

# Semantic Theory

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*Semantics : Primes and Universals* - Anna Wierzbicka  
1996-03-28

This book provides a synthesis of Wierzbicka's theory of meaning, which is based on conceptual primitives and semantic universals, using empirical findings from a wide range of languages. While addressed primarily to linguists, the book deals with highly topical and controversial issues of central importance to several disciplines, including anthropology, psychology, and philosophy. - ;Conceptual primitives and semantic

universals are the cornerstones of a semantic theory which Anna Wierzbicka has been developing for many years.

*Semantics: Primes and Universals* is a major synthesis of her work, presenting a full and systematic exposition of that theory in a non-technical and readable way. It delineates a full set of universal concepts, as they have emerged from large-scale investigations across a wide range of languages undertaken by the author and her colleagues. On the basis of empirical cross-linguistic studies it vindicates

the old notion of the 'psychic unity of mankind', while at the same time offering a framework for the rigorous description of different languages and cultures. - ;A major synthesis of Anna Wierzbicka's work -

### **Semantic Perception Theory**

- Kekang He 2019-11-26

Based on an in-depth study of children's language development theory, this book puts forward the original proposition that semantic perception is the human sixth sense. Presenting a detailed, complete, and scientific argumentation, it asserts that the innateness of semantic perception has a physiological basis and that language acquisition is based on semantic perception, and proposes the idea of a critical period of nurture and language growth. To this end, the book not only contrasts children's language acquisition processes and the process of adult speech generation and comprehension, but also discusses the ability to read and write, describing this important stage of children's

language development and analyzing semantic perception. Focusing on education and psychology, it also discusses the use of semantic perception theory to instruct teaching and learning. This book is a valuable resource for teachers, researchers, practitioners and graduate students in the fields of educational technology, child development and language learning, as well as anyone interested in children's language development.

### **Pauline Hamartiology: Conceptualisation and Transferences**

- Steffi Fabricius 2018-11-22

The understanding of Pauline sin as an action, a personification, and as a power is overturned by the application of cognitive semantic theories. In this work, Steffi Fabricius reveals a metaphoric-ontological thinking of Paul which conveys the ontological effectivity and actuality of metaphors.

*The Meaning of Nouns* -  
Kaunḍabhaṭṭa 2007

The Present Book Is A Heavily Annotated Translation Of The

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Namartha-Nirnaya Section Of Kaundabhatta'S Vaiyakarana-Bhushana, With An Extensive Introduction. While There Are Several Books That Discuss Indian Semantic Theories In General Terms, This Book Belongs To A Small Class Of Intensive, Focused Studies Of Densely Written Philosophical Texts Which Examine Each Argument In Its Historical And Philosophical Context. It Is Of Interest To All Students Of Philosophy Of Language In General, And To Students Of Indian Philosophy In Particular.

**Language and Meaning in Cognitive Science** - Andy Clark

2012-11-12

Summarizes and illuminates two decades of research. Gathering important papers by both philosophers and scientists, this collection illuminates the central themes that have arisen during the last two decades of work on the conceptual foundations of artificial intelligence and cognitive science. Each volume begins with a comprehensive introduction that places the coverage in a broader

perspective and links it with material in the companion volumes. The collection is of interest in many disciplines including computer science, linguistics, biology, information science, psychology, neuroscience, iconography, and philosophy. Examines initial efforts and the latest controversies. The topics covered range from the bedrock assumptions of the computational approach to understanding the mind, to the more recent debates concerning cognitive architectures, all the way to the latest developments in robotics, artificial life, and dynamical systems theory. The collection first examines the lineage of major research programs, beginning with the basic idea of machine intelligence itself, then focuses on specific aspects of thought and intelligence, highlighting the much-discussed issue of consciousness, the equally important, but less densely researched issue of emotional response, and the more traditionally philosophical topic

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of language and meaning. Provides a gamut of perspectives The editors have included several articles that challenge crucial elements of the familiar research program of cognitive science, as well as important writings whose previous circulation has been limited. Within each volume the papers are organized to reflect a variety of research programs and issues. The substantive introductions that accompany each volume further organize the material and provide readers with a working sense of the issues and the connection between articles.

Knowledge of Meaning - Richard K. Larson 1995-09-23 Current textbooks in formal semantics are all versions of, or introductions to, the same paradigm in semantic theory: Montague Grammar. Knowledge of Meaning is based on different assumptions and a different history. It provides the only introduction to truth-theoretic semantics for natural languages, fully integrating semantic theory into the

modern Chomskyan program in linguistic theory and connecting linguistic semantics to research elsewhere in cognitive psychology and philosophy. As such, it better fits into a modern graduate or undergraduate program in linguistics, cognitive science, or philosophy. Furthermore, since the technical tools it employs are much simpler to teach and to master, Knowledge of Meaning can be taught by someone who is not primarily a semanticist. Linguistic semantics cannot be studied as a stand-alone subject but only as part of cognitive psychology, the authors assert. It is the study of a particular human cognitive competence governing the meanings of words and phrases. Larson and Segal argue that speakers have unconscious knowledge of the semantic rules of their language, and they present concrete, empirically motivated proposals about a formal theory of this competence based on the work of Alfred Tarski and Donald Davidson.

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The theory is extended to a wide range of constructions occurring in natural language, including predicates, proper nouns, pronouns and demonstratives, quantifiers, definite descriptions, anaphoric expressions, clausal complements, and adverbs. Knowledge of Meaning gives equal weight to philosophical, empirical, and formal discussions. It addresses not only the empirical issues of linguistic semantics but also its fundamental conceptual questions, including the relation of truth to meaning and the methodology of semantic theorizing. Numerous exercises are included in the book.

**Semantics Versus Pragmatics** - Zoltan Gendler Szabo 2005-01-06

This is a collection of papers by leading scholars in the philosophy of language and theoretical linguistics on how semantics and pragmatics embed into a larger theory of interpretation and also on the disputed territories between these disciplines.

Significance in Language - Jim Feist 2022-04-20

This book offers a unique perspective on meaning in language, broadening the scope of existing understanding of meaning by introducing a comprehensive and cohesive account of meaning that draws on a wide range of linguistic approaches. The volume seeks to build up a complete picture of what meaning is, different types of meaning, and different ways of structuring the same meaning across myriad forms and varieties of language across such domains, such as everyday speech, advertising, humour, and academic writing. Supported by data from psycholinguistic and neurolinguistic research, the book combines different approaches from scholarship in semantics, including formalist, structuralist, cognitive, functionalist, and semiotics to demonstrate the ways in which meaning is expressed in words but also in word order and intonation. The book argues for a revised conceptualisation of

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meaning toward presenting a new perspective on semantics and its wider study in language and linguistic research. This book will appeal to scholars interested in meaning in language in such fields as linguistics, semantics, and semiotics.

*A Semantic Theory of the English Auxiliary System* -  
Erich F. Woisetschlaeger 1976

### **The Geometry of Meaning** -

Peter Gardenfors 2017-02-24

A novel cognitive theory of semantics that proposes that the meanings of words can be described in terms of geometric structures. In *The Geometry of Meaning*, Peter Gärdenfors proposes a theory of semantics that bridges cognitive science and linguistics and shows how theories of cognitive processes, in particular concept formation, can be exploited in a general semantic model. He argues that our minds organize the information involved in communicative acts in a format that can be modeled in geometric or topological

terms—in what he terms conceptual spaces, extending the theory he presented in an earlier book by that name. Many semantic theories consider the meanings of words as relatively stable and independent of the communicative context. Gärdenfors focuses instead on how various forms of communication establish a system of meanings that becomes shared between interlocutors. He argues that these “meetings of mind” depend on the underlying geometric structures, and that these structures facilitate language learning. Turning to lexical semantics, Gärdenfors argues that a unified theory of word meaning can be developed by using conceptual spaces. He shows that the meaning of different word classes can be given a cognitive grounding, and offers semantic analyses of nouns, adjectives, verbs, and prepositions. He also presents models of how the meanings of words are composed to form new meanings and of the basic

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semantic role of sentences. Finally, he considers the future implications of his theory for robot semantics and the Semantic Web.

Current Advances in Semantic Theory - Maksim Stamenov 1992

This volume contains selected contributions to the interdisciplinary symposium on 'Models of Meaning' held in Varna, September 25-28, 1988, under the auspices of the Institute of the Bulgarian Language of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The aim of the meeting was to broaden the horizons of meaning research and the modeling of linguistic semantics, with contributions centering on the appropriate modeling of lexical, syntactic, and textual-semantic representations. The papers challenge some basic notions of semantics and reveal two main avenues of development in contemporary investigations. One is toward broadening the scope of investigativeness, the second is toward a greater domain-specificity as expressed in a

greater sensitivity to pragmatics and meta-pragmatic concerns.

Formal Theories of Information

- Giovanni Sommaruga 2009-04-22

This book presents the scientific outcome of a joint effort of the computer science departments of the universities of Berne, Fribourg and Neuchâtel. Within an initiative devoted to "Information and Knowledge", these research groups collaborated over several years on issues of logic, probability, inference, and deduction. The goal of this volume is to examine whether there is any common ground between the different approaches to the concept of information. The structure of this book could be represented by a circular model, with an innermost syntactical circle, comprising statistical and algorithmic approaches; a second, larger circle, the semantical one, in which "meaning" enters the stage; and finally an outermost circle, the pragmatic one, casting light on real-life logical

reasoning. These articles are complemented by two philosophical contributions exploring the wide conceptual field as well as taking stock of the articles on the various formal theories of information. *Knowledge of Meaning* - Richard K. Larson 1995 Many textbooks in formal semantics are all versions of, or introductions to, the same paradigm in semantic theory: Montague Grammar. Knowledge of Meaning is based on different assumptions and a different history. It provides the only introduction to truth-theoretic semantics for natural languages, fully integrating semantic theory into the modern Chomskyan programme in linguistic theory and connecting linguistic semantics to research elsewhere in cognitive psychology and philosophy. As such, it better fits into a modern graduate or undergraduate programme in linguistics, cognitive science, or philosophy. Furthermore, since the technical tools it employs are much simpler to

teach and to master, Knowledge of Meaning can be taught by someone who is not primarily a semanticist. *Knowledge of Meaning* - Richard K. Larson 1995 This text provides an introduction to the field of truth-theoretic semantics for natural languages. It integrates semantic theory into the modern Chomskyan programme in linguistic theory and connects linguistic semantics to research elsewhere in cognitive psychology and philosophy. [Outline of a semantic theory of Kernel sentences](#) - Emanuel Vasiliu 2018-02-19

**Semantics and Truth** - Jan Woleński 2020-01-01

The book provides a historical (with an outline of the history of the concept of truth from antiquity to our time) and systematic exposition of the semantic theory of truth formulated by Alfred Tarski in the 1930s. This theory became famous very soon and inspired logicians and philosophers. It has two different, but

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interconnected aspects: formal-logical and philosophical. The book deals with both, but it is intended mostly as a philosophical monograph. It explains Tarski's motivation and presents discussions about his ideas (pro and contra) as well as points out various applications of the semantic theory of truth to philosophical problems (truth-criteria, realism and anti-realism, future contingents or the concept of correspondence between language and reality).

*Semantic Theory* - Jerrold J. Katz 1972

**Language and Meaning in Cognitive Science** - Josefa Toribio 1998

First Published in 1998. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

**Theories of Lexical Semantics** - Dirk Geeraerts 2010

This text provides an introduction to the history and current state of theories of word meanings.

**Explorations in Semantic**

**Theory** - Uriel Weinreich 2014-11-21

**The Handbook of Contemporary Semantic Theory** - Shalom Lappin 2019-02-12

The second edition of The Handbook of Contemporary Semantic Theory presents a comprehensive introduction to cutting-edge research in contemporary theoretical and computational semantics. Features completely new content from the first edition of

The Handbook of Contemporary Semantic Theory Features contributions by leading semanticists, who introduce core areas of contemporary semantic research, while discussing current research Suitable for graduate students for courses in semantic theory and for advanced researchers as an introduction to current theoretical work

*Semantic Theories in Europe, 1830-1930* - Brigitte Nerlich 1992

It is widely believed by historians of linguistics that the

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19th-century was largely devoted to historical and comparative studies, with the main emphasis on the discovery of soundlaws. Syntax is typically portrayed as a mere sideline of these studies, while semantics is seldom even mentioned. If it comes into view at all, it is usually assumed to have been confined to diachronic lexical semantics and the construction of some (mostly ill-conceived) typologies of semantic change. This book aims to destroy some of these prejudices and to show that in Europe semantics was an important, although controversial, area at that time. Synchronic mechanisms of semantic change were discovered and increasing attention was paid to the context of the sentence, to the speech situation and the users of the language. From being a 'semantics of transformations', a child of the biological-geological paradigm of historical linguistics with its close links to etymology and lexicography, the field matured into a semantics of

comprehension and communication, set within a general linguistics and closely related to the emerging fields of psychology and sociology.

*Semantic and Lexical Universals* - Cliff Goddard  
1994-01-01

This set of papers represents a unique collection; it is the first attempt ever to empirically test a hypothetical set of semantic and lexical universals across a number of genetically and typologically diverse languages. In fact the word 'collection' is not fully appropriate in this case, since the papers report research undertaken specifically for the present volume, and shaped by the same guidelines. They constitute parallel and strictly comparable answers to the same set of questions, coordinated effort with a common aim, and a common methodology. The goal of identifying the universal human concepts found in all languages, is of fundamental importance, both from a theoretical and a practical point of view, since these

concepts provide the basis of the psychic unity of mankind, underlying the clearly visible diversity of human cultures. They also allow us to better understand that diversity itself, because they provide a common measure, without which no precise and meaningful comparisons are possible at all. A set of truly universal (or even near-universal) concepts can provide us with an invaluable tool for interpreting, and explaining all the culture-specific meanings encoded in the language-and-culture systems of the world. It can also provide us with a tool for explaining meanings across cultures in education, business, trade, international relations, and so on. The book contains 13 chapters on individual languages including Japanese (by Masayuki Onishi), Chinese (by Hilary Chappel), Thai (by Anthony Diller), Ewe (Africa, by Felix Ameka), Miskitu languages of South America (by Kenneth Hall), Australian Aboriginal languages Aranda, Yankunytjatjara and Kayardild (by Jean Harkins & David

Wilkins, Cliff Goddard, and Nicholas Evans), the Austronesian languages Samoan, Longgu, Acehnese and Mangap-Mbula (by Ulrike Mosel, Deborah Hill, Mark Durie and Robert Bugenhagen), the Papuan language Kalam (by Andrew Pawley), and, last but not least French (by Bert Peters). In addition to the chapters on individual languages the book includes three theoretical chapters; Semantic theory and semantic universals (by Goddard), Introducing lexical primitives (by Goddard and Wierzbicka), and Semantic primitives across languages: a critical review (by Wierzbicka).  
**Semantic Theory** - Ruth M. Kempson 1977-09-15  
An introduction to the central topics of linguistic semantics and the philosophy of language, assuming no special knowledge of philosophy or logic.  
*Applicational Grammar as a Semantic Theory of Natural Language* - Sebastian Shaumyan 1977

## **Language and scientific explanation** - Eran Asoulin

2020-06-19

This book discusses the two main construals of the explanatory goals of semantic theories. The first, externalist conception, understands semantic theories in terms of a hermeneutic and interpretive explanatory project. The second, internalist conception, understands semantic theories in terms of the psychological mechanisms in virtue of which meanings are generated. It is argued that a fruitful scientific explanation is one that aims to uncover the underlying mechanisms in virtue of which the observable phenomena are made possible, and that a scientific semantics should be doing just that. If this is the case, then a scientific semantics is unlikely to be externalist, for reasons having to do with the subject matter and form of externalist theories. It is argued that semantics construed hermeneutically is nevertheless a valuable explanatory project.

### **Semantic IoT: Theory and**

## **Applications** - Rajiv Pandey

2021-04-12

This book is focused on an emerging area, i.e. combination of IoT and semantic technologies, which should enable breaking the silos of local and/or domain-specific IoT deployments. Taking into account the way that IoT ecosystems are realized, several challenges can be identified. Among them of definite importance are (this list is, obviously, not exhaustive): (i) How to provide common representation and/or shared understanding of data that will enable analysis across (systematically growing) ecosystems? (ii) How to build ecosystems based on data flows? (iii) How to track data provenance? (iv) How to ensure/manage trust? (v) How to search for things/data within ecosystems? (vi) How to store data and assure its quality? Semantic technologies are often considered among the possible ways of addressing these (and other, related) questions. More precisely, in academic research and in

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industrial practice, semantic technologies materialize in the following contexts (this list is, also, not exhaustive, but indicates the breadth of scope of semantic technology usability): (i) representation of artefacts in IoT ecosystems and IoT networks, (ii) providing interoperability between heterogeneous IoT artefacts, (iii) representation of provenance information, enabling provenance tracking, trust establishment, and quality assessment, (iv) semantic search, enabling flexible access to data originating in different places across the ecosystem, (v) flexible storage of heterogeneous data. Finally, Semantic Web, Web of Things, and Linked Open Data are architectural paradigms, with which the aforementioned solutions are to be integrated, to provide production-ready deployments.

**Semiotic Principles in Semantic Theory** - Neal R. Norrick 1981-01-01

This study represents a contribution to the theory of

meaning in natural language. It proposes a semantic theory containing a set of regular relational principles. These principles enable semantic theory to describe connections from the lexical reading of a word to its figurative contextual reading, from one variant reading of a polysemous lexical item to another, from the idiomatic to its literal reading or to the literal reading(s) of one or more of its component lexical items. Semiotic theory provides a foundation by supplying principles defining motivated expression-content relations for signs generally. The author argues that regular semantic relational principles must derive from such semiotic principles, to ensure the psychological reality and generality of the semantic principles.

**The Semantic Theory of Evolution** - Marcello Barbieri 2019-06-11

Originally published in 1985, The Semantic Theory of Evolution addresses the notion that life is not shaped by the

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single law of natural selection, but instead by a plurality of laws that resemble grammatical rules in language. This remarkable work presents a semantic theory centering on the concept of the ribotype. Supported by both sound facts and logical arguments, this analysis reaches beyond the established cadre of biological thought to unravel many of life's mysteries and paradoxes, including the origin of the cell and the nucleus and the evolution of ribosomes.

**The Meaning of Meaning** - C. K Ogden 1989

**A theory of structural semantics** - Samuel Abraham 2018-12-03

*Semantics* - John I. Saeed 2015-08-04  
Revised and updated to reflect recent theoretical developments in the field, *Semantics*, 4th Edition, presents an engaging and accessible introduction to the study of meaning in language for students new to the field of semantics. Covers all of the

basic concepts and methods of the field of semantics, as well as some of the most important contemporary lines of research. Features a series of new exercises, along with their solutions, that are arranged by level of difficulty. Addresses componential theory, formal semantics, and cognitive semantics, the three main current theoretical approaches to semantics. Includes revisions and updates that reflect the most recent theoretical developments.

Semantic Theory - Ruth M. Kempson 1977

Semantics - Theories - Claudia Maienborn 2019-02-19  
Now in paperback for the first time since its original publication, the material gathered here is perfect for anyone who needs a detailed and accessible introduction to the important semantic theories. Designed for a wide audience, it will be of great value to linguists, cognitive scientists, philosophers, and computer scientists working on natural language. The book

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covers theories of lexical semantics, cognitively oriented approaches to semantics, compositional theories of sentence semantics, and discourse semantics. This clear, elegant explanation of the key theories in semantics research is essential reading for anyone working in the area.

### **Semantic Software Design** -

Eben Hewitt 2019-09-25  
With this practical book, architects, CTOs, and CIOs will learn a set of patterns for the practice of architecture, including analysis, documentation, and communication. Author Eben Hewitt shows you how to create holistic and thoughtful technology plans, communicate them clearly, lead people toward the vision, and become a great architect or Chief Architect. This book covers each key aspect of architecture comprehensively, including how to incorporate business architecture, information architecture, data architecture, application (software) architecture together to have the best chance for the

system's success. Get a practical set of proven architecture practices focused on shipping great products using architecture Learn how architecture works effectively with development teams, management, and product management teams through the value chain Find updated special coverage on machine learning architecture Get usable templates to start incorporating into your teams immediately Incorporate business architecture, information architecture, data architecture, and application (software) architecture together

### Metaphor - Eva Feder Kittay 1990

The purpose of this book is to provide a comprehensive philosophical theory which explains the cognitive contribution of metaphor. The argument is illustrated with analysis of metaphors from literature, philosophy, science, and everyday language.

*Ontology Engineering* - Elisa F. Kendall 2019-04-26

This book is designed to

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provide the foundations for ontology engineering. It is motivated by the Ontology 101 tutorial given for many years at the Semantic Technology Conference and then later from a semester-long university class. The book can serve as a course textbook or a primer for all those interested in ontologies. Ontologies have become increasingly important as the use of knowledge graphs, machine learning, natural language processing (NLP), and the amount of data generated on a daily basis has exploded. As of 2014, 90% of the data in the digital universe had been generated in the preceding two years, and the volume of data was projected to grow from 3.2 zettabytes to 40 zettabytes in the following six years. The very real issues that government, research, and commercial organizations are facing in order to sift through this amount of information to support decision-making alone mandate increasing automation. Yet, the data profiling, NLP, and learning algorithms that are ground-

zero for data integration, manipulation, and search provide less-than-satisfactory results unless they utilize terms with unambiguous semantics, such as those found in ontologies and well-formed rule sets. Ontologies can provide a rich "schema" for the knowledge graphs underlying these technologies as well as the terminological and semantic basis for dramatic improvements in results. Many ontology projects fail, however, due at least in part to a lack of discipline in the development process.

### **Semantic Mechanisms of Humor** - V. Raskin 1984-12-31

GOAL This is the funniest book I have ever written - and the ambiguity here is deliberate. Much of this book is about deliberate ambiguity, described as unambiguously as possible, so the previous sentence is probably the first, last, and only deliberately ambiguous sentence in the book.

Deliberate ambiguity will be shown to underlie much, if not all, of verbal humor. Some of its forms are simple enough to

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be perceived as deliberately ambiguous on the surface; in others, the ambiguity results from a deep semantic analysis. Deep semantic analysis is the core of this approach to humor. The book is the first ever application of modern linguistic theory to the study of humor and it puts forward a formal semantic theory of verbal humor. The goal of the theory is to formulate the necessary and sufficient conditions, in purely semantic terms, for a text to be funny. In other words, if a formal semantic analysis of a text yields a certain set of semantic properties which the text possesses, then the text is recognized as a joke. As any modern linguistic theory, this semantic theory of humor attempts to match a natural intuitive ability which the native speaker has, in this particular case, the ability to perceive a text as funny, i. e. , to distinguish a joke from a non-joke.

*Current Advances in Semantic*

*Theory* - Maxim I. Stamenov  
1991-01-01

This volume contains selected contributions to the interdisciplinary symposium on 'Models of Meaning' held in Varna, September 25-28, 1988, under the auspices of the Institute of the Bulgarian Language of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The aim of the meeting was to broaden the horizons of meaning research and the modeling of linguistic semantics, with contributions centering on the appropriate modeling of lexical, syntactic, and textual-semantic representations. The papers challenge some basic notions of semantics and reveal two main avenues of development in contemporary investigations. One is toward broadening the scope of investigativeness, the second is toward a greater domain-specificity as expressed in a greater sensitivity to pragmatics and meta-pragmatic concerns.

*Semantic Theory* - Don Lee  
Fred Nilsen 1975