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"2.5 The renewal of nature through semiotic experience: the teleological illusion"

"2.6 Motivated selection and choice: bridging the lacunae in our depiction of experience"; "3 Choice and language variation: some theoretical reflections"; "3.1 Halliday on choice in language: from the 1960s papers on grammar to the 1990s quantitative studies"; "3.1.1 Language as a networked system of choices and probabilistic grammar"; "3.1.2 Register as resetting of the probabilities"; "3.1.3 Markedness"; "3.1.4 Conditional probabilities"; "3.1.5 System, register and instance"

"3.2 From frequency to probability: Matthiessena€?s report"

"3.2.1 Instantiation"; "3.2.2 Probability profiles"; "3.2.3 A discussion of Matthiessena€?s findings"; "3.3 Paradigmatic choice remodelled as syntagmatic choice"; "3.3.1 Tucker on choice and phraseology"; "3.3.2 Phraseology and probabilistic grammar"; "3.3.3 A comparative reading of Tuckera€?s proposal"; "3.4 Conclusions"; "4 Grammatical choice and communicative motivation: a radical systemic approach"; "4.1 Choice as a systemic functional concept"; "4.2 Fawcett on choice"; "4.3 Where do features come from?"

"4.4 Commutation version 2.0"

"4.5 The complex content plane of the sign"; "4.5.1 Vagueness"; "4.5.2 Markedness: different degrees of underspecification"; "4.5.3 Non-monadic signs, the complex interrelationship between signs"; "4.5.4 Metafunctional diversity"; "4.5.5 Multifunctionality"; "4.6 Conclusion: towards a more radical systemic approach"; "5 Semantic options and complex functions: a recursive view of choice"; "5.1 Introduction"; "5.1.1 Aims"; "5.1.2 Organisation of the chapter"; "5.2 The problem with choice"; "5.3 Choice as a simple term in SFL"

"5.3.1 System networks"

## Sommario/riassunto

This stimulating volume provides fresh perspectives on choice, a key notion in systemic functional linguistics. Bringing together a global team of well-established and up-and-coming systemic functional linguists, it shows how the different senses of choice as process and as product are interdependent, and how they operate at all levels of language. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, it covers a range of linguistic viewpoints, informed by evolutionary theory, psychology, sociology and neuroscience, to produce a complex but unifying account of the issues. This book offers a critical examination of choice and is ideal for students and researchers working in all areas of functional linguistics as well as cognitive linguistics, second-language acquisition, neurolinguistics and sociolinguistics.