



**The Communicative Mind: A Linguistic
Exploration of Conceptual Integration and
Meaning Construction (English, Spanish, French,
Italian, German, Japanese, Chinese, Hindi and
Korean Edition)**

Line Brandt

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Integrating research in Linguistics, Philosophy, Semiotics, Experimental Psychology, and Literary Studies, *The Communicative Mind* presents a thought provoking and multifaceted investigation into linguistic meaning construction. It explores the various ways in which the intersubjectivity of communicating interactants manifests itself in language structure and use and argues for the indispensability of dialogue as a semantic resource in cognition. The view of the mind as highly conditioned by the domain of interpersonal communication is supported by an extensive range of empirical linguistic data from fiction, poetry and written and spoken everyday language, including rhetorically creative metaphors and metonymies. The author introduces Cognitive Linguistics to the notion of enunciation, which refers to the situated act of language use, and demonstrates the centrality of subjectivity and turn-taking interaction in natural semantics. The theoretical framework presented takes contextual relevance, viewpoint shifts, dynamicity, and the introduction into discourse of elements with no real-world counterparts (subjective motion, fictivity and other forms of nonactuality) to be vital components in the construction of meaning. The book engages the reader in critical discussions of cognitive-linguistic approaches to semantic construal and addresses the philosophical implications of the identified strengths and limitations. Among the theoretical advances in the cognitive humanities is Fauconnier and Turner's theory of conceptual integration of mental spaces which has proved widely influential in Cognitive Poetics and Linguistics, offering a philosophy of language bridging the gap between pragmatics and semantics. With its constructive criticism of the general mechanism hypothesis, according to which the theory can explain everything from the origin of language to binding in perception, Brandt's book brings the scope and applicability of Conceptual Integration Theory into the arena of scientific debate.

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