 119–20, 121
Descartes, René, 45, 47, 53
Description of a Struggle. See Beschreibung eines Kampfes
detachment (of narration or observation), 7, 13, 66–67, 109, 132, 177
deviation (of narration or thought), 16, 44, 137, 139, 146, 171, 191, 229
Devil’s Island, 156
dialectical, 115, 116, 146; affect, 174
dialogue, 28, 32, 69, 85, 111–13
Diamant, Dora, 194n12
Dickens, Charles, 101; Kafka’s view of, 129–30
discours indirect libre, 71. See also indirect discourse/speech
discursive progression, deviant, 133
dissociation vs. association, 75
distance/distancing, 6, 18n6
Dostoevsky, Fyodor: Notes from the Underground, 167n11
dreams, 4, 43, 51
Dreyfus affair, 156
dualism, philosophical, 44–45, 47, 49–51; temptation of, 53–55
dynamics, of audience response, 25;

“Each person is unique . . .” See “Jeder Mensch ist eigentümlich . . .”

Eco, Umberto, 137

“Ein altes Blatt.” See “Page from an old document”

Einfall (“inspiration”), 14, 127, 128, 172, 219–20, 221

Einsinnigkeit 3, 6, 18, 129. See also perspective

Ellis, John M., 29–30

empirical, 71, 132, 136, 175

Emrich, Wilhelm, 166n9

ending (of narrative), 11, 23, 25, 109, 121, 129, 146n18, 149, 153, 155, 158, 160, 163, 172, 184, 222–24; and beginnings, 16; open, 15; surprise, 34–37; un- or not-ending, 108, 141, 210, 219

“Entlarvung eines Bauernfängers” (“Unmasking of a Confidence Trickster, The”), 201–4; alienation in, 203; harmonious life in, 203; isolation in, 203; shame in, 203; silence in, 202–4; social conditioning in, 203; social mobility in, 204

entrance, narrative, 159–60

“Entschlüsse” (“Decisions”), 199–201; immobility in, 199–200; isolation in, 199–200; loneliness in, 200; optimism vs. pessimism in, 200; social awareness in, 200; social interaction in, 200–201; stasis in, 200

Erhebung (“elevation”), 8, 15, 128, 198, 218, 221, 227, 227

Erlebnis (“experience”), 60, 67, 70, 72, 78, 186

essentialist typology, 61–62, 75

ethics, 11, 16, 23; aesthetics and, 37–38; ontology and, 49–50; of telling, 26, 27; of told, 26

eventum tantum, 71

exposition, narrative, 29, 154–60

exteriority, and multiplicity, 66

fairy tale, 11, 43

fiction, 1–6, 12–13, 16–17, 23, 24, 27, 35, 37, 38n1, 52, 55, 60, 117, 134, 138, 149, 151–53, 156, 162, 164, 165, 166n3 and n6, 167n15, 190, 228n1; modernist, 23, 152

figurative, 76, 140, 166n9, 193

Flaubert, Gustave, 19n8

“Forschungen eines Hundes” (“Investigations/Researches of a Dog”), 16–17, 137, 170–93; childhood, loss of in, 183; control, loss of in, 178; as drive toward beginnings, 175; first-person narration in, 177–78; freedom in, 189, 190; homology between dog’s life and Kafka’s in, 170; imperial first person in, 172; impersonal pronouns in, 177–78; joy vs. despair in, 183; as memoir, 173; “musical dogs” in, 175–78, 184–85; musical indirects in, 170–93; narrative, temporal rhythm of, 173, 178; narrative duplicity in, 173–74; narrative precision in, 178; nourishment/nutrition in, 183, 186–88, 190; opening sentence of, 171–73; past vs. present in, 172–74, 175; philosophy in, 172, 181–84, 189–90; as report, 173; skepticism in, 171; title of, 173; “traumatic knowledge” in, 171

Forster, E. M., 56n5

Fowles, John: The French Lieutenant’s Woman, 37

fragment, 14, 15, 52, 63, 66, 69, 72, 73, 76n2, 76n3, 108–9, 132–33, 134n8, 145n10, 147n23, 229n5

free indirect speech/discourse, 18, 71, 104, 110–12, 115, 117, 120

free indirect thought, 43

Freud, Sigmund, 31; Oedipal themes of, 31–33

Frost, Robert: “Home Burial,” 37
gap(s), hermeneutic, 11, 17; interpretive, 24, 27–29, 32–35, 38, 225; vs. continuous narration, 126
“Gassenfenster, Das” (“Window onto the Street, The”), 201, 205; harmony (EINTRÄCHT) with humanity in, 201; immobility in, 201; ironic twist in, 201; isolation in, 201; restlessness in, 201; tiredness in, 201
Gehlen, Arnold, 64
generic affiliation, 11
Genette, Gérard, 75, 77n11, 92n10; Discours du récit, 77n22
German Reich: accident prevention in, 68
“Gib’s auf!” (“Give Up!”), 130; flaws in, 130
“Give Up!” See “Gib’s auf!”
Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von, 173
Gray, Richard T., 162, 166n9
Greimas, A. J., 92n14
Greve, Anniken, 10, 11, 12, 40–57, 140, 166n6
Guattari, Félix, 19n7
Guntermann, Georg, 145n6
Gütlung, Alois, 69
Habermas, Jürgen, 90
Hapsburg Empire, 62; constitutional culture of, 65
Hargraves, John, 185
Hartman, Geoffrey, 193n2
Hegel, G. W. F.; Lectures on the Philosophy of History, 64, 66
Heidegger, Martin: Sein und Zeit, 46
“Heimkehr” (“Homecoming”), 143–45; shift from third-person to first-person narrative, 144
Heinl, Robert, 167n15
“Heizer, Der” (“Stoker, The”), 12–13, 128, 140, 145n4; authorial narrator in, 87–89; indirect speech in, 85–86, 88; as life-narrative, 82–83; as metanarrative, 81–91; narrative beginning in, 123; narrative process, alternation within, 89; as novel of individual development, 82; recognition scene in, 85; sexual initiation in, 82–83; stream of consciousness in, 85; vicarious narration in, 84, 88
Henel, Ingeborg, 19n6, 166n9
hermeneutic gaps, 11, 17
hero, 121, 140. See also protagonist heroes vs. traders, 62, 71
Herzl, Theodor, 73; The Jewish State, 73
hetereodiegetic narrator, 104; vs. homodiegetic narrator, 66. See also narrator
Hilberg, Raul, 164
historiography, visual form of, 61
“In der Strafkolonie” (“In the Penal Colony”), 16, 76n7, 146n14, 149–65, 193; colonialism in, 157, 162, 164; complication in, 160; crime and punishment in, 156, 162; deportation in, 155–56, 162; entrance in, 159–60; Europe and, 156–57; exposition in, 154–58; first paragraph of, 152; historical and imitation, 26, 55n2, 66; secular, 117–19
“Hochzeitsvorbereitungen auf dem Lande” (“Wedding Preparations in the Country”), 52, 72; autobiography in, 132; authorial perspective in, 133; beginning of, 130–33; language in, 132; as metatext, 133; narrative perspective in, 132; personal pronouns in, 132
Hoffmann, E. T. A., 134
Höfle, Peter, 133
Hofmannsthal, Hugo von: A Letter, 60
Hölderlin, Friedrich, 54
“Homecoming.” See “Heimkehr”
Homer, Homer, 4
Honold, Alexander, 163, 166n8
Hugo, Victor, 101
Hume, Katherine, 27, 35
“Hunger Artist, A,” 137
Husserl, Edmund, 113
hypotext vs. hypertext, 75
cultural context of, 155–57; initiation in, 158; interpretive suggestiveness of, 161; intertextuality in, 156, 161; narrative beginning in, 149–65; narrative movement and progression in, 158–61; narrative uncertainty in, 160, 163; peripety in, 160; power in, 150–51, 156, 160; prejudice in, 159; semantic associations in, 155; stasis and deadlock in, 160; suspense in, 160; tensions and instabilities in, 152–61; thematic import of, 161; third-person narration in, 158–59, 165; title of, 154–57, 161; Windstille in, 159–60; Zögern in, 160

indirect discourse/speech, 85–86, 88, 121; free, 71, 104, 110–12, 115, 117, 120; indirect thought, free, 43. See also speech, reported
industrial accident insurance. See accident
initiation, narrative, 154, 158–59
in medias res, 16, 52, 104, 140, 152, 155, 163
instability, dynamics of, 24–25, 26, 27–29, 152–61
insurance. See accident
intellectualism, 47
intention/intend(ed), 10, 12, 13, 31, 47, 71, 76, 83, 89, 105, 112, 120, 140, 225. See also purpose
intercommunication, 89
interpretation, 11, 14, 26, 38n6, 39, 53, 55n2, 83, 111, 113–15, 117, 119, 121, 134, 149, 166, 169, 174, 228; acts of, 113; figurative, 166n9; impossibility of verifiable, 115; literalistic, 166n9; opposed to commentary, 111; thematic, 11, 26; uncertainty of, 113. See also reader; reading
interpretive gaps, 24, 27–29, 32–35, 38, 225
intertextuality, 10, 16, 156, 161.

“In the Penal Colony.” See “In der Strafkolonie”

intimacy, code of, 90
intradiegesis, 71
intratextuality, 10
“Investigations of a Dog.” See “For schungen eines Hundes”
involve ment vs. detachment, 66–67
inwardness, 64; and identity, 66
Ireland, 65
ironic, 6, 17, 31, 42, 96, 111, 114, 115, 125, 200, 201, 223
irony, 6, 13, 17, 42, 110–11, 163, 224
Iser, Wolfgang, 23–24; gaps, 24; phenomenological approach, 23
isolated/isolation, 4–5, 14, 17, 48, 199, 201–5, 216

Jagow, Bettina von, 18n2
Jahrhaus, Oliver, 18n2
James, Henry, 109; The Portrait of a Lady, 121

“Jeder Mensch ist eigentümlich . . . ” (“Each person is unique . . . ”), 92n11
Jesenská, Milena, 77n8, 180, 191–92
Jews, 61, 62, 65, 73
Jewish narrative tradition, 133
Jewish scripture, 117
Jewry, 73, 75. See also Semite/Semitic
“Josefine, die Sängerin oder das Volk der Mäuse” (“Josefine, the Singer or the Mouse People”), 170, 180, 189

“Journey Home, The.” See “Nach hausweg, Der”
Joyce, James, 77n20
judgment, 4, 10, 11, 16, 35, 110, 115, 158, 159, 171, 193, 225, 226; narrative, 22–38
“Judgment, The.” See “Urteil, Das”

Kafka, Franz, absolute beginnings, technique of, 152; Accident Insurance Institute, work at, 66–72; anti-normative qualities of narratives of, 59; antitheses, penchant
Index 243

for, 116; aphorisms of, 120, 142, 227; argumentation, incoherence of, 128–29, 130, 133, 134; artists’ association for “Greater Austria,” 63, 65; autobiographical elements, 109, 132, 142, 174; “bachelor” fragment, 76n2; Chinese stories, 58–76; coherence, struggle for, 220–21, 222; conclusion, lack of, 130; continuity, struggle for, 123, 126–27, 130, 220–21; creative restlessness of, 228; creativity, new period of, 141; creativity and inspiration of, 215–16, 219–20, 227; critical and facsimile editions of, 123, 138; diaries of, 59, 60, 77n16, 116, 138, 145n8, 171–72, 178–79, 213–21; diegetic frame of narrative of, 64–72; difficulties of texts of, 40; direction, recognition of, 213–14; dreams, 4; dynamic impulse vs. conscious will, 217; Einfall and, 14, 128, 219–20; Erhebung and, 221, 227; as Erzähler, 128; existentialism and, 152, 220; “fourth person” narrative of, 72; fragmentary nature of work, 14–16, 109, 133; “great swimmer” fragment, 76n2; Greek myths and, 141; Grenzland (“borderland”) and, 213; happiness, expressions of in writing, 137–38, 189–90; inability of to write, 127–29; Institute speeches of, 68; as insurance clerk, 66–72; isolation of, 4–5, 216; “die kleinen Winkelzüge” of, 139; language of, 59, 132; letters of, 180–81, 184, 187, 191–92, 213–21; literalistic vs. figurative interpretation of, 166n9; literary conventions and, 136–37; logic, lack of, 128–29, 130, 133–35; mauscheln in, 62; metanarratives, 81–91; middle, starting narratives in, 140, 219–20; momentum, maintaining, 213–14; multi-occupancy of self, 6; multi-vocality of, 69, 71–72, 74, 76; music and, 170, 175, 179–85, 188–90, 192; as narrative artist in “The Judgment,” 22–38; narrative beginnings in, 123–45, 149–65; narrative complexity, 90, 152; narrative dynamics in views on writing, 213–21; narrative instance, 66–72; narrative organization in, 136; narrative perspective in, 103–5; narrative progression in, 22–39, 123–45; narrative stance, 5–7; narrative voice, arrangement of, 69–72, 81–91; navigational aids for readers, 134–35; new beginnings, doubts about, 152; non-narrative works of, 139; non-traditional narrative of, 136; obstacles to writing, elimination of, 138; “obstinate” manner of story-telling, 90; Oktavhefte (Journals), 146n13; orientation, loss of, 130; perspective, singularity of, 6; philosophy of, 130; post-1920 manuscripts of, 142; referentiality of language of, 58–60; Reiseberichte (“journeys”), 145n8; resistance of texts of, 133; rhetorical theory and, 34–37; rhizome, metaphor of, 91; at sanatorium, 139; Schriftstellersein and Beamtenwesen in, 189–90; self, inner vs. non-writing, 215; self comments of, 126, 128, 145n6, 152, 192; sense of self, 9, 10, 192, 215–17; short prose of, 139; silence, fascination with, 180, 189; society, separation of from, 216; stasis and, 221; “swimming” as cipher for condition of writer, 59–60; tiredness in narratives of, 130; tuberculosis, 139, 141, 143; unmusicality of, 170, 180–81, 183–84, 190, 192; unreliable narrators in, 133; Vertreibung and, 227; writing, barriers to, 218–19; writing, cessation of as form of death, 214; writing, as self-referential allegory, 227; writing, as traversing space, 215; writing, as vanity,

Karl, Frederick, 22
“Kaufmann, Der” (“The Shopkeeper”), 205–6; Aufregung in, 205–6; social hierarchy in, 206
Kaufmann, Paul: “Social Welfare and the German Will to Victory,” 72
“Kinder auf der Landstraße” (“Children on the Country Road”), 209–11; liberation in, 210; order vs. disruption in, 209–11; rest vs. movement in, 209–11
Kittler, Friedrich, 60
Kjellén, Rudolf, 73
“kleine Automobilgeschichte,” 124–27; flaws in, 126–27
Kobs, Jörgen, 19n6, 166
Koelb, Clayton, 19n14
Kraus, Karl, 62; “Sprachlehre” (“Grammar”), 179
Kresh, Joseph, 179
“Kübelreiter, Der,” 137
Kurz, Gerhard, 12, 13, 18, 94–107, 139, 166n4, 183, 229n3

Lagarde, Paul de: Deutsche Schriften, 73; “The Religion of the Future,” 73–74
“Landarzt, Ein” (“Country Doctor, A”), 135
language, 54, 58–60, 62, 64, 92n10, 117, 132, 141, 146n17, 151, 156, 166n2, 174, 191, 208
launch, narrative, 154, 157–59
Laurentian Hill, wish on, 187, 191 legend, 11
Letter to his Father. See Brief an den Vater
Levine, Michael, 175–78
literary models, 43
literary scholarship vs. cultural studies, 58, 74, 76
literature, 58–60, 74–76, 92n5, 119, 138, 146n16, 170, 190, 213, 228n1; Great War and, 68; industrial accident insurance and, 68–72; reality displayed in language of, 58; referentiality of, 58; theory of, 77n22; vs. culture, 58; vs. history and reality, 58
logic, 22, 25, 26, 33, 34, 42, 43, 46, 47, 49, 54, 69, 128, 130, 133–36, 139, 142, 145, 151, 208
Lothe, Jakob, 1, 16, 19n13, 146n14, 149–69
Luhmann, Niklas, 90, 92

Mann, Thomas, 89, 196
manuscript(s), 14–15, 63, 106, 110, 138, 142, 146, 147n2
Man Who Disappeared, The. See Der Verschollene
Matfiary, sanatorium at, 139
Matt, Peter von, 136–37
mauscheln, 62
McEwan, Ian: Atonement, 37
Merleau-Ponty, Maurice, 47
metafiction, 88
metahistory, 61
metalanguage, 88
“Metamorphosis, The.” See “Verwandlung, Die”
metanarrative, 69, 81–91, 92n10
metatext, 133
Midrash, secular imitation of, 117–19
middle (of narrative), 14, 16, 109, 114, 119, 123, 127, 140–41, 13, 146n18, 152–53, 184, 219
Miller, J. Hillis, 12, 13–14, 18n4, 92n11, 108–22
mimetic, 10, 26, 33, 37, 42, 44, 55n2
Mirbeau, Octave: Le Jardin des Supplices (Torture Garden), 63
Missing Person, The. See Der Verschollene
modern, 4, 18n2, 45, 59, 61, 65, 90, 157. See also fiction, modernist
Morrison, Toni: Beloved, 37
Müller-Seidel, Walter, 155, 166n9
multiplicity, exteriority and, 66
multi-vocality, 69, 71–72, 74, 76
music, 17, 58, 194, 204, 222, 230n17; in “Forschungen eines Hundes,” 170–93; Kafka and, 170, 175, 179–85, 188–90; origin of, 184; philosophy and, 181–84, 189–90; Schopenhauer and, 205, 229n11; separation of, 182, 184; writing and, 179–85, 189–90
Musil, Robert, 85
myth, 11, 16, 65, 72, 82, 96, 98, 141, 142, 227, 228

“Nachhauseweg, Der” (“Journey Home, The”), 204–5; human harmony in, 205; isolation in, 205; Schopenhauer’s Will and, 204–5; social progress/success in, 205; stasis in, 205
narratability, negation of, 133
narrated speech, 104
narration, 1–4, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18n5, 19n11, 28–29, 74, 82, 85, 89, 99, 101–5, 110, 119, 133, 142, 155, 178, 193n2, 194n9, 218, 222, 224, 226; act of, 19n14, 162, 227; aesthetic means of, 64; blended, 101–5; continuous, 126; definition of, 1–2, 9; digressive, 113–15; disembodied power of, 12; 111; dynamics of, 224; elusiveness of meaning generated by, 19n10; embedded, 100; flow of, 129, 138; form of, 208; impossibility of, 133; indirect, 84; internal acts of, 12; local texture of, 112; method of, 19n8, 213; movement as focus, motive and mode of, 196, 225; paradigmatic, 91; pauses in, 35; present-tense, 110; process of, 87; progress of, 19n12, 214; reliable vs. unreliable, 23, 25; self-creating path of, 222–23; self-referentiality of, 17; third-person, 104, 159; time of, 165; traditional vs. that of Kafka, 135–36; as unfolding of dilemma, 16; vicarious, 84, 88. See also telling; storytelling; narrative; narrator; rhetoric/rhetorical; specific titles
narrative: analysis, 2; authority, 14; complexity, 90, 152; definition of, 1–2, 9–11, 22–26; diegetic frame of, 64–72; duplicity, 173–74; dynamism of, 17; embedded, 99–100; enigmatic, 10; as event, 23, 152; “fourth person,” 72; “grand,” 12, 87; heterodiegetic vs. homodiegetic, 66; hypo-, 66–67; Jewish tradition of, 133; matrix, 66; narrated, 99–100; organization, 136; pattern, 16, 17; as rhetorical communication, 1–2, 9–11, 22–38; syntagmatic vs. paradigmatic, 91; third-person, 103–4, 110; uncertainty, 103, 160, 163. See also narration; narrator; specific titles
narrative beginnings. See beginning narrative closure. See ending narrative judgment, in “The Judgment,” 22–38
narrative movement, 158, 196–228; as focus, motive, and mode of narration, 196
narrative perspective. See perspective narrative theory, 2; use of term, 1. See also narratology
Narrative Theory and Analysis project, 1
narrative voice. See voice narrativity, 56, 145n6
narratology, challenges to, 1–2, 17–18, 34, 37–38, 108–21; “meaning” vs. “production of effect” in, 108. See also narrative theory
Index

164–65, 170–78, 180, 182, 184–85, 190, 192, 197–202, 204–5, 207, 209, 211, 226; anonymous, 111; authorial, 23, 87–89, 133; communication of, 24; distance between protagonist and, 134, 177; effaced, 110, 121; external, 105; first-person, 16–17, 24, 45, 72, 103, 110, 113, 135, 138, 144, 146n11, 166, 172, 196; heterodiegetic, 66, 104; homodiegetic, 66; identification of with protagonist, 3, 4, 6, 138; impersonal, 110–111; indirect discourse of, 121; initiation and, 158–59; intra-diegetic, 12; modern, 18n2; objective, 97; as observer, 126; omniscient, 91, 132; perspective of, 133; and reader, 4; reliable vs. unreliable, 110, 133; third-person, 150, 158, 161, 163, 165, 166n3. See also narration; narrative narrator-protagonist, 197, 198, 199, 204, 205, 212

Native American Indian, motif of, 107n5

naturalization, 42–43, 53

“Negierung der Erzählbarkeit” (“negation of narratability”), 133

Neumann, Gerhard, 12–13, 18n1, 18n4, 19n7, 19n10, 77n15, 81–93, 106n1, 106n3, 128, 134, 137, 139, 145m19, 146n15, 193m2, 229n3, 230n13

Nietzsche, Friedrich: *The Birth of Tragedy*, 65, 181; *The Gay Science*, 64; *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, 74; *Unfashionable Observation*, 65–66; writings on Wagner, 174

nourishment/nutrition, writing as, 183, 186–88, 190

“On the Gallery” (“Auf der Galerie”), 136

ontological fuzziness, 11, 42, 44, 50

ontology, ethics and, 49–50

origin, 13, 16, 18n1, 59, 82, 86, 91, 97, 141–42, 171, 174–75, 181, 183–84, 188, 190–91, 193n2, 194n11, 198, 200, 219, 227, 228; haunting point of, 17

“Page from an Old Document, A” (“Ein altes Blatt”), 63. See also Chinese stories

parable/parabolic, 33, 34, 102, 105, 143

paradox, 3, 19n10, 60, 62, 86, 115, 137, 139, 163, 207–8, 221, 230n13

Pascal, Roy, 19n6, 38n4

Pasley, Malcolm, 14, 19n12, 138

pattern, 6, 16–18, 27, 31, 36, 39–42, 45, 89–90, 92, 94–96, 98, 120, 134, 136, 140, 145–46, 160, 175, 197, 206, 208, 216, 220–21, 229

Pegasus, 196

performative, effect, 108–9; language, 116–17

peripety, 160

perspective, 3–4, 6, 18, 18n5, 19n7, 19n13, 24–25, 27, 29, 31, 38, 44–45, 65, 67, 70, 83, 91, 92n9, 98, 103–4, 108, 132–33, 146n11, 150, 155–56, 158–59, 165, 167n11; authorial, 38, 133; co-extensive with protagonist’s perspective, 3; narrative progression, 14–16, 22–39, 123–45; deviation and, 139; in “In der Strafkolonie,” 158, 161; in “The Judgment,” 22–38; in “kleine Automobilgeschichte,” 126; at level of communication, 4; at level of event, 3

Phelan, James, 1–2, 9–12, 14, 22–38, 55n2, 56, 77n19, 152, 154, 157–59, 166n3, 167n13, 225, 230n18; definition of narrative, 1–2, 9–11, 22–26; *Experiencing Fiction*, 35, 37

philosophy, music and, 181–84, 189–90

“plötzliche Spaziergang, Der” (“Sudden Walk, The”), 197–99, 200, 212; equilibrium in, 198; *Erhebung* in, 198; hypothetical clauses in, 197; indicative, use of in, 197; optimism
index

in, 198–99; social conformity in, 197; stasis in, 200
point of view, 8, 44, 132, 137. See also perspective
Politzer, Heinz, 19n10
Pollak, Oscar, 145n7
“Poseidon,” 141
post-structuralism, 74
Prague, 6, 69, 72, 73, 93, 142, 143
Pratt, Mary Louise: Imperial Eyes, 164
private/familial existence, code of, 90
Proceß, Der (Trial, The), 4, 15, 82, 92n2, 100, 133, 140, 145n10, 154, 193n5, 230n12, 230n15; ambiguity in, 150; argumentation, lack of in, 129; deviant discursive progression in, 133; end of, 229n10; first sentence of, 149–50, 161; implied author in, 150; journeying in, 95; oral reading of, Kafka’s, 6; subjunctive, use of in, 149–50; suspense in, 150; third-person narrator in, 150, 158; title of, 150; unfinished nature of, 150
prodigal son, parable of, 143–45
progression, 14–16, 22–39, 123–45; definition of, 10; deviation and, 139; in “In der Strafkolonie,” 158, 161; in “The Judgment,” 22–38; in “kleine Automobil-geschichte,” 126; at level of communication, 4; at level of event, 3; readerly, 45, 51
prolepsis, 171
“Prometheus,” 141, 228
propaganda, cultural form of, 59; national identity and, 74–75; war, 59, 62, 64, 71, 72
protagonist, 3–4, 6, 11, 13, 17, 18–19, 32, 43, 52, 82, 92, 95, 108, 110–11, 129, 132–34, 136, 138, 140, 144, 146, 152, 175, 177, 201–3, 208, 209, 211, 213–14; as author’s alter ego, 132; distance between reader and, 3; narrator and, 3–4, 6, 134, 138, 177
Proust, Marcel, 92n14
“psycho-poetics,” 228
public existence, code of, 90
purpose, 2, 9–12, 14, 17, 23–26, 30, 36–37, 68, 74–75, 102–3, 105, 142, 146n16, 157, 159, 163, 192, 219, 228, 229n8; ethical, 11; Kafka’s views about, 8–10; philosophical, 11; and reader, 18
Pyrrhonism, 171
Rabinowitz, Peter J., 23–24, 165
Ramm, Klaus, 18n1, 18n2, 19n14, 136, 152
reader, 4, 7, 10, 12–13, 16–17, 25, 38n4, 40, 42–45, 52, 54, 56n5, 65, 67, 69, 76, 103–4, 110–14, 118, 124, 126, 130, 132–35, 140–41, 144, 146, 150, 154–56, 158, 160–65, 166n3, 170–71, 175, 179, 193, 196, 208, 221, 223–24; actual, 2, 24; affected by textual dynamics, 25; attention of, 84, 95; communication between author/narrator and, 4; distance between protagonist and, 3; effect on, 117; flesh-and-blood, 35, 158; empirical, 35; ideal, 23; as imaginary observers, 155; implied, 2, 23, 35, 43; mind of, 11; Nietzsche as Kafka’s first, 77n9; perceptions and preconceptions of, 18; and protagonist, 3; situation of, 117. See also interpretation; reading readerly interest, 26, 33
reading, 14, 18n2, 19n15, 22, 24, 28, 33, 38n4, 40–42, 61, 75, 77n12, 92n3, 108–9, 113, 115–17, 123–24, 126–27, 150, 155, 173, 175, 179, 194n8, 227; act of, 113, 163; allegorical, 40, 51; and exegesis, 121; consecutive and consequential, 51–52; different kinds of, 109; dimensions of, 11; first, 149, 160; impossibility of verifiably correct, 121; and interpretation, 38n6; as matter of multiple acts, 75; no globally unified, 111; performative effects of, 108–9; process of, 56n5; and rereading, 153; second,
156, 163; strategy of, 55n2, 133; thematic, 34. See also interpretation; reader
Rechtfertigung (“justification”), 16
recognition, 82, 85, 87, 92
repetition, 91, 166n5; patterns of, 18n6
“Report to an Academy, A.” See “Bericht für eine Akademie, Ein”
rereading. See reading
res cogitans vs. res extensa, 45
“Researches of a Dog.” See “Forschungen eines Hundes”
return, theme of, 143–45, 147n23
rhythm, textual, 35
rhetoric/rhetorical, 1–2, 10–12, 22–27, 31, 34–36, 38n3, 40, 44, 56n2, 67, 72, 86, 154, 158–60, 179; design, 12, 40, 44; theory of narrative, 1–2, 9–11, 22–38
Richardson, Brian, 152
Rimmon-Kenan, Shlomith, 43, 56n5
Roethe, Gustav, 60
Rolleston, James, 19n11, 132, 140, 166n6
Rousseau, Jean-Jacques: Confessions, 173–74

Said, Edward W., 151
Sandberg, Beatrice, 1, 15, 19n13, 19n15, 40, 55, 106n1, 123–48, 150, 166n6, 167n13
Scheffel, Michael, 146n15
Schillemeit, Jost, 15, 19n12
Schloß, Das (Castle, The), 12, 14, 95, 100, 103, 140; challenges to narratology, 108–21; change from first-person to third-person narrative in, 110; contradictions in, 115–16; dialogue in, 111–13; digressive narrative in, 113–15; discontinuous nature of, 109, 121; donnée of, 109; effaced narrator in, 121; enigmatic irony in, 110; exegesis in, 113; focalization in, 110; free indirect discourse in, 110–12; happiness in, 189; interpretation, acts of in, 113–15, 119; interpretation, impossibility of in, 115–16, 117, 121; interpretive speeches in, 111; language of, 117; linguistic energy in, 111; linguistic registers in, 111–13; mediation, rejection of in, 119–20; Muir translation of, 115; narration, forms of in, 111–13; narrative beginning in, 166n6; narrative texture of, 111; narratological presuppositions of, 108–9; narrator of, 109–11; opacity in, 115–16; passage, failed attempts at in, 119–20; performative naming in, 116–17; resistance to narrative closure in, 108–21; run-on sentences in, 115; secular imitation of Talmud and Midrash in, 117–19; third-person narration in, 158; unfinished nature of, 109, 119, 121; Verbindung in, 120
Schmidt, Friedrich, 19n15, 146n12, n14
Schnitzler, Arthur: “Der Reigen,” 92n5
Schopenhauer, Arthur, 230n12; Will of, 204–5, 229n11
Schriftstellersein (“being of the writer”), 189–90
Schütterle, Annette, 146n13
“Schweigen der Sirenen, Das” (“Silence of the Sirens, The”), 141
Second International Congress for Rescue Service and Accident Prevention, 68, 72
Selbmann, Rolf, 145n3
Semite, conflict between Aryan and, 61
Semitic culture, petrifaction of, 65
Seurat, Georges, 132
Sextus Empiricus, 171
Sheppard, Richard, 18n6
“Shopkeeper, The.” See “Kaufmann, Der”
showing, 23, 33, 36
“Silence of the Sirens, The.” See “Schweigen der Sirenen, Das”
Slavic people, 64
Sokel, Walter, 18n5, 28
solidity, illusion of, 197
Sombart, Werner: *Händler und Helden*, 62, 71

“Something for Jockeys to Think About.” See “Zum Nachdenken für Herrenreiter”

speech, reported, 104

speed, narrative, 22–38

Speirs, Ronald, 1, 16, 17, 19n7, 19n15, 33, 40, 55, 106n1, 145n1, 150, 167n13, 191–93, 196–231

“Stadtwappen, Das” (“City Coat of Arms, The”), 141

stasis, 3, 14, 17, 136, 145, 155, 160, 197, 200, 205–7, 219, 221, 226

Sterne, Laurence: *Tristram Shandy*, 196

“Stoker, The.” See “Heizer, Der”

storytelling, 23, 38, 90, 91, 103, 196.

See also narration; telling

storyline, 117

stubbornness, textual, 29, 32–33, 37, 38n6, 74

subject-body, 47

subjectivity, history of modern, 90; isolated, 4; multiple, 71

“Sudden Walk, The.” See “plötzliche Spaziergang, Der”

suspense, 150, 160

Sussman, Henry, 26–27

synthetic aspect, 26, 33

Talleyrand(-Périgord), Charles Maurice de, 64

Talmud, secular imitation of, 117–19

Taylor, Charles Frederick: *Principles of Scientific Management*, 69
telling, 1–2, 2, 13, 23–24, 26–28, 83, 84, 86–91, 101, 103, 105, 113, 143, 149, 158, 161, 173, 175, 178, 182, 206, 207. See also narration; storytelling

tension, dynamics of, 24–25, 26, 152–61

thematic aspect, 26, 33
title, importance of, 149–51, 154–57, 161, 173; narrative dimension of, 149

Tower of Babel, 141–42, 145, 193

traders, heroes vs., 62

transdiegesis, 72

transmediality, 72

transposed speech, 104

transtextuality, 72

*Trial, The. See Proceß, Der*

*Trial, The* (Welles), 165n2
typologies, 61–62, 75; cognitive, 61; essentialist, 61–62

“Unglückliein” (“Being Unhappy”), 211–13; familiar vs. abnormal in, 211, 213; loneliness/abandonment in, 213; *Luftzug* in, 212; optimism vs. pessimism in, 213; oscillation in, 212; static agitation in, 211

“Unmasking of a Confidence Trickster, The.” See “Entlarvung eines Bauernfängers”

“Urteil, Das” (“The Judgment”), 4, 10–11, 221–28; activity and passivity in writing of, 221; ambivalence in, 224; *analysepsis* in, 29; circularity of, 223; constraints (social, moral, psychological) in, 226; deficiencies and inconsistencies in, 123–24; dynamics of narration in, 221–28; end of, 225–27; enigmatic obscurity of, 124; ethical judgments in, 31; ethics of telling in, 27; finality of, 223; happiness in, 137; instability in, 27–29, 223–24; interpretive gaps in, 27–29, 32–33, 35, 38, 225; irony in, 224; judgment in, 22–38; Kafka’s joy in writing, 191–92; Kafka’s view of, 38, 124; logic, lack of in, 129; music of, 222; narrative beginning in, 123, 134; narrative consequence, lack of in, 22–38, 137; opening paragraph of, 222–25; patriarchy in, 33; progression in, 22–38; psychological interpretation of, 225–26; realism in, 33; restlessness of, 223; self-creating narrative in, 222–23, 226; sense of achieve-
ment in writing of, 221; sentence structure of, 224; speed in, 22–38; stasis in, 226; strangeness of, 22, 27, 29; temporality in, 28; textual stubbornness in, 29, 32–33

Verbindung ("connection"), 120, 153, 175, 176

Verschollene, Der (Amerika; The Man Who Disappeared; The Missing Person), 8, 12–13, 14–15, 220, 229n4; allegory in, 97; America, perception of in, 95; blended narration in, 101–5; embedded narrative in, 99–100; expulsion vs. inclusion in, 95–98; journeying in, 94–95; narrative pattern of, 94–95; narrative uncertainty in, 103; perception in, 97; seduction in, 95–98; Statue of Liberty in, 97, 101, 142; Therese’s story in, 94–106; third-person narrative in, 103–4

“Verwandlung, Die” ("Metamorphosis, The"), 6, 11, 82, 130, 132, 140; allegorical reading of, 40, 51; consecutive vs. consequentialist reading of, 51–52; contradictions of, 44; dreams in, 43, 51; dualism in, 44–45, 47, 49–51, 53–55; as escape fantasy, 52; ethics in, 49–50; existentialism in, 55; face-value approach to, 40–42, 53, 55; as family drama, 40–42; happiness in, 137; human body and human being in, 40–55; human conversation in, 54; implied author and reader in, 43; morality in, 50; narrative beginning in, 123, 166n6; narrator, attitude of in, 43–44; naturalization in, 42–43, 53; objectification of body in, 46; ontological fuzziness in, 42, 44, 50, 52; ontology in, 45, 49, 51, 53–55; rhetorical design of, 44; as risky act of communication, 55

Vetlesen, Arne Johan: Evil and Human Agency, 164

Vogl, Joseph, 70–72

Vogt, Jochen, 76


“Vor dem Gesetz” ("Before the Law"), 95, 100, 136

Wagner, Benno, 2, 10, 12, 58–80

Wagner, Richard, 96, 174, 194n6

Währmund, Adolf: Das Gesetz des Nomadentums und die heutige Juden herrschaft, 61, 65

Walser, Martin, 18n2

Walser, Robert, 146n19

war, 12, 59–78 passim, 167; iconography of, 60; propaganda, 59, 62, 64, 71, 72

Warning, Rainer, 92n146

wars of unification, German, 60

Weber, Max: Protestant Ethic, 62, 64

“Wedding Preparations in the Country.” See “Hochzeitsvorbereitungen auf dem Lande”

Welles, Orson: The Trial, 165n2

Wharton, Edith: “Roman Fever,” 35–37

Wilhelm Meister, 92n3, 92n4

“Window onto the Street, The.” See “Gassenfenster, Das”

Wir-Gefühl ("We feeling"), 72

“Wish to Become a Red Indian.” See “Wunsch, Indianer zu werden”

Wittgenstein, Ludwig, 50

World War I, 60, 167n12; propaganda, 59, 62, 64, 71, 72; stories of, 58–76

World War II, 167n12

writing, barriers to, 218–19; as calling or mission, 9; cessation of as form of death, 214; Kafka’s views on, 5, 8–10, 68, 138–39, 145n6, 171, 179–80, 183–84, 187–90, 197, 213–21; Kafka’s views on his own, 124–28; movement and, 8, 16, 17, 27, 28, 66, 75, 137–39, 145–46, 152, 158, 196–230 passim; linear method of, 15; music and, 179–85,
189–90; nourishment/nutrition and, 183, 186–88; perversion of, 187; pure vs. impure, 187–91; and politics, 12; as self-referential allegory, 227; as “service to the devil,” 8; as traversing space, 215; as vanity, 228
writing desk, 13–14, 27, 81–93, 128
writing process, 128, 138–39, 150, 192, 219, 231–32. See also writing, movement and
“Wunsch, Indianer zu werden” (“Wish to Become a Red Indian”), 17, 107n5, 198, 207–9, 210–11; abnormal experienced as reality in, 208–9; agitation vs. stasis in, 207; familiar life vs. eruption of energy in, 208; normality, escape from in, 208; sense of achievement in writing of, 221

Zeno, 207
Zimmermann, Hans Dieter, 123, 146n19, 157, 159
Zionism, 73; cultural, 65
Zögern (“hesitation”), 120, 145, 152, 160
Zola, Émile, 167n10
“Zum Nachdenken für Herrenreiter” (“Something for Jockeys to Think About”), 204; circularity of life in, 204; isolation in, 204
Zusammenhang (“connectedness”/“coherence”), 15; Kafka’s struggle for, 123, 220–21, lack of, 229
Franz Kafka: Narration, Rhetoric, & Reading presents essays by noted Kafka critics and by leading narratologists who explore Kafka's original and innovative uses of narrative throughout his career. Collectively, these essays by Stanley Corngold, Anniken Greve, Gerhard Kurz, Jakob Lothe, J. Hillis Miller, Gerhard Neumann, James Phelan, Beatrice Sandberg, Ronald Speirs, and Benno Wagner examine a number of provocative questions arising from Kafka's narratives and method of narration. The arguments of the essays relate both to the peculiarities of Kafka's story-telling and to general issues in narrative theory. They reflect, for example, the complexity of the issues surrounding the "somebody" doing the telling, the attitude of the narrator to what is told, the perceived purpose(s) of the telling, the implied or actual reader, the progression of events, and the progression of the telling. As the essays also demonstrate, Kafka's narratives still present a considerable challenge to, as well as a great resource for, narrative theory and analysis.

Jakob Lothe is professor of English literature at the University of Oslo. Beatrice Sandberg is professor of German literature at the University of Bergen, Norway. Ronald Speirs is professor emeritus of German at the University of Birmingham, UK.

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