

# Table of contents

Preface to the first edition — ix

Preface to the second edition — x

Preface to the third edition — xi

Abbreviations and notational conventions — xii

## Introduction: what this book is about and how it can be used — 1

### 1 The sounds: phonetics — 3

1.1 Introduction — 3

1.2 Spelling vs. pronunciation: the representation of speech sounds — 4

1.3 Producing sounds — 8

1.3.1 The nature of speech sounds — 8

1.3.2 The vocal tract — 9

1.4 How sounds differ from each other: the classification of speech sounds — 11

1.4.1 The classification of consonants — 11

1.4.2 The classification of vowels — 17

1.5 Conclusion — 25

Further reading — 26

Exercises — 26

### 2 The sound system: phonology — 31

2.1 Introduction — 31

2.2 Introducing order into the chaos: the phoneme — 31

2.3 The key to finding the order — 37

2.3.1 Minimal pairs — 37

2.3.2 Distributional characteristics of allophones — 38

2.3.3 Observing allophonic alternations in different word forms — 40

2.4 More about the sound system of English — 43

2.4.1 Allophones of /l/ — 43

2.4.2 Stop phonemes — 46

2.4.3 A slightly more complex case: /ɹ/ — 51

2.5 The syllable — 55

2.5.1 The structure of the syllable — 55

2.5.2 Syllabification — 59



2.5.3	The syllable and allophonic processes: /l/ revisited — 63
2.6	Conclusion — 65
	Further reading — 65
	Exercises — 66
<b>3</b>	<b>The structure of words: morphology — 71</b>
3.1	Introduction — 71
3.2	Minimal building blocks: morphemes — 71
3.3	Types of morphemes — 76
3.4	Morphological analysis of words — 79
3.5	Realisation of morphemes: allomorphs — 83
3.6	Morphological processes: inflection and derivation — 89
3.7	Word-formation — 94
3.7.1	What is word-formation? — 94
3.7.2	Affixation — 95
3.7.3	Compounding — 100
3.7.4	Conversion — 105
3.7.5	Shortening — 107
3.8	Conclusion — 109
	Further reading — 110
	Exercises — 110
<b>4</b>	<b>The structure of sentences: syntax — 113</b>
4.1	Introduction: rules and grammar — 113
4.2	The building blocks: words and phrases — 116
4.2.1	Constituency tests and phrases — 116
4.2.2	The internal structure of phrases — 123
4.3	The functional level: subjects, objects, adverbials, predicates, complements — 131
4.4	The mapping of form and function — 140
4.5	Conclusion — 141
	Further reading — 142
	Exercises — 142
<b>5</b>	<b>The meaning of words and sentences: semantics — 145</b>
5.1	Introduction — 145
5.2	What does 'meaning' mean? Words, concepts and referents — 145
5.3	Compositional and non-compositional meaning — 154
5.4	The network: organising word meaning — 160
5.4.1	Words and other words — 160



5.4.2	Same or different? — 167
5.5	Conclusion — 175
	Further reading — 176
	Exercises — 176
<b>6</b>	<b>Studying language in use: pragmatics — 181</b>
6.1	Introduction — 181
6.2	Expressing intentions through language — 182
6.2.1	Using language to act: speech acts — 182
6.2.2	Speech acts: a closer look — 183
6.2.3	Classifying speech acts — 185
6.2.4	Realisations of speech acts: direct and indirect speech acts — 191
6.2.5	Performing speech acts successfully: felicity conditions — 194
6.3	Understanding utterance meaning — 197
6.4	Exploring pragmatic principles — 200
6.4.1	The Cooperative Principle — 200
6.4.2	Politeness — 207
6.5	Conclusion — 211
	Further reading — 211
	Exercises — 212
<b>7</b>	<b>Extensions and applications: historical linguistics, sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics — 215</b>
7.1	Introduction — 215
7.2	Historical linguistics: how languages develop — 215
7.3	Sociolinguistics: the social significance of language — 224
7.4	Psycholinguistics: how do we store and process language? — 229
7.5	Conclusion — 232
	Further reading — 233
	Exercises — 233
<b>8</b>	<b>Linguistics as an empirical science — 237</b>
8.1	Introduction — 237
8.2	How to do empirical research in linguistics — 237
8.3	A corpus-based study in morphology: <i>who</i> or <i>whom</i> , that is the question — 241
8.4	An experimental study in syntax: the dative alternation — 255
8.5	Conclusion — 264
	Further reading — 265
	Exercises — 265



Glossary — 267

References — 283

Subject index — 287

6	Studying language in life: pragmatics — 189	6.1	Introduction — 181
6.1	Introduction — 181	6.2	Expressing intentions through language — 182
6.2	Expressing intentions through language — 182	6.2.1	Using language to act: speech acts — 182
6.2.1	Using language to act: speech acts — 182	6.2.2	Speech acts: a closer look — 183
6.2.2	Speech acts: a closer look — 183	6.2.3	Classifying speech acts — 183
6.2.3	Classifying speech acts — 183	6.2.4	Realisations of speech acts: direct and indirect speech acts — 183
6.2.4	Realisations of speech acts: direct and indirect speech acts — 183	6.2.5	Performing speech acts successfully: felicity conditions — 184
6.2.5	Performing speech acts successfully: felicity conditions — 184	6.3	Understanding utterance meaning — 187
6.3	Understanding utterance meaning — 187	6.4	Exploring pragmatic principles — 200
6.4	Exploring pragmatic principles — 200	6.4.1	The Cooperative Principle — 200
6.4.1	The Cooperative Principle — 200	6.4.2	Polliteness — 207
6.4.2	Polliteness — 207	6.5	Conclusion — 211
6.5	Conclusion — 211		Further reading — 211
	Further reading — 211		Exercises — 212
	Exercises — 212		
7	Extensions and applications: historical linguistics, sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics — 225	7.1	Introduction — 225
7.1	Introduction — 225	7.2	Historical linguistics: how languages develop — 225
7.2	Historical linguistics: how languages develop — 225	7.3	Sociolinguistics: the social significance of language — 224
7.3	Sociolinguistics: the social significance of language — 224	7.4	Psycholinguistics: how do we store and process language? — 224
7.4	Psycholinguistics: how do we store and process language? — 224	7.5	Conclusion — 225
7.5	Conclusion — 225		Further reading — 225
	Further reading — 225		Exercises — 225
	Exercises — 225		
8	Linguistics as an empirical science — 227	8.1	Introduction — 227
8.1	Introduction — 227	8.2	How to do empirical research in linguistics — 227
8.2	How to do empirical research in linguistics — 227	8.3	A corpus-based study in morphology: which suffixes are the most frequent? — 241
8.3	A corpus-based study in morphology: which suffixes are the most frequent? — 241	8.4	Conclusion — 252
8.4	Conclusion — 252		Further reading — 252
	Further reading — 252		Exercises — 252
	Exercises — 252		