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Holistic Discourse Analysis, Second Edition

By Robert E. Longacre

SIL International, Global Publishing. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 264 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 5.9in. x 0.6in. The central idea of this volume is the insistence that the structure of a part of a text must be explained in light of the structure of the whole. This needs to be repeated anew to every generation of linguistics students as a warning against analytic nearsightedness—the fixation on parts of a text without regard to the whole. Holistic Discourse Analysis is not a plea to abandon the analysis of lower levels of grammar, but to enrich the study of them by putting them in broader perspective. The book addresses discourse analysis and its purpose, text typology, and constituent-based charting with an analysis of a story in terms of peak and profile. It discusses functions of different verb types and their tense/aspect/modality, of noun phrases, and of clause combining in discourse. It includes a chapter with a layman's introduction to discourse analysis, and another with ways to represent combinations of sentences in a paragraph. The last three chapters deal with nonnarrative discourses: procedural, hortatory, and expository. This Second Edition has significantly improved the usability of the volume by employing color-coding in illustrative texts so...



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