

Abstract

The authors of this volume have undertaken the task of providing an evaluative overview of the terminology used in the (multilingual i.e. Hungarian, English, French and German) literature on particular (sometimes narrower, sometimes broader) areas of text linguistics.

Such an overview of the relevant concepts and the (convergent or divergent) terminology used in a variety of scientific approaches is in accordance with the principle aim of the *Officina Textologica* series, formulated by János S. Petőfi, founder and editor of the periodical, as follows:

There are two intended characteristics of the forum that has been created for continuous professional discussion:

- first, it needs to be polyglot based on the conviction that the textological-text linguistic properties of a given language cannot be fully explored unless we look at them through the glasses of at least another language;
- second, it needs to be integrative (as far as such an aim is attainable), inasmuch as we would like to set up a paradigm under which researchers from different backgrounds and interests, using different languages, can study textological / text linguistic issues from similar, or, at least, explicitly comparable perspectives.

In Volume 15 (the previous issue) of the *Officina Textologica* series, in the course of evaluating the results of previous research and outlining current textological issues and tasks, János S. Petőfi made programmatic statements intended for researchers working in the field of textology / text linguistics. The first task set in the program is to look at the terminology used in textology / text linguistics from a polyglot perspective. The papers in the present volume constitute a preliminary, exploratory approach to some of the terminological uncertainties and unclarified issues in the field, thereby contributing to the process of setting further tasks in the text linguistic-textological research project. The order in which the papers appear in the volume reflects our intention to move gradually from the more comprehensive studies to the ones that cover specific issues.

Edit Dobi reviews some of the most basic terminological issues and uncertainties that appear in the text linguistic frameworks predominant in the Hungarian literature. After a short historical overview of the theory of texts, she introduces the main conceptual and theoretical innovations of semiotic

textology. János S. Petőfi's interpretation of text as a complex sign has important implications and raises several interesting issues regarding the interpretation of texts as well as the study of connectivity: these are reflected in the complex terminology of this framework and they outline interesting tasks for text linguistics.

Péter Furkó sets out to provide an evaluative overview of the study of discourse markers in the relevant English literature, which, considering the lack of generally accepted terminology and typology, is not an easy task. He looks at the functions discourse markers have on different planes of discourse as well as the role they play in connectivity. He points out a range of uncertainties and unclarified issues the resolution of which is crucial with a view to formulating a unified approach to cohesion and coherence in general and discourse markers in particular.

Péter Csátár and Zsófia Haase, in their survey of the relevant German literature, concentrate on the concepts of cohesion and coherence. They provide an in-depth overview of the changes that the interpretation of the two concepts as well as their interrelationship has undergone in linguistic theory. In the course of the discussion, they review transphrastic, communicative-pragmatic and cognitive frameworks.

Sándor Kiss and Franciska Skutta provide a survey of the relevant French literature. We learn that in French linguistics the main frameworks of text linguistics were adopted "with some delay". At first, the scientific study of texts was predominated by syntactic, stylistic and psychological perspectives: the approaches that can be considered the antecedents of present day French text linguistics appeared as a later development. The authors provide a survey of present day French text linguistics by describing four such approaches and point out the expansion of pragmatically motivated frameworks.

István Csúry also deals with a group of discourse markers in his study, which is based on the relevant French literature. The author published a monograph on the topic in the form of a previous volume of the *Officina Textologica* series (volume 13), where he presented important findings of his research on 'connectors'. A central aim of the paper in the present volume is to demonstrate the relationship between discourse markers and connectors as well as to give a detailed description of the latter, using Péter Furkó's study (also appearing in the volume, see above) as a point of reference.

Andrea Nagy's study (based on the literature written in French) also deals with an issue that is related to pragmatic motivation. Pronominal reference, at first glance, appears as a relatively straightforward case of co-referentiality. The author uses a variety of approaches and analyzes a wide range of examples to give a detailed account of the treatment of pronominal reference as well as the types of knowledge used in the interpretation of referential relations.

Károly I. Boda and Judit Porkoláb deal with a unique text type: in their study they analyze T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land* and discuss the features of poetic communication. They posit that in the course of representing and interpreting poetic texts it is necessary to make a distinction between intertextuality and hypertextuality. The authors point out that the hypertextual organization of a text has interesting implications for the (re)interpretation of the concept of coherence.

It is our hope that the studies that appear in the present volume amply illustrate the nature of the terminological problems, and, at the same time, underline the necessity for us to attempt to provide an evaluative overview of the complete set of concepts and terms that are used in the scientific study of texts while using a unified and homogeneous frame of reference.