

Preface

The present volume is a snapshot of current research on verb representation and processing, embodying the rich interdisciplinary perspective of cognitive science. It brings together different linguistic perspectives on verbs as well as contributions from psycholinguistics, neurolinguistics, and cognitive neuroscience, showcasing the diversity of theoretical approaches and types of empirical evidence bearing on the nature of verb structure and meaning. Together with linguistic theory and its empirical (cross-linguistic, distributional) evidence, we present data stemming from behavioral experiments, cases of aphasia, brain imaging, and language acquisition. We think empirical evidence gathered from different methods is crucial for supporting (or refuting) linguistic postulates and, more broadly, for understanding the architecture of language and its interfaces with other cognitive domains.

The volume originates from the conference *Verb Concepts: Cognitive Science Perspectives on Verb Representation and Processing* we organized at Concordia University in Montreal, in 2008. We take this opportunity to thank conference participants for their presentations and contributions to discussions, and also the Psycholinguistics and Cognition Lab crew, at Concordia, for their help before, during and after the conference. Although the inspiration for the volume was that conference, the current selection of papers does not constitute its proceedings. Guest speakers and other presenters were invited to submit chapters related to their presentations but not limited to them, and to provide a wider scope of their research, keeping an interdisciplinary readership in mind. We are certainly very grateful to the authors for their contributions, their rewritings, and specially their patience with the many delays in the making of the volume. We want to believe that the time elapsed between initial submission and final writing was important for strengthening hypotheses, evaluating data, and bringing new insights to the fore.

Chapters were selected by the editors and anonymously reviewed by numerous colleagues representing various fields (from theoretical linguistics to cognitive neuroscience). We are grateful, in particular, to the following for their work reviewing the chapters: Catherine Anderson (McMaster University), Alan Bale (Concordia University), Evelyn Ferstl (University of Freiburg), Alan Garnham (University of Sussex), Roberta Golinkoff (University of Delaware), Dana Isac (Concordia University), Nina Kazanina (University of Bristol), Katalin Kiss (Hungarian Academy of Sciences),

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