

# Preface

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## **Syntax, Semantics and Acquisition of Multiple Interrogatives: Who wants what?**

**Lydia Grebenyova**

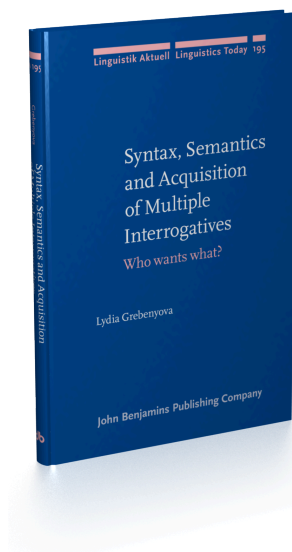
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## Preface

The present work represents a study of a single linguistic construction, namely, multiple interrogatives (e.g. '*Who bought what?*') from several perspectives: syntax, semantics and acquisition. It is a common understanding in linguistics that in order to understand the nature of a linguistic construction, one must consider its syntactic and semantic properties, as well as how children acquire those properties. However, it is rarely done in a single study. This monograph provides exactly this type of a study of multiple interrogatives, exploring their structure, meaning, and the algorithm for how children acquire these expressions across languages.

Portions of the earlier versions of this work were presented at various conferences, such as the Boston University Conference on Language Development (BUCLD), Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS), Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics (FASL), and West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics (WCCFL), whose audiences I thank for their insightful comments and discussion. Many thanks also go to Howard Lasnik and Željko Bošković for many helpful discussions and continuous inspiration by their own work. I am also grateful to the students in my Contemporary Syntax class at Baylor University for their invaluable feedback and encouragement. Many very helpful comments and suggestions also came from the editors at John Benjamins, so I am thankful to them for working with me on this project. Any remaining shortcomings obviously remain with the author.

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