HUNGARIAN BOOKS ON LINGUISTICS

László Cseresnyési: Nyelvek és stratégiák, avagy a nyelv antropológiája [Languages and strategies, or, the anthropology of language]. Tinta Könyvkiadó, Budapest, 2004. 387 pp.

This is a handbook of sociolinguistics written for students and researchers who want to become immersed in the relevant literature. It covers all areas of research on language-and-society and includes a list of as many as 2810 references. A 'Glossary of sociolinguistic concepts' at the end of the book lists the English, German, French, Russian, Japanese and Chinese equivalents of approximately 300 Hungarian terms of sociolinguistics. In addition to Hungarian, English, and other oft-cited languages, several further — especially Asian — languages are mentioned, given that the author thinks that one cannot talk about the diversity and multifariousness of languages without actually mentioning large numbers of languages. As the Chinese saying goes: "He who wants to know what a pear tastes like will have to taste a pear."

Contents: 1. Principles and paradigms (How abstract is linguistics?; Linguistics as (almost) a natural science; Sociolinguistics: the birth of a paradigm?); 2. Codes, skills, and strategies (What is 'communicative competence'?; Linguistic politeness, formality, honorificness; Codes and manipulations; Speech, writing, and literacy); 3. Languages in language (Types of language varieties; Slang, jargon, argot; Male language, female language $(1+1=1)$; Linguistic variables, language change and speaker's age); 4. Facts and judgements (National norm: politics or aesthetics?; Norms, academies, laws; Puristic superstitions — in Hungary and with other nations; Linguistic awareness, linguistic value judgement); 5. Geolinguistics: languages of the world and world language (Language or dialect?; The demography of languages — and what surrounds it; Language and nation; "Important" languages, "equal" languages and the European Union); 6. Multilingualism, language planning, linguistic rights (Mother tongue, command of language, and a typology of bilingualism; Language planning, standardisation, koiné; Cold days on both sides of the border; Human rights and language-related rights); 7. Linguistic ecology: contacts and conflicts (Language contacts and integration; Pidgins and creoles; The life, death, and resurrection of languages); 8. Sign languages and artificial languages (Sign languages; Secret, imagined, and universal-philosophical languages; Artificial auxiliary languages and world language); Glossary of sociolinguistic concepts; Bibliography; Index of names and subjects.

Ferenc Kiefer: Lehetőség és szükségszerűség: Tanulmányok a nyelvi modalitás köréből [Possibility and necessity: Papers on linguistic modality]. Tinta Könyvkiadó, Budapest, 2005. 144 pp

The author is the most renowned Hungarian expert on modality; his papers on the topic are among the most valuable pieces of the international literature on issues of linguistic modality. In this volume, many ideas that first appeared in his papers on modality written in the past twenty-five years reappear in a unified framework; but

the material found here is more than a simple summary of earlier studies in at least two respects. First, the author has taken the recent literature, both in Hungary and abroad, into consideration: practically all theoretically relevant work that has been published in the past decades on modality has left its trace on the present book, especially its first chapter. And second, what is far more important, the analyses in the second, third, and fourth chapters rely heavily on the Hungarian National Text Corpus. What is new here, then, and not only within Ferenc Kiefer's oeuvre but also within the relvant international literature, is that the analyses are corpus-based. But the corpus has not only been used by the author in order to support his earlier ideas by real, rather than made up, examples: rather, it has made it possible for him to reveal novel, intriguing aspects of the topics discussed.

Contents: Introduction; 1. On the concept of modality; 2. The semantics of the modal suffix -hat/-het 'may' and of the modal auxiliary kell 'must'; 3. The semantics of the auxiliary tud 'can'; 4. Pragmatic aspects of modality; 5. Outlook; Literature; Index.

Christopher Piñón – Péter Siptár (eds): Approaches to Hungarian, Volume Nine: Papers from the Düsseldorf Conference. Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, 2005. 333 pp.

Volume nine of the series presents papers from the Sixth International Conference on the Structure of Hungarian (ICSH–6) held at Heinrich-Heine-Universität in Düsseldorf, Germany, on 12–13 September 2002.

The topics discussed include a conception of morphology in which every morpheme is treated as a lexical item; the behaviour of /j/, /v/, and /h/ with respect to voicing assimilation; an analysis of verbal particles in which their presence or absence is determined by the event structure of the sentence; two types of long-distance focus-raising in Hungarian; a new typology of question words in terms of Functional Grammar; problems for a purely stress-driven account of focus movement; an analysis of complex event nominals accounting for their striking clausal properties; various conversion phenomena in Hungarian; an analysis of the linking properties of nominalizations and participles in Lexical Functional Grammar; single and multiple wh-fronting; an optimality-theoretic analysis of the distribution and behaviour of H-type segments; the issue whether Hungarian has portmanteau agreement; and past tense suffixation discussed in terms of the principle of contrast and the principle of uniformity of paradigmetically related inflected forms.

Contents: Towards a totally lexicalist morphology (Gábor Alberti, Kata Balogh, Judit Kleiber and Anita Viszket); Another look at the misbehaving segments of Hungarian voicing assimilation (Sylvia Blaho); First steps towards a theory of the verbal particle (Katalin É. Kiss), Two strategies of focus-raising: movement and resumption (Judit Gervain); The typology of question words in Hungarian (Casper de Groot); Is "focus movement" driven by stress? (Julia Horvath); Nonfinite clauses in derived nominals (István Kenesei); Conversion in Hungarian (Ferenc Kiefer); Nominalization, participle formation, typology, and Lexical Mapping Theory (Tibor Laczkó); Triggering wh-fronting (Balázs Surányi); Hungarian H-type segments in Optimality Theory (Szilárd Szentgyörgyi and Péter Siptár); Hungarian has no portmanteau agreement (Jochen Trommer); Re-presenting the past: Contrast and uniformity in Hungarian past tense (Viktor Trón and Péter Rebrus); Contents of previous volumes; List of cases in Hungarian.