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4.2 The hierarchico-informational structure in general: the nature, textual relevance and linguistic properties thereof 4.3 The Nucleus and the Focus; 4.4 The Frame and the Appendix (in dialogue with Edoardo Lombardi Vallauri); 5. Conclusion. The information structure of the Utterance as interface between the linguistico-grammatical management and the textual management of discourse; References; The contribution of the Basel model to the description of polyfunctional discourse markers; 1. Introduction; 1.1 Accounting for discourse markers through Models of discourse units 1.2 Accounting for the polyfunctionality of discourse markers: From their syntactic and semantic properties to their discourse functions through information structure 2. Syntactic and semantic properties of *It. anche*, *Fr. aussi*, *Sp. tambien*; 2.1 Focus adverbs; 2.1.1 Syntactic properties; 2.2.2 Semantic properties; 2.2 Connectives; 2.2.1 Additive connectives; 2.2.2 Consecutive connective; 3. Information status and textual properties of *It. anche*, *Fr. aussi*, *Sp. tambien*; 3.1 *Anche/Aussi/Tambien* in the Nuclear Unit of the Utterance; 3.1.1 *Anche/Aussi/Tambien* with additional linguistic material 3.1.2 *Anche/Aussi/Tambien* with no additional linguistic material 3.2 *Anche/Aussi/Tambien* in the Frame Information Unit; 3.2.1 *Anche/Aussi/Tambien* with additional linguistic material; 3.2.2 *Anche/Aussi/Tambien* with no additional linguistic material; 3.3 *Anche/Aussi/Tambien* in the Appendix Information Unit; 3.3.1 *Anche/Aussi/Tambien* with additional linguistic material; 3.3.2 *Anche/Aussi/Tambien* with no additional linguistic material; 4. Concluding remarks; 4.1 The assets of the Basel Model of paragraph segmentation; 4.2 Cross-linguistic remarks; Corpora; References Parenthetical verbs as a challenge for discourse units

Sommario/riassunto

This chapter presents an empirical study of the left periphery of Basic Discourse Units, viz. the linguistic segments that speakers and hearers use to interpret the discourse they are engaged in. A Basic Discourse Unit is bound by the mapping of a syntactic (dependency) structure and a major intonation unit, giving rise to different types of discourse units (congruent, syntax-bound, intonation-bound, regulatory). Focusing on the discourse units' Left Peripheral Elements, which are again defined in syntactic and prosodic terms, we show that they fulfil different discourse structuring roles.