

# Contents

About the author	iii
Foreword	v
Prologue: So what's all the fuss about?	1
Chapter 1. Language and the social construction of gender	3
Introduction	3
Language and the making of meaning	6
Linguistic structure	6
Higher level semiotics	7
Language and the construction of reality	11
Naming reality	12
Ways of speaking	14
Covert grammatical categories	15
Male versus female: the ideology of gender	17
The nature and genesis of ideology	17
The form of ideology	18
Chapter 2. Using language to achieve social goals	21
Introduction	21
The world of home and informal interaction	24
The world of school	28
Teachers, teaching, knowledge, and gender	29
Teacher—student talk in the classroom	31
Children writing	34
Home and school as preparation for what?	37
Chapter 3. Lexis and gender	41
Introduction	41
Personal titles	41
Pronouns	43
Lexical resources: <i>woman</i> and <i>man</i>	50
Chapter 4. Speaking about women and men	55
Introduction	55
Field	56
Grammatical structure: the nominal group	57
Grammatical structure: the clause	62



<b>Chapter 5. Speaking as woman/man</b>	66
Stereotypes and interpretations	66
Differences between women's and men's speech	69
Discourse stratum	70
Lexico-grammatical stratum: grammar	71
Lexico-grammatical stratum: lexis	73
Phonological stratum	73
Interpreting the differences systemically	74
<b>Chapter 6. Social relations through grammar</b>	76
The semiotics of social relations	76
The linguistic realisations of social relations	78
The politics of address	80
Tenor and the ideology of gender	84
<b>Epilogue: So where do we go from here?</b>	87
<b>References</b>	89
<b>Further reading</b>	98
<b>Technical terms</b>	103
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	104