

Foreword

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Analogy: A basic bibliography

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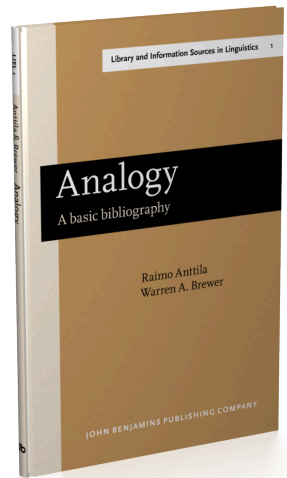
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FOREWORD

As the present volume constitutes the first item of a new series, I should like to make a few remarks about the nature of bibliographical work in general and the present series in particular.

The Library and Information Sources in Linguistics (LISL) series has been established with a view to serving both reference librarians and scholars wishing to obtain bibliographical and, at times, biographical information on a particular subject, linguistic school, or author. Items in the series will include annotated and classified bibliographies not only on special areas of linguistic research — though these may prove to be the bulk of the volumes appearing in LISL — but also on particular scholars, past and present, who have significantly contributed to the science of language. In addition, guides for the study of particular languages will be published, and it is hoped to include in LISL biographical (reference) works as well.

In one of my own bibliographical ventures published some five years ago I quoted a statement from T. G. Masaryk's *Versuch einer concreten Logik* (Vienna, 1887), according to which the bringing together of material and its preliminary inspection is not scientific work proper, though a necessary precondition for the latter. Masaryk added that true *Erkenntnisarbeit* could begin only after this preparatory work has been done. I would still subscribe to this, although I believe that good bibliographical work in a given area of scientific inquiry involves much more than mechanical aptitude and lots of *Sitzfleisch*. In effect, a good knowledge of the field and expertise in librarianship constitute the *conditio*

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sine qua non for a volume of scholarly worth in this area.

But bibliographies may not primarily aim at a display of scholarship; if they satisfy the informed reader and indeed constitute a source of intellectual pleasure, as the late Hanns Wilhelm Eppelsheimer (1890-1972) thought a bibliography should, so much the better. The result of bibliographical research published in the present series may assume a more modest goal, namely, to satisfy the immediate needs of the student of linguistics wishing to inform himself about the work done in a particular branch of scholarly inquiry and the questions raised by the discipline in the present state of affairs.

It is true that many students and indeed scholars avoid undertaking the task of compiling a bibliography on a given subject or author; the idea of 'fare la bibliografia' has no appeal to them. They are happy to leave the drudgery to other (at times lesser qualified) colleagues, as they themselves wish to do more 'creative' work. But in so doing they lose any right to criticize the bibliographical work done by others for not living up to *their* standards.

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Little needs to be said about the present bibliography. It deals with a subject which has received the renewed attention of linguists, including transformationalists, in recent years, after having been dismissed by Chomsky and his followers as of little use in matters of linguistic theory. In the traditional histories of linguistics the concept of analogy is usually related as originating with the Junggrammatiker movement of the last quarter of the 19th century, and the predecessors of this principle are given as W. D. Whitney and W. Scherer. However, apart from the fact that the prehistory of this concept can to some extent be traced back to the ancients (cf. Best 1973:13-23), we can find a number of mid-19th-century linguists who made explicit use of the term and concept in their research. I need only cite Adolf Holtzmann's (1810-1870) *Ueber den Umlaut* (1843) and *Ueber den Ablaut* (1844), in which this