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normal case: CHANGING A TOPIC by mutual consent; 2.4.4.1. Introduction; 2.4.4.2. How - and when - to change a topic; 2.4.4.2.1. Preparing and effecting the topic change; 2.4.4.2.2. Topic change and speaker change; 2.4.4.2.3. Three options for CHANGING A TOPIC; 2.4.4.2.4. Topic change following speaker change; 2.4.4.2.5. Some reasons for (not) CHANGING A TOPIC; 2.4.4.2.6. Conclusion; 2.4.4.3. Controlling the conversation by CHANGING A TOPIC 2.4.4.3.1. CHANGING A TOPIC as a multiple action 2.4.4.3.2. Topic continuity; 2.4.4.3.3. Limitations on topic selection; 2.4.5. The special case: DIGRESSING FROM A TOPIC; 2.4.5.1. A preliminary look at the fundamental features of digression; 2.4.5.2. Analysis I: 'Looped' topic structure; 2.4.5.3. Analysis II : 'Bracketed' topic structure; 2.4.5.4. Types of digression and their restrictions; 2.4.5.4.1. Three restrictions for digression; 2.4.5.4.2. Comprehension-securing digression; 2.4.5.4.3. Spontaneous digression; 2.4.5.4.4. When to digress; 2.4.5.5. Linguistic means of digression 2.4.5.5.1. Marking the beginning of a digression: by the way and incidentally 2.4.5.5.2. Marking the end of a digression: anyway; 2.4.5.6. Controlling the conversation by DIGRESSING FROM A TOPIC; 2.4.6. SHIFTING A TOPIC; 2.4.6.1. Fundamental features of topic shift; 2.4.6.2. Controlling the conversation by SHIFTING A TOPIC; 2.4.7. CLOSING A TOPIC; 2.4.7.1. Ways of CLOSING A TOPIC; 2.4.7.2. BREAKING OFF A TOPIC; 2.5. The role of topics and topical actions in controlling everyday conversation; Recipient action: the role of the hearer and the secondary speaker; 3.1. Introduction 3.2. Describing the participant roles

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## Sommario/riassunto

This is a study of a specific type of everyday conversation whose essential hallmark is its participants' attempt to gain agreement and consent when establishing and maintaining a continuous and coherent flow of talk. Basing his analyses on the Survey'-corpus and resorting to an interpretative, reconstructive mode of description, Bublitz focuses on two main phenomena: (a) discourse topic and topical actions (like INTRODUCING and CHANGING A TOPIC or DIGRESSING from it), (b) hearer signals and reactive speaker contributions. The interlocutors' topic-centered and topic-organizing behaviour is sh

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