

Introduction

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This volume brings together nineteen contributions that map the current state of phraseological research across a wide range of languages, theoretical frameworks, and methodological approaches. The volume is organized into five thematic sections, each reflecting a distinct, yet interconnected dimension of phraseology as a discipline.

The first section, *Constructional Idioms and Phraseology*, is devoted to the intersection of Construction Grammar and phraseological theory. It includes contributions examining partially or fully fixed constructions, whose meaning cannot be derived compositionally from their parts. **Maricel Esteban-Fonollosa and Herbert J. Holzinger** analyze the German construction [*alles andere als* X] and its Spanish equivalents, shedding light on the mechanisms of intensifying negation and the behaviour of slot fillers. **Pedro Ivorra Ordines and Ana Mansilla Pérez** adopt a corpus-based approach to study WhIAW (e.g., *¿Qué cojones haces aquí?*) constructional idioms in Spanish and German, exploring their pragmatic functions and the typology of vulgar, euphemistic, and creative slot fillers. **Nely M. Iglesias Iglesias** examines hyperbolic expressions of laughter in German and Spanish, i.e., constructions such as [*sich vor Lachen* V] and [V *de (la) risa*], tracing the crosslinguistic preferences for reflexive verbs and embodied conceptualizations of affect. **Larissa Naiditch and Anna Pavlova** round

off this section with a detailed analysis of Russian phraseme constructions based on the pattern independent infinitive + dative noun, focusing on their semantics, pragmatics, and morphology.

The second section, *Metaphor and Metonymy in Phraseology*, explores the cognitive mechanisms underlying figurative language. **Silvia Cataldo** offers a classification of Spanish verbal phraseological units containing the noun *cabeza*, proposing a cline from purely metaphorical to purely metonymic expressions, with a range of intermediate stages. **Azra Hodžić-Čavkić** investigates the role of genitive prepositions — particularly *od* ('from'/'of') — in Bosnian idiomatic constructions, showing how spatial separation serves as a conceptual basis for abstract meanings through the metaphor ABSTRACT IS CONCRETE. **Nicole Mazzetto** focuses on the synchronic motivation of French idioms. She assesses the extent to which polysemy functions as a motivational device by comparing the responses of native French speakers with those of Italian speakers unfamiliar with French through a qualitative questionnaire.

The third section, *Pragmatics and Discourse Markers*, addresses phraseological units that perform functions beyond the propositional content of utterances. **Paola Maria Cotta Ramusino and Anna Pavlova** examine the role of proper names in phraseological constructions, highlighting their referential, metaphorical, and symbolic dimensions as well as their contribution to the expressive power of phrasemes. **Mélody Rodríguez Cebrián** analyzes 40 informative pragmatemes in French and Spanish (such as *chien méchant* / *perro peligroso*). She identifies two primary illocutionary acts (representative and directive) and shows how cultural references may diverge even between typologically close languages. **Martine Dalmas** investigates nominal operators in German and French of the type NP/N + utterance constructions (e.g., conclusion: ...), arguing that their left-peripheral position and prosodic marking confer on them the status of discourse markers through a process of pragmaticalization. **Alicia Silvestre Miralles** focuses on the Spanish expression (*que*) *es/era broma* ('just kidding'), analyzing its degree of formal fixation, its discourse position, and its mitigating function, and discussing whether it can be classified as a discourse marker.

The fourth section, *Diachronic Phraseology and Variation*, brings together contributions that privilege a historical and/or variational perspective. **Wolfgang Mieder** reconstructs the transatlantic dimension of Karl Friedrich Wilhelm Wander's *Deutsches Sprichwörter-Lexikon*, tracing the collector's sustained engagement with American proverb traditions and, in particular, with Benjamin Franklin's *Poor Richard's Almanack*. **Hrisztalina Hrisztova-Gotthardt and Zoltán Gotthardt** address the theoretical and practical challenges of documenting intralingual and interlingual proverb relations, including variants, modifications, and equivalents, and illustrate how so-called proverb families can be constructed in a multilingual database. **Martin Braxatoris and Anita Braxatorisová** examine a German-language egodocument of Slovak

provenance written by Samuel Ferjenčík in the nineteenth century. They draw on Conventional Figurative Language Theory to analyze the author's deliberate selection and modification of phraseological units. **Irene Simonsen** conducts a diachronic corpus analysis of the Danish phrase *vi er et helt andet sted i dag* ('we are in a completely different place today'), documenting its rise in organizational crisis communication from 2010 onwards and its subsequent conventionalization as a cliché within an ironic meta-discourse. **Tamás Forgács** closes the section with a systematic taxonomy of variant formation in Phraseology from a linguistic-historical perspective, illustrating with Hungarian and German examples the most recurrent types of phraseological changes: component replacement, addition or omission of components, structural-type shifts (such as the shortening of a proverb into an embeddable phraseme or, conversely, the expansion of a phraseme into a proverb) and changes in word order, especially in twin forms.

The fifth and final section, *Phraseology in Texts and Genres*, investigates the role of phraseological units in specific communicative contexts. **Saša Bjelobaba and Lidija Orešković Dvorski** examine domain-specific political phraseological units in English, French, and Italian. They analyze borrowing tendencies and propose a classification of phraseological equivalents based on idiomaticity, compositionality, and the level of equivalence of individual components across the three languages. **Tiziana Roncoroni** investigates idiomatic expressions in Erich Kästner's *Emil und die Detektive* (1929), demonstrating how feigned orality and sociolectal features are constructed through the deliberate use of colloquial and jargon-like phrasemes. **Luisa Giacomini** presents materials from the research project "WaLys Isole di cultura", devoted to the documentation of idioms in Titsch and Töitschu, the two variants of Walserdeutsch spoken in the Lys Valley (Aosta), arguing that idioms serve as privileged repositories of the linguistic and cultural heritage of this endangered Alpine community.

Together, these contributions testify to the vitality and breadth of contemporary phraseology. They cover a wide spectrum of languages, from the major European ones to minority and endangered varieties, and draw on diverse methodologies, from corpus linguistics and cognitive semantics to historical philology and ethnolinguistics. The volume as a whole reflects a discipline that is increasingly attentive to the dynamic interplay between form, meaning, use, and cultural memory in the study of formulaic language.