

Foreword

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Text and Context in Functional Linguistics

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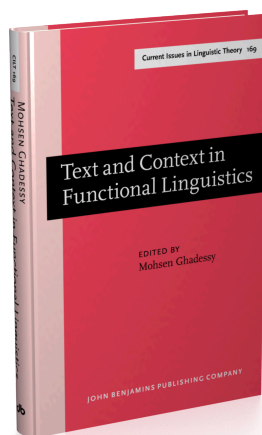
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Foreword

The shift towards a functional (sociolinguistic) approach to the analysis of language in the last few decades has necessitated new definitions and models for a number of concepts that linguists have taken for granted for a very long time. Two of the main areas of concern have been: *What is text?* and, *What is context?* The present volume attempts to demystify these important notions by providing clear definitions and a number of theoretical models by analysing relevant examples within the assumptions of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL). The eight chapters collectively present a comprehensive picture of the fundamental issues in text analysis and context modelling not given in any other single volume to date. All the contributors base their analyses on genuine data collected from a variety of spoken and written registers of contemporary English.

