

Modality meaning

■ ABILITY & POSSIBILITY

Can, could

- I can play the flute.

Be able to

- I was able to answer.

■ OTHERS

To have something done

- I have my car repaired.

Be to (future)

- She is to receive her diploma next week.

Meaning And Modality

**Jacob Gould Schurman,James Edwin
Creighton,Frank Thilly,Gustavus Watts
Cunningham**

Meaning And Modality:

Meaning and modality Casimir Lewy,1976 Modality and Meaning W.G. Lycan,2012-12-06 Part I of this book presents a theory of modal metaphysics in the possible worlds tradition Worlds themselves are understood as structured sets of properties this Ersatzist view is defended against its most vigorous competitors Meinongianism and David Lewis theory of existent concrete worlds Related issues of essentialism and linguistic reference are explored Part II takes up the question of lexical meaning in the context of possible world semantics There are skeptical analyses of analyticity and the notion of a logical constant and an infinite polysemy thesis is defended The book will be of particular interest to metaphysicians possible world semanticists philosophers of language and linguists concerned with lexical semantics

Modal and Focus Particles in Sign Languages Annika Herrmann,2013-12-12 Bringing together the research fields of sign language linguistics and information structure this book focuses on the realization of modal particles and focus particles in three European sign languages German Sign Language Sign Language of the Netherlands and Irish Sign Language As a cross linguistic investigation based on a systematic methodological approach the study analyzes the results particularly with regard to nonmanual features expressed by articulators such as the body head and face The analyses of the data provide interesting insights into the syntax prosody interface in sign languages and the interaction of syntax and prosody in general Modal and focus particles have not been thoroughly investigated in sign languages This volume presents the first study on this phenomenon and is thus an innovative contribution to the field From a methodological and theoretical perspective it draws on up to date linguistic tools and provides professionally elicited and annotated data The book accounts for the results within existing theoretical models Given its specific focus on nonmanuals the book contributes to recent debates on information structure and the syntax prosody interface and will be of special interest to both sign and spoken language linguists

A Student's Introduction to English Grammar Rodney Huddleston,Geoffrey K. Pullum,2005-02-17 This groundbreaking undergraduate textbook on modern Standard English grammar is the first to be based on the revolutionary advances of the authors previous work *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* 2002 The analyses defended there are outlined here more briefly in an engagingly accessible and informal style Errors of the older tradition of English grammar are noted and corrected and the excesses of prescriptive usage manuals are firmly rebutted in specially highlighted notes that explain what older authorities have called incorrect and show why those authorities are mistaken This book is intended for students in colleges or universities who have little or no previous background in grammar and presupposes no linguistics It contains exercises and will provide a basis for introductions to grammar and courses on the structure of English not only in linguistics departments but also in English language and literature departments and schools of education

Gender Differences in English Syntax Britta Mondorf,2011-07-11 What factors govern women's and men's use of syntactic alternatives This is the central issue explored in the present volume which provides the most comprehensive account so far of gender differences in

syntax By drawing on the theoretical frameworks of functional grammar of Giv' 1984 1990 cognitive semantics and pragmatics the book is able to show that the underlying characteristic of syntactic constructions that are sensitive to gender lies in their ability to encode epistemic meaning Paying due attention to the closely intertwined relation between gender and a range of internal and external determinants the present volume shows how apparently contradictory results in previous research can be reconciled The internal and external factors investigated are semantic type position intonation pragmatic function style power surreptitiousness group composition The Labovian Vanguard of Change and Linguistic Conformity of Women Principles Labov 2001 are supplemented by an Epistemic Modality Principle stating that women are more prolific users of epistemic downtoners than men and a Turn Allocation Principle assessing that women use more completion signals than men in the negotiation of floor apportionment These principles are crucial in paving the ground for an explanation of gender differences in language This volume is essential reading for those interested in language and gender and in how functionalism can be brought to bear in illuminating language structure and use *Gender in Literary Translation* Lingzi Meng,2018-12-29 This book explores the role of gender in male and female produced efforts to translate a Chinese novel into English Adopting the CDA framework and corpus methodology the study examines the specific ways in which and extent to which a female British translator and a male American translator construct their gender identity in translation Based on an analysis of the two translations textual and paratextual features it reveals the fascinating ways in which language gender and translation interact The book is intended for anyone who is interested in gender and translation studies particularly in applying the new corpus methodology to exploring the interface between gender and translation in the Chinese context

The Preposition A Richard Henry Wilson,1902 **The modal verbs can and may in English and Spanish** Andra Stefanescu,2008-05-28 Diploma Thesis from the year 2007 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies Linguistics grade 1 University of Bucharest Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures language English abstract Modality is a semantic concept that covers notions such as possibility probability permission ability volition necessity and obligation The class of modals is in many languages both syntactically and semantically highly irregular and unpredictable modals frequently have idiosyncratic conjugational patterns and are subject to highly specialized syntactic rules One of the main characteristic of modal verbs is their relatively imprecise and indeterminate meaning their ambiguity the same modal can be deontic i.e. based on rules and regulations but it may also involve processes sets of knowledge or belief systems and thus get an epistemic interpretation In order to define the class of modals or to provide a set of environments in which a modal may be correctly or appropriately used one must refer to many levels of language the purely syntactic environment as well as the logical structure the context of the utterance the assumptions that are shared by the speaker and the addressee the social situation assumed by the participants in the discourse the impression the speaker wants to make on the addressee and so on There is also the question of the appropriate context environments that is the semantic pragmatic issue Therefore

a complete analysis of a particular modal can only be achieved by looking both at its syntactic features and at its semantic structure in other words the syntax of a modal verb is based on its semantics and these two dimensions are inseparable

Mind, Modality, Meaning, and Method Richard M. Martin, 1983-01-01 ***The Significance of Sense*** Roger Wertheimer, 1972 ***A Multimodal Language Faculty*** Neil Cohn, Joost Schilperoord, 2024-05-16 Natural human communication is multimodal. We pair speech with gestures and combine writing with pictures from online messaging to comics to advertising. This richness of human communication remains unaddressed in linguistic and cognitive theories which maintain traditional amodal assumptions about language. What is needed is a new multimodal paradigm. This book posits a bold reorganization of the structures of language and heralds a reconsideration of its guiding assumptions. Human expressive behaviors like speaking, signing and drawing may seem distinct but they decompose into similar cognitive building blocks which coalesce in emergent states from a singular multimodal communicative architecture. This cognitive model accounts for unimodal and multimodal expression across all of our modalities providing a grand unified theory that incorporates insights from formal linguistics, cognitive semantics, metaphor theory, Peircean semiotics, sign language, gesture, visual language, psycholinguistics and cognitive neuroscience. Such a perspective reconfigures how we understand linguistic structure, diversity, universals, innateness, relativity and evolution. ***A Multimodal Language Faculty*** directly confronts centuries old notions of language and offers a compelling reimagination of what language is and how it works ***Modality*** Paul Portner, 2009-01-22 This is a book about semantic theories of modality. Its main goal is to explain and evaluate important contemporary theories within linguistics and to discuss a wide range of linguistic phenomena from the perspective of these theories. The introduction describes the variety of grammatical phenomena associated with modality, explaining why modal verbs, adjectives and adverbs represent the core phenomena. Chapters are then devoted to the possible worlds semantics for modality developed in modal logic, current theories of modal semantics within linguistics and the most important empirical areas of research. The author concludes by discussing the relation between modality and other topics, especially tense, aspect, mood and discourse meaning. Paul Portner's accessible guide to this key area of current research will be welcomed by students of linguistics at graduate level and above as well as by researchers in philosophy, computational science and related fields ***The Philosophical Review*** Jacob Gould Schurman, James Edwin Creighton, Frank Thilly, Gustavus Watts Cunningham, 1907 An international journal of general philosophy ***A Handbook of Present-day English: pt. II: v. 1-3. English accidence and syntax*** Etsko Kruisinga, 1925 ***University of California Publications in Classical Philology*** University of California (1868-1952), 1924 ***The Modality of Medieval English Futurity*** Leslie Katherine Arnovick, 1986 ***A Handbook of Present-day English*** Etsko Kruisinga, 1925 ***Conception, judgment, and inference*** Peter Coffey, 1918 ***The Century Dictionary*** William Dwight Whitney, 1890 ***Note on the Indefinite Second Person Singular*** Herbert Chester Nutting, 1925

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