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Part II. The signalling of coherence relations The coding of discourse relations in English and German argumentative discourse; 1.

Introduction; 2. Discourse relations and thematic progression; 2.1 Discourse relations; 2.2 Thematic progression and multiple themes; 3. Adjacency and granularity; 3.1 Granularity; 3.2 Adjacency; 4.

Contrastive analysis of English and German argumentative discourse; 4.1 The British editorials; 4.2 The German editorials; 4.3 Comparison between German and English editorials; 5. Experimental discourse comprehension ; 6. Conclusions; Acknowledgement; References

Appendix Resolving connective ambiguity: A prerequisite for discourse parsing; 1. Introduction: Coherence relations and discourse parsing;

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2. The emergence of the 'text'-'image' issue within linguistics

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## Sommario/riassunto

Based on a corpus of Austrian students' texts from three disciplines (personnel management, business psychology, economic history) analysed with Rhetorical Structure Theory (RST), this paper investigates the macro-structural expectations which tables of content (ToCs) raise, the cues by which these expectations are triggered, and the "predictive quality" of ToCs. The ToCs in the personnel management group's texts offer the best "prediction" of the actual macrostructures, whereas in the other two groups ToC and textual macro-structures diverge from each other in various ways. The analysis also shows a

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