

The forty chapters follow a fairly typical order of topics. The alphabet (ch. 1) and first and second declension nouns (chs. 2–3) are quickly followed by the present active indicative and imperative (ch. 4). The third declension (chs. 8–9) is followed by various pronouns scattered over the following dozen chapters alternating with the future, imperfect, and aorist tenses (chs. 11–12), as well as middle and passive forms (chs. 14–16). Interestingly, participles (chs. 19–21) and contract verbs (chs. 24–26) are introduced before the perfect and pluperfect (chs. 27–29), and the μ -verbs (chs. 30–31)—often relegated to the last chapters of a textbook—come before the subjunctive and optative moods (chs. 32, 34). The final chapters of the book are devoted to the most important elements of Greek syntax, such as conditions (chs. 35–37) and the sequence of moods (ch. 40).

Turning to the physical book itself, the fonts are easy to read, and the wide margins and generous space around exercises provide room for annotations. I wonder if the paperback binding might fall apart, especially after repeated use by an instructor. There is also an ebook edition available, apparently.

Who will find this textbook the most helpful? Classics faculty at Christian liberal arts colleges—those in the same situation as Michael Boler—may find this the perfect textbook. I feel privileged that I began my own formal Greek studies with Classical Greek, and only after I had a reasonable facility with authors such as Xenophon did I turn to the Greek of the Bible, which I found refreshingly easy. I wish I had time to teach my own students Classical Greek first before turning to the later Koine, but I suspect that my fellow teachers in seminary or ministry-training contexts will find their students less tolerant of the niceties of Attic grammar when what they really want is to dive into the biblical text as quickly as possible.

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Evans, Vyvyan. 2019. *Cognitive Linguistics: A Complete Guide*. 2nd ed. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. 858 pp.

Over the last 30–40 years, the approach known as Cognitive Linguistics (CL) has expanded rapidly, led by a growing number of researchers.¹ The book under

¹ A personal note: As a graduate student at Berkeley in the mid-80s I got to experience some of the early work in cognitive linguistics firsthand: Charles Fillmore's *Frame Semantics* and his work with Paul Kay on early *Construction Grammar*; George Lakoff and Eve Sweetser's work on metaphor and categorization; Len Talmy on lexical semantics and typology; and John Ohala on phonological categorization. Because Evans refers to each of these scholars in his book, it has brought back much of that early excitement and given me a renewed appreciation for developments in the field since then.

review is based on a volume with a similar title, co-authored by Vyvyan Evans and Melanie Green.

Evans presents the major proposals within all the subfields of CL. He has achieved his goal to “map out the cognitive linguistics enterprise from a number of perspectives, beginning with the most general perspective and gradually focusing on more specific issues and areas” (p. 2). The clarity of the explanations and the careful organization of a large amount of material make this bulky volume especially useful. Each chapter concludes with a summary, an annotated list of references for reading in the primary literature, and discussion questions.

The theories that fall under the umbrella of CL are also included in the larger set of functional theories of language, theories that treat language use and the communication situation as shapers of linguistic form. CL shares this perspective but adds a strong claim for a direct tie between conceptual and linguistic structures.

Evans has written a wide-ranging introduction to work in CL that should be of interest both to scholars as well as students new to linguistics. The book has thirty chapters grouped into five parts.

Part I gives a general introduction and overview to CL. Early on, Evans presents the two “key commitments” of CL as defined by George Lakoff over thirty years ago: the “Generalization Commitment” and the “Cognitive commitment.” These commitments appear throughout the book as motivations for analyses. Most would argue that generative linguistics also has a generalization commitment, a feature of any scientific enterprise. However, the generative approach limits generalizations to those that can be captured within formal systems and it assumes language processing is due to a specialized mental component. The key difference for CL is the addition of the cognitive commitment which assumes language processing directly reflects general cognitive principles.

Part II, “Conceptual Structure,” introduces some of the best-known elements of CL: image-schemas, Idealized Cognitive Models, and Conceptual Metaphor. The same topics appear again in Part III, “Semantic Structure.” Such repetition is a natural result of CL’s insistence that semantic structure reflects conceptual structure.

Part III presents the role of encyclopedic information in CL semantics and introduces Charles Fillmore’s Frame Semantics and Ronald Langacker’s notion of “domains.” Fillmore uses “frame” to refer to the prototypical scenario evoked by a word. Knowing what the word means involves knowing the structure of experience associated with it. In formal theories, such aspects of encyclopedic meaning typically come into play in pragmatics, rather than semantics, a point I will return to later.

The same section includes an introduction to network relations among semantic units, with discussion of polysemy and Lakoff’s radial categories. Evans then presents a further development, based on some of his own work, which he calls Access Semantics. It shares the basic features of CL semantics but “also provides

a methodological framework for conducting semantic analysis of lexical concepts" (p. 471).

The last two chapters of Part III provide a clear summary of Gilles Fauconnier's work on "mental spaces" and "blends" from the 1990s to the present. Unlike the mapping in metaphor between conventional domains, mental spaces are constructed in the very process of understanding. In understanding a discourse, the listener uses sentences with underspecified semantics to construct mental spaces that are linked by properties, events, anaphora, etc. "Hence, meaning construction is a dynamic process, and is inseparable from context" (p. 523).

Evans presents later work by Fauconnier and Mark Turner expanding the idea of mental spaces to include "conceptual integrations" or "blends." In such constructions, understanding requires the combination of two or more spaces, resulting in a blended space that emerges in the act of interpretation.

Evans begins part IV, "Grammar," by providing a short but clear presentation of assumptions in standard generative grammar as a point of contrast with two of the major theories within CL: Cognitive Grammar and Construction Grammar. The former was initially developed by Langacker and the latter got its start with Fillmore and Paul Kay. Both approaches treat constructions as basic units of grammar, in contrast to formal syntax which considers constructions to be simply epiphenomenal results of rules and constraints.

In his introduction to Langacker's *Cognitive Grammar*, Evans devotes chapters to categories of the lexicon and of grammatical constructions. Like most categories in CL they are based on semantics and conceptual structure and are prototypical rather than classical categories.

For Construction Grammar, Evans reviews the seminal studies by Fillmore and colleagues of the "Let alone" and the "What's X doing Y" constructions in English. Such irregular constructions are typically ignored in formal approaches that focus on what is considered "core grammar." However, work by Adele Goldberg has demonstrated the importance of Construction Grammar in the analysis of the core ("normal" constructions) such as argument structure and transitivity, as Evans shows.

Evans closes Part IV by reviewing CL approaches to evolutionary change in language, including grammaticalization, metaphor extension and general semantic change.

In Part V, "Applications and extensions of CL," Evans reviews CL approaches to society and social behavior by Croft and by Herder, the study of narrative and literature, drawing especially on work by Len Talmy and Mark Turner, and closes with a discussion of gesture and sign language as their study is enriched by CL.

The book has a fair amount of repetition for two good reasons: it is aimed at an audience that includes those new to the field, and several issues are relevant in more than one section. Other than handbooks, I know of no other volume

that covers so much of CL so well, especially for readers new to the field. However, some of those readers may come away mistaken, thinking that linguists in formal theories have no way of accounting for the processing of encyclopedic information, metaphor, figures of speech, and other special forms. Relevance Theory and other post-Gricean approaches in pragmatics specifically address such issues as they try to account for the processes the listener follows from a spare syntactically-driven formal semantics to a full interpretation of the speaker's meaning. CL and formal approaches differ on where one draws the line between semantics and pragmatics—or whether such a line should be drawn at all. But there is also a deeper debate of the relation between conceptual structure and linguistic form. Evans has done a remarkable job of presenting CL's "cognitive commitment" to relate linguistic structure to general cognitive principles.

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Everett, Daniel L. *How Language Began: The Story of Humanity's Greatest Invention*. New York: Liveright Publishing Corporation, 2017. 330 pp.

This is an ambitious book that gives an account of the origin of human language from an evolutionary perspective. Daniel Everett teaches Cognitive Science at Bentley University and has published extensively, building on decades of linguistic field work. *How Language Began* is aimed at marking the inauguration of human language but it also offers a sweeping view of language itself.

Everett argues that language is a "culturally acquired invention" which began around two million years ago with *Homo erectus* (p. 160). There are two major distinctives here. First, this means that language is not hard-wired in the human brain and, second, this means that language is much older than is commonly thought. Noam Chomsky is the most visible target throughout *How Language Began*, but Everett tackles an assortment of scholars and positions.

The book has four sections. Part One situates Everett's theory of language origins within his take on the story of human evolution. Part Two focuses on the biological enabling of language. Part Three offers a description of how grammar and gesture fit into his picture of language and its origins. It may seem odd to have an entire chapter on gesture, but this is crucial for Everett's "holistic and multimodal" view of language (p. 230). Part Four explores the inherent connectedness of language and culture as Everett believes this provides a better explanation for the phenomena of language than cerebral hard-wiring.

At the centre of this debate is the definition of language itself. Everett centers his interpretation on communication while arguing that the Chomskyan view