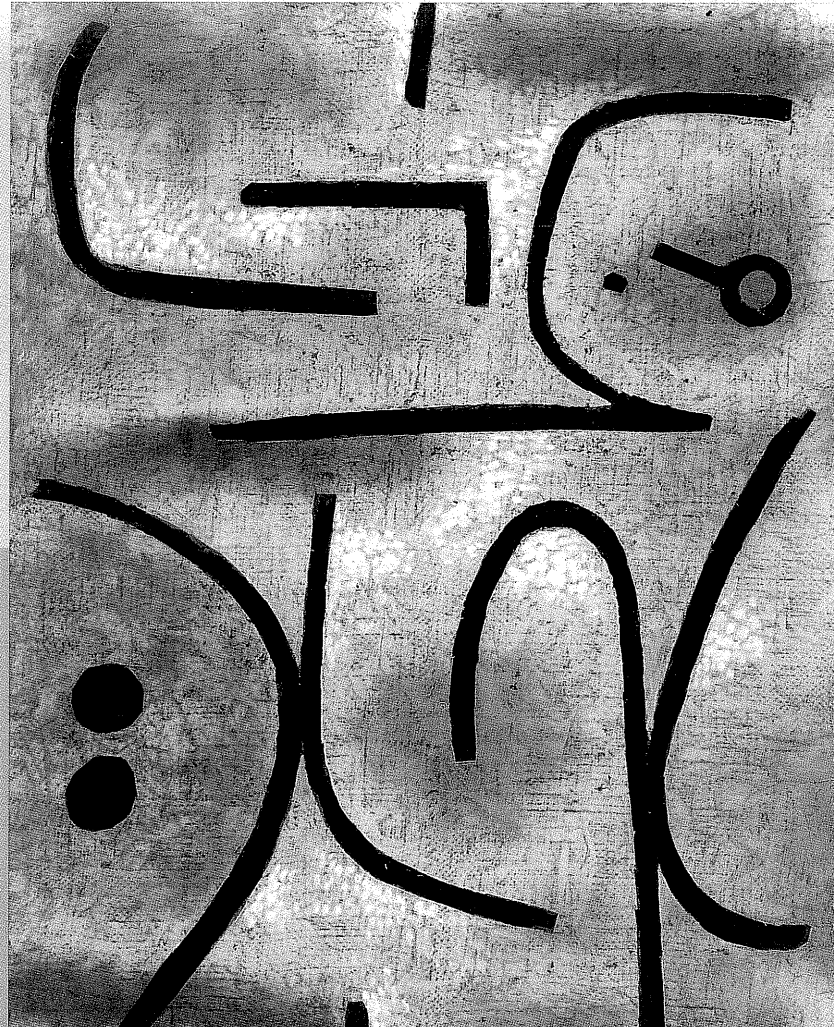


# *Semantics in Generative Grammar*



*Irene Heim &  
Angelika Kratzer*

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Irene Heim and Angelika Kratzer

Massachusetts Institute of Technology and  
University of Massachusetts at Amherst

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## Preface

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This book is an introduction to the craft of doing formal semantics for linguists. It is not an overview of the field and its current developments. The many recent handbooks provide just that. We want to help students develop the ability for semantic analysis, and, in view of this goal, we think that exploring a few topics in detail is more effective than offering a bird's-eye view of everything. We also believe that foundational and philosophical matters can be better discussed once students have been initiated into the practice of semantic argumentation. This is why our first chapter is so short. We dive right in.

The students for whom we created the lectures on which this book is based were graduate or advanced undergraduate students of linguistics who had already had a basic introduction to some formal theory of syntax and had a first understanding of the division of labor between semantics and pragmatics. Not all of them had had an introduction to logic or set theory. If necessary, we filled in gaps in formal background with the help of other books.

We learned our craft from our teachers, students, and colleagues. While working on this book, we were nurtured by our families and friends. Paul Hirschbühler, Molly Diesing, Kai von Fintel, Jim Higginbotham, the students in our classes, and reviewers whose names we don't know gave us generous comments we could use. The staff of Blackwell Publishers helped us to turn lecture notes we passed back and forth between the two of us into a book. We thank them all.

Irene Heim and Angelika Kratzer  
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