French studies: Language and linguistics (2012)
Rowlett, P

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*Revue Française de Linguistique Appliquée*, no. 17.1, ‘Langue parlée: Norme et Variations’, includes: Julien Eychenne and Bernard Laks, ‘Le Programme Phonologie du français contemporain: Bilan et Perspectives’ (7–24), which contextualizes the *Phonologie du français contemporain: Usages, Variétés, Structure* (PFC) project and shows how its methodologies and protocols, e.g. for schwa and liaison, contribute to both theory and description, including of non-standard varieties; Françoise Gadet et al., ‘Un Grand Corpus de français parlé: Le CIEL-F. Choix épistémologiques et réalisations empiriques’ (39–54), which describes the development of the web-based *Corpus international écologique de la langue française*, covering data collection and selection as relevant for work on variation, interaction, multimodality, Fr. in contact, and the syntax of spoken Fr., and to address the shortcomings of other oral corpora, as well as a number of technical issues; Hélène Blondeau, ‘Hors de LA norme point de salut? La Piste montréalaise de la variation des hypothétiques en si’ (55–66), which offers a longitudinal study of Montreal speakers’ use in *si* clauses of conditional and imperfective verb forms, both well established in speech (while the former is normatively stigmatized), but finds no evidence of a shift towards the conditional; Philippe Boula de Mareüil et al., ‘Variation diachronique dans la prosodie du style journalistique: Le Cas de l’accent initial’ (97–111), which uses ten hours of archive recordings going back to the 1940s, and points to decreased loudness, as well as utterance-initial stressed syllables which are shorter, and have less pronounced pitch rises, but longer onsets; and Martine Adda-Decker, ‘La Liaison dans la parole spontanée familière: Une Etude sur grand corpus’ (113–28), which uses the *Nijmegen Corpus of Casual French* and relates patterns of liaison realization to speech speed.

**2. History of the Language**

find corpus evidence that the loss (from OF to MidF) of directional particles was caused by the lexicalization of directional and aspectual prefixes onto verbal roots. Bryan Donaldson, “Initial Subordinate Clauses in Old French: Syntactic Variation and the Clausal Left Periphery”, Lingua, 122:1021–46, places extra-clausal initial subordinates in the left-peripheral FrameP projection, where they have no impact on V2. Martin Elsig, “Subject–verb Inversion in 13th-century German and French: A Comparative View”, pp. 223–40 of Multilingual Individuals and Multilingual Societies, ed. Kurt Braunmüller and Christoph Gabriel, Amsterdam, Benjamins, xiv + 474 pp., undertakes a variable-rule analysis to reveal differences between how subject–verb inversion is conditioned in OF and MHG, and thereby challenges the notion of a common underlying system due to language contact. Hirschbühler Vol. contains four studies looking at changes in clausal and VP-level word order in the history of Fr., e.g. the shift from OV to VO, the variable use of avoir and être in compound forms of aller et venir in the 12th/13th c. and its significance for aspectual structure, and the origins of constructions of the type avoir peur and prendre garde. Richard Waltereit, *Reflexive Marking in the History of French*, Amsterdam, Benjamins, x + 225 pp., uses corpus data to chart the diachrony of clause-mate co-reference, and the replacement from OF to Mod. Fr. of soi with the personal pronoun lui/elle.

Maj-Britt Mosegaard Hansen, “L’Interface discours–syntaxe: Sur La Grammaticalisation de la négation bipartite en français”, pp. 95–105 of Regards sur le discours: Enonciation, Interaction, ed. Claire Maury-Rouan, Aix-en-Provence, Provence UP, 208 pp. Id., “On the Evolution of Temporal N-words in Medieval French”, LSc, 34:76–91, focuses on onques and jamais ‘never’, and how only the latter (and newer) item has survived, while until MidF the two to a large extent had complementary uses, onques with past-time and jamais with future-time reference. See also Id. and Jacqueline Visconti, ‘The Evolution of Negation in French and Italian: Similarities and Differences’, FLin, 46:453–82, who attribute the advanced grammaticalization of postverbal negative markers in absolute negation in Fr. (but not It.) to interaction between various phonetic, prosodic, morphosyntactic, and pragmatic changes, and the differing behaviour of n-words in partial negation (e.g. co-occurrence patterns with a preverbal negative marker) to the etymological polarity of the n-words themselves, negative in It., positive in Fr. Anna Tristram and Wendy Ayres-Bennett, ‘From Negation to Agreement: Revisiting the Problem of Sources for Socio-Historical Linguistics’, NMi, 113:365–93, use recent work on the history of Fr. negation and a new case study relating to verbal agreement with la plupart to illuminate methodological issues around socio-historical linguistics, advocating, for example, organizing data according to the author’s date of birth rather than date of publication.


[H2]3. Phonetics and Phonology

*Phonological Variation in French: Illustrations from Three Continents*, ed. Randall Gess et al., Amsterdam, Benjamins, vii + 397 pp., surveys twelve socially divergent Fr. varieties from Western Canada to Central Africa using the PFC methodology (see Eychenne and Laks in section 1), with details of phonological inventory, allophony, phonotactics, schwa, and liaison.

Carole Paradis and Darlene LaCharité, ‘The Influence of Attitude on the Treatment of Interdentals in Loanwords: Ill-performed Importations’, Catalan Journal of Linguistics, 11:97–126, see the adaptation of /ð, ð/ to /s, z/ (rather than to the default /t, d/) in loanwords into European Fr. as a (flawed) attempt to import the interdentals from a source language deemed...
sufficiently prestigious. Nassima Abdelli-Beruh considers (what is predominantly regressive)
"Voicing Assimilation of French /t/", *JPh*, 40:521–34, and "Voicing and Devoicing Assimilation
of French /s/ and /z/", *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*, 41:371–86, in the former case
providing an acoustic-phonetic account of stop closures in /t/#/C2/ sequences at word
boundaries, where in fast speech visible /t/ acoustic releases are infrequent and voicing
assimilation of single closures is obligatory and extensive, while at moderate speeds speakers
often produce a visible /t/ acoustic release and voicing assimilation of /t/ closures is optional
and selective, and in the latter case exploring whether assimilations in either direction are equivalent
in quality and quantity in fricative#stop sequences: absolute amounts of voicing change are
roughly equivalent in magnitude (= 0.75); changes in voicing ratios are accompanied by
changes in fricative and preceding vowel durations.

Véronique Delvaux, *Les Voyelles nasales du français: Aérodynamique, Articulation,
Acoustique et Perception*, Brussels, Lang, 252 pp., draws on new results from experimental
phonetics and laboratory phonology. Catherine Brissaud et al., "The Relation between Spelling
and Pronunciation: The Case of French and the Phonological Variation /e/ ~ /ɛ/ in Different
French Dialects", *Written Language and Literacy*, 15:46–64, test the hypothesis that 5th-grade
students in areas where the morphophonological /e/ ~ /ɛ/ contrast is maintained will be better
able to transcribe verb endings in /E/, and show that the hypothesis is only tendentially
supported by the evidence. Luigia Garrapa, "Hiatus Resolution between Function and Lexical
Words in French and Italian: Phonology or Morphology?", *Gaglia, Inflection*, pp. 141–78,
considers the resolution of heterosyllabic vowel sequences across word boundaries to create
unmarked CV syllables, and finds that in sequences of function and lexical words in standard
Fr. they are categorically resolved by means of phonologically constrained elision, liaison, and
allomorphic alternations.

Mathieu Avanzi, *L’Interface prosodie/syntaxe en français: Dislocations, Incises et
Asyndètes*, Brussels, Lang, 349 pp., is a revised joint Neuchâtel/Nanterre PhD thesis which
uses tailor-made prosodic annotation tools to test and statistically evaluate the empirical
coverage of hypotheses from the last 30 years on sample corpus data. Amandine Michelas
and Mariapaola D’Imperio, "When Syntax meets Prosody: Tonal and Duration Variability in French
of Initial Stress and other Prosodic Features in the French News Announcer Style: Corpus-based
and perceptual analyses of a 10-hour Fr. audiovisual archive corpus covering six decades, and
show that mean pitch, pitch rise associated with initial stress, vowel duration characterizing an
emphatic initial stress, and prepausal penultimate lengthening have decreased since the 1940s,
while the onsets of stressed initial syllables have become longer and speech rate has not
changed. Viviane Déprez et al., *Interfacing Information and Prosody: French Wh-in-situ
Questions*, *Going Romance 2010*, pp. 135–54, present experimental evidence bearing on the
claim that Fr. wh-in-situ and yes/no questions are licensed by the same intonational morpheme
and ungrammatical without a rising contour, finding that most but not all participants produced a
rising contour in wh-in-situ questions and that even when they did, the slope was not as steep
as in yes/no questions.

[H2]4. Morphology

Peteghem et al., Ghent, Academia Press, 664 pp., is published in honour of Dominique Willems.
Florence Villoing looks at *“French Compounds”, Probus*, 24:29–60, from the perspective of
lexeme-based morphology, covering both native compounding (two lexemes combining to form
a third; overwhelmingly endocentric; left-headed) and (the more marginal) neoclassical compounding (mainly adjectives; often exocentric; right-headed). Delphine Tribout looks at ‘Verbal Stem Space and Verb-to-Noun Conversion in French’, *Word Structure*, 5:109–28, extending Bonami and Boyé’s stem space for verbs and adjectives with an extra slot to account for a number of lexeme-formation rules, and showing how V-to-N conversion can operate on three different stems. Valérie Saugera shows ‘How English-origin Nouns (do not) Pluralize in French’, *Linv*, 35:120–42, particularly compounds, and sees the seemingly atypical absence of inflection as being rooted within Fr. morphology; S. also looks at the flexibility surrounding ‘The Inflectional Behavior of English-origin Adjectives in French’, *JFLS*, 22:225–50, with inflection variously compulsory, optional, or impossible.

[H2]5. Syntax


Frank Drijkoningen and Brigitte Kamps-Manhe, ‘Word Order in French and the Influence of Topic and Focus’, *Linguistics*, 50:65–104, suggest that the word-order contrast between pre- and post-verbal NP subjects in relative and embedded subjunctive clauses — *Le roman qu’a écrit Paul / que Paul a écrit, Je veux que parte Paul / que Paul parte* — is pragmatically determined, the former being topics, the latter, foci. Juliette Thuiller et al., ‘Prédire La Position de l’adjectif épithète en français: Approche quantitative’, *Linv*, 35:28–75, refer to three constraints influencing statistical preferences: combinatorial, frequency and length, and primarily lexical. Karen Lahousse and Béatrice Lamiroy, ‘Word Order in French, Spanish, and Italian: A Grammaticalization Account’, *FLin*, 46:387–416, take a constructional view of grammaticalization and language change to account for the different word-order patterns (Sp. has all word-order types except SOV; It. lacks SOV and VSO; Fr. lacks SOV, VSO, and OVS) on the basis of a Sp.–It.–Fr. continuum, Sp. being the least and Fr. the most grammaticalized language.

Kristel Van Goethem, ‘Le Statut des séquences “N+N à N2 productif”: Le Cas de N-clé’, *Linv*, 35:76–93, evaluates analyses of N+N constructions whose N2 productively combines with
different N1s (e.g. marathon: réunion/examen/plaidoyer marathon, etc.) as regular N+N compounds and as syntactic combinations of N1 and an ‘adjectivized’ N2, and offers a case study of N-clé (mot-clé, fonction-clé, élément-clé, etc.) the recent syntax of which points to degrammaticalization, while Dany Amiot and Kristel Van Goethem, “A Constructional Account of French -clé “key” and Dutch sleutel- “key” as in mot-clé/sleutelwoord “key word””, Morphology, 22:347–64, identify significant differences in the degree of cohesion between Fr. -clé and its Dutch counterpart sleutel- ‘key’, where sleutel- forms cohesive N+N compounds, while -clé can function adjectivally, e.g. un rôle absolument clé, ce livre est absolument clé. Delphine Beauseroy and Marie Laurence Knittel, “Number and Adjectives: The Case of French Activity and Quality Nominals”, Studia Linguistica, 66:207–44, examine the role of NumP in adjective distribution, in particular in Fr. activity and quality nominals, and use semantic and syntactic criteria to distinguish two patterns, taxonomic modification expressing subkinds (independent of NumP), and qualifying modification (occurring only if NumP is present). See also K.’s ‘Détérmination et Modification dans les expressions N à N en français’, JFLS, 22:165–87, classifies forms following the model of plante à fleurs and tasse à café on the basis of the semantics of N2 and its relation to N1 and in doing so accounts for the syntactic behaviour of N2 with respect to determiners, numerals, and modifiers.


Annemie Demol, Les Pronoms anaphoriques ‘il’ et ‘celui-ci’: Etude des facteurs qui déterminent leur choix, Brussels, Ducolot–De Boeck, 2010, 400 pp. “Guimier Vol. includes: Catherine Schnedecker, ‘Tout le monde, tous, (tous) les gens: Relation sémantique entre des expressions dénotant la totalité /+hum/’ (127–???) and Catherine Fuchs, ‘Comme, marqueur d’analogie: L’Identité de manière d’être’ (179–???). Esme Winter-Froemel, “Néologie sémantique et ambiguïté dans la communication et dans l’évolution des langues: Défis méthodologiques et théoriques”, Cahiers de Lexicologie, 100:55–80, addresses processes of semantic reanalysis of borrowed lexis, e.g. taxonomic subordination (English people – Fr. people ‘celebrities’) and metonymic change (English flipper – Fr. flipper ‘pinball’), triggered by ambiguous contexts. Michel Aurénauges, “Quand La Routine s’installe: Remarques sur les emplois de à de type “routine sociale”, RevR, 47:189–218, focuses on this neglected use of the preposition à, highlighting its main properties (the ‘functional’ expression of an activity or state, its neutrality to number, the possible absence of any reference to a landmark/ground entity), and sketching the semantic mechanism which seems to underlie this interpretation.

[H2]7. Semantics

*Etudes de sémantique et pragmatique françaises, ed. Louis de Saussure and Alain Rihs, Berne, Lang, vi + 403 pp, derives from a thematic strand of the 2009 Association for French Language Studies conference held in Neuchâtel. The authors tease out the semantics and pragmatics of such classic issues as the usage and interpretation of aspect and tense markers, modal operators, and quantifiers, as well as the subtleties of non-readily definable lexis. La Synonymie, ed. Françoise Berlan and Gérard Berthomieu, PUPS, 488 pp., contains Fr.-related articles about adjectival and verbal lexis, competition between à peine et difficilement, translation issues, lexicography, political vocabulary, and the Remarques sur la langue française. Els Tobback and Peter Lauwers, “Une Analyse en miroir de deux semi-copules évidentielles: s’avérer et se révéler”, RevR, 47:49–75, consider the extent of the synonymy between these verbs and their grammaticalization as semi-copulas.

Jacques Bres et al. Louis de Saussure, ‘Le Passé composé en usage futur et la pertinence au présent’, JFLS, 22:189–206, looks at how future-oriented uses of the passé composé are restricted by soft semantic constraints such as agentivity and telicity, and by a much stronger pragmatic condition, namely that the future state denoted by the passé composé is typically viewed as a desirable outcome. Laurent Gosselin, “Itération et Agglomérats de procès’, RevR, 47:25–48, introduces and semantically characterizes a new aspectual category, the cluster of eventualities, to account for examples of highly complex iterative aspect, especially in Fr. literature, where the iteration concerns not a single eventuality, but a combination of eventualities.

*Scolia*, no. 26, ‘Questions de sémantique nominale’, ed. Georges Kleiber and Marie Lammert, includes: Georges Kleiber et al., ‘Typologie des noms: le critère se trouver + SP locatif’ (105–29) and Christoph Schwarze, ‘Le vert, les jeunes, l’important: Aspects sémantiques de la conversion adjectif–nom’ (153–70). *RLVin*, no. 2011:40, ‘Nominalizations’, ed. Isabelle Roy and Elena Soare, contains: Richard Huyghe, ‘(A)telicity and the Mass–Count Distinction: The Case of French Activity Nominalizations’ (101–26), which revisits the parallel between mass–count nouns and atelic–telic verbs, looking in detail at seemingly non-systematically inherited aspect in nominalized Fr. activity verbs; and Marie Laurence Knittel, ‘French Event Nominals and Number-inflection’ (127–48), which looks at the complexities of the distribution of plural marking in Fr. complex event nominals, and proposes an AspP projection within unambiguous nominalizations, but only a NumP projection within ambiguous nominalizations to account for how telic and atelic VPs alike can underlie nominalizations invariant for number, and how event nominals which do vary in number derive from aspectually vague or ambiguous verbal predicates.

[H2]8. Regional French and Dialects

Mari C. Jones, ‘Variation and Change in Sark Norman French’, TPS, 110:149–70, compares recent data with forms recorded in earlier linguistics atlases to examine phonological variation and change within the most vulnerable extant variety of insular Norman, and suggests that not all cases of widespread variation in dying languages should be automatically attributed to the process of obsolescence. Id. employs the PFC protocol (see section 1) and (unusually for obsolescent speech communities) finds striking uniformity across informants regarding ‘Liaison Patterns and Usage in Jersey Norman French’, Probus, 24:197–232, and across a number of different syntactic contexts and two different speech styles, showing that the contexts that trigger obligatory liaison in standard Fr. on the whole do so in Jèrriais too, while very different patterns emerge for optional liaison and for conversational vs. reading style. Richard P. Ingham, *The Transmission of Anglo-Norman: Language History and Language Acquisition*, Amsterdam, Benjamins, xii + 179 pp., uses AN — whose phonology (but not syntax) diverged rapidly and sharply from continental Fr. — as a case study relating to issues of second language transmission, with the phonology–syntax contrast related to age of exposure.

*Les Français d’ici et d’aujourd’hui: Description, Représentation, et Théorisation*, ed. Davy Bigot et al., Laval UP, 272 pp., contains 10 articles covering, for example, the use of comme by young Acadians and its relationship to English like, the connotations of the words joual and chiac among teachers and journalists, Québécois /tut/, and borrowings from English and elsewhere into Montreal Fr. Chantal Bouchard, *Méchante Langue: La Légitimité du français parlé au Québec*, Montreal UP, 170 pp. Heather Burnett, “The Role of Microvariation in the Study of Semantic Universals: Adverbial Quantifiers in European and Québec French”, JSem, 29:1–38, considers the semantic contrast between adverbial quantifiers in the remote-quantification construction (e.g. J’ai beaucoup lu de livres) in standard European Fr. and in
Québec Fr., the European dialect involving a binary quantifier over event–object pairs and the
Canadian dialect involving a unary quantifier over individuals, with the difference due to the
contrast in lexical semantics of the quantifier rather than the syntax. Shana Poplack and
Nathalie Dion, ‘Myths and Facts about Loanword Development’, LVC, 24:279–315, trace the
diachronic trajectory and synchronic behaviour of English-origin items in Quebec Fr. over 61
years, and provide results which do not support the three standard assumptions that such
incorporations increase in frequency (few such items survive), that they originate as
code-switches and are gradually integrated into the host grammar (it is in fact abrupt), and that
the processes underlying code-switching and borrowing are the same (speakers distinguish
single- from multi-word other-language fragments). Philip Comeau et al., ‘New Insights on an
Old Rivalry: The Passé simple and the Passé composé in Spoken Acadian French’, JFLS,
22:315–43, investigate the expression of past temporal reference in a highly conservative
variety of Acadian Fr. and find a split between narration (variation mainly between passé simple
and imparfait) and conversation (variation mainly between passé composé and imparfait).
Nicholas Faralas et al., ‘Influences of Houma Ancestral Languages on Houma French: West
Muskogean Features in Houma French’, pp. 185–214 of *Agency in the Emergence of Creole
Languages: The Role of Women, Renegades, and People of African and Indigenous Descent in
the Emergence of the Colonial Era Creoles*, ed. Nicholas Faralas, Amsterdam, Benjamins, xiii
+ 246 pp., consider the emergence of this Louisiana variety of Fr. in its socio-political and
cultural context, and the role played by the indigenous languages and people.

Anthony Grant and Diana Guillemin, ‘The Complex of Creole Typological Features: The
Case of Mauritian Creole’, *Journal of Pidgin and Creole Languages*, 27:48–104, show how
Mauritian exhibits most typologically typical creole features.

Inka Wissner, ‘Les Grands Corpus du français moderne: Des Outils pour étudier le
lexique diatopiquement marqué?’, *SKY Journal of Linguistics*, 25:233–72, reviews the principal
(literary, journalistic, web-based, or indeed oral) corpora (potentially) suitable for studying
regionally marked lexis in contemporary Fr., and identifies problems regarding text location,
regional annotation, discourse genre, and topic, as well as issues relating to formal
compatibility, text size, and practical access.

[H2]9. Contact and Sociolinguistics

looks at English-origin forms used (in print media, online discussion fora, and interviews) by
participants in the Ironman France triathlon competition (e.g. *la finish* and *le bike*), and suggests
that innovative borrowing reflects fetishization of English in the maintenance of group identity,
with connotation as important or indeed more important than reference. Mélanie Bernard-
Béziade and Michaël Attali, ‘L’Evidence des anglicismes dans les discours journalistiques
anglicisms in athletics and swimming journalism despite Fr. being an official Olympic language.

*Let’s Talk About (Texts About) Sex: Sexualität und Sprache / Sex and Language*, ed. Marietta
Calderón and Georg Marko, Frankfurt-am-Main, Lang, 361 pp., contains Johanna
Humenberger, ‘Sexualitätsbezogene Schimpfwörter in der französischen Filmjugendsprache’
(191–204) and Dietmar Osth us, ‘Amateur-Lexikographie im französischen Sprachraum’
(321–???)

*Marginal Dialects: Scotland, Ireland and Beyond*, ed. Robert McColl Millar, Aberdeen,
Iskrov, ‘French in the Caribbean: Characterising Guadeloupean French’ (150–70), which
sketches local Fr. as it co-exists with creole (widely used within the community and the
preferred variety for many bilinguals) and standard Fr. (the target language of education and literacy programmes, and also conveyed by official media from continental Fr.); and Michael Hornsby, ‘From the Periphery to the Centre: Recent Debates on the Place of Breton (and other Regional Languages) in the French Republic’ (171–97), which focuses on a particular instance of conflict caused by language contact, including the internal linguistic conflict within the Breton speech community. Benjamin Hebblethwaite, “French and Underdevelopment, Haitian Creole, and Development: Educational Language Policy Problems and Solutions in Haiti’, Journal of Pidgin and Creole Languages, 27:255–302, considers the correlation between second-language use in schools with high illiteracy rates and poverty, and the lack of resources for maintaining Fr.-dominant education, to argue that this long-established school system in Haiti is — alongside economic, historical, sociolinguistic, and demographic factors — an impediment to the nation’s development, and that the progressive promotion of creole throughout Haitian education will lead to improved learning, graduation, and creole literacy, in addition to a more streamlined and coherent State, economy, and society. Synergies: Pays Germanophone, no. 5, ‘Les Politiques linguistiques implicites et explicites en domaine francophone’, ed. Peter Cichon et al., derives from an event held in Vienna in 2011, and contains 14 contributions in three sections: Francophonie outside Europe, Francophonie within Europe, and the role of Fr. as linguistic bridge and/or lingua franca. Remco Knooihuizen and Dan Dediu, “Historical Demography and Historical Sociolinguistics: The Role of Migrant Integration in the Development of Dunkirk French in the 17th Century’, Language Dynamics and Change, 2:1–33, offer a sociohistorical and linguistic account of the mechanisms underlying minority language shift, with intermarriage between Fr.-speaking immigrants and native Dutch speakers providing both motive and means ‘from below’ against a backdrop of larger language-political processes. Alexei Prikhodkine, ‘Autonomisation du français en usage en Suisse romande: Quels Indicateurs?’ JFLS, 22:395–417. Anna Jassem-Staniecka, ‘Community Conflict in Belgium and its Linguistic Reflections’, Annual Of Language & Politics & Politics Of Identity, 6:16–34, analyses the Flemish–Walloon tension by examining its linguistic reflection, the linguistic implications of ideological, political, and constitutional divisions, the ‘key words’ for the regional identities, as well as the (lack of) Belgian identity.


*Vers Une Histoire générale de la grammaire française: Matériaux et Perspectives*, ed. Bernard Colombat et al., Champion, 888 pp., stems from a 2011 Paris Diderot conference on Fr. grammars and grammar writers. Gilles Siouffi, Le Génie de la langue française: Études sur les structures imaginaires de la description linguistique à l’Age classique, Champion, 2010, 520 pp., considers how grammarians, commentators, and writers worked together to standardize Fr. around their ideal of a modern language as ‘perfect’ as Latin, and suggests that the endeavour was based on an imaginary ‘génie de la langue française’ which led to the proposed existence of an alternative version of Fr., more beautiful and more perfect than that observed in usage. Serge Lusignan et al., *L’Introuvable Unité du français: Contacts et Variations linguistiques en Europe et en Amérique (XIIe–XVIIIe siècle)*, Laval UP, 328 pp., offer an alternative to the
dominant historical paradigm of a dichotomy between Fr. inside and outside France, seeing instead the pursuit of a norm and the denial of the reality of its diversity. *Langue commune et changement de normes*, ed. Sonia Branca-Rosoff et al., Champion, 2011, 520 pp., contains much on Fr. and derives from a 2009 Paris III conference looking at the articulation of changing or contrasting prescriptive norms, subjective assessments, and speaker behaviour, as manifested through normative injunctions regarding phonology and syntax, but also the linguistic practice of non-professional grammarians, especially comments made by journalists and writers.

Shana Poplack et al., ‘Phrase-final Prepositions in Quebec French: An Empirical Study of Contact, Code-switching, and Resistance to Convergence’, *Bilingualism*, 15:203–25, reject the notion of the phenomenon as representing convergence with English due to bilingual code-switchers, instead identifying evidence for a language-internal model for preposition stranding related to a superficially similar pre-existing native-language construction: the conditions giving rise to stranding are the same in Fr. and the native language, but not English; copious and sparse code-switchers behave in the same way. See also rejoinders by Ricardo Otheguy (226–9), Martin Elsig (230–2), Rena Torres Cacoullos (233–6), Pieter Muysken (237–9), Georg A. Kaiser (240–2), and Yves Roberge (243–6), as well as a surrejoinder by P. et al. (247–54). Ruth Kircher, ‘How Pluricentric is the French Language? An Investigation of Attitudes towards Quebec French Compared to European French’, *JFLS*, 22:345–70, compares the attitudes to Québécois and European Fr. of Quebeckers whose native tongue is either, neither, or both of Fr. and English, and finds that solidarity towards Quebec Fr. has grown since the 1980s, while assessments of its status have remained stable. Hélène Blondeau and Michael Friesner, ‘*Le Français au cœur de la métropole: Perceptibilité de l'ethnicité des Montréalais francophones*,’ *Arena Romanistica: Journal of Romance Studies*, 9, 2011:???, report on the results of a perception experiment undertaken with Fr.-speaking Montrealers which show that speakers with ethnic Quebec backgrounds are readily identifiable as such, while perceptions of the ethnicity of more recent immigrants is more variable. Lionel Meney, *Main basse sur la langue: Idéologie et Interventionnisme linguistique au Québec*, Montréal, Liber, 2010, 510 pp., criticizes ‘endogenist’ policies regarding Quebec Fr., and was a finalist for the Victor Barbeau Prize of the Académie des lettres du Québec in 2011. Wim Remysen, ‘Les Représentations identitaires dans le discours normatif des chroniqueurs de langue canadiens–français depuis le milieu du XIXe siècle’, *JFLS*, 22:419–44 (with Erratum on p. 445), looks at the relationship between identity and linguistic norm as revealed in the discourse of twelve commentators on Canadian Fr. between 1865 and 1996, in particular how they define their compatriots’ identity and the importance they attach to issues of identity in what they say about Canadian Fr. and its legitimacy. The commentators’ perceptions of their compatriots’ identity does not in and of itself explain how they assess Canadian Fr.; to understand their definition of norm, account must further be taken of the importance they attach to identity in their conception of language. Sylvie A. Lamoureux, ‘“My parents may not be French sir, but I am”: Exploration of Linguistic Identity of Francophone Bilingual Youth in Transition in Multicultural, Multilingual Ontario’, *International Journal of Multilingualism*, 9:151–64, is a reflective critical ethnography of graduates of a Fr. L1 secondary school struggling to affirm their linguistic identity in new academic and social communities as they transition to new, more culturally diverse but linguistically narrow spaces in post-secondary education. Nathalie Dajko, ‘Sociolinguistics of Ethnicity in Francophone Louisiana’, *Language and Linguistics Compass*, 6:279–95, clarifies our understanding of the situation of Fr. in Louisiana and its relationship to ethnicity, with a more complex picture painted than usually assumed, which includes a third Francophone group alongside Cajuns and Creoles, namely American Indians.

*Repères-Dorif*, no. 12.1, ‘Les Francophonies Et Francographies africaines face à la
référence culturelle française’, ed. Cristina Schiavone, contains 15 substantive articles across
four sections covering everyday language, literary language and Francophonie. Béatrice Akissi
“La Sociolinguistique postcoloniale en Amérique hispanophone et en Afrique francophone: Un
Drame linguistique en deux actes”, Claremont, Scripps College, 117 pp. Isabelle Léglise,
“Variations autour du verbe et de ses pronoms objets en français parlé en Guyane: Rôle du
contact de langues et de la variation intrasystémique’, pp. 203–30 of Changement linguistique
Mariko Shiohata sees “Language Use along the Urban Street in Senegal: Perspectives
from Proprietors of Commercial Signs’, Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development,
33:269–85, reflecting the use of Wolof, widely spoken as the lingua franca in multi-ethnic urban
communities, together with other national languages, as language of instruction in a major
adult-literacy programme in the 1990s following the adoption of Fr. as the sole official language
upon independence in 1960 and its use in administration and throughout the formal education
system as the language of instruction: while nearly half the shop signs were entirely in Fr.,
nearly one-quarter included Wolof. Samira Hassa, “Regulating and Negotiating Linguistic
Diversity: Top-down and Bottom-up Language Planning in the Moroccan City’, Current Issues in
Language Planning, 13:207–23, focuses on street names, advertising posters, billboards, and
supermarket product displays to illustrate language planning in Morocco, with a confused
situation stemming from on-going political, economic, and social transformation, and difficulties
balancing the position of Fr. against a policy of arabization and the promotion of Berber as
pp. 363–80 of Non-Dominant Varieties of Pluricentric Languages: Getting the Picture, ed. Rudolf
Muhr et al., Frankfurt-am-Main, Lang, 498 pp.

[H2]10. Discourse and Pragmatics

29–58 of Discourse and Dialogue, ed. Vladimir Karabalic et al., Frankfurt-am-Main, Lang, xviii +
288 pp., focuses on the multifunctional alors and voilà. Sylvie Porhiel, “The Presentative
Voici/Voilà: Towards a Pragmatic Definition’, JP, 44:435–52, analyses the items in respect of
five pragmatic properties: introducing a referent and positing its existence; having a textual/non-
textual function; introducing a discrete/non-discrete referent; introducing a referent linguistically
expressed or not; presenting or representing. Séverine Adam and Martine Dalmas, ‘Discourse
Markers in French and German: Reasons for an Asymmetry’, Linguistics & the Human
Sciences, 6:77–98, look at dis donc, tu vois, and écoute, and their possible equivalents in Ger.
Catherine Bolly, ‘Du Verbe de perception visuelle au marqueur parenthétique tu vois:
Grammaticalisation et Changement linguistique’, JFLS, 22:143–64, uses diachronic pseudo-oral
corpus data to show how the parenthetical tu vois has taken on this pragmatic value over the
centuries.

Sandrine Zufferey and Bruno Cartoni, “English and French Causal Connectives in
Contrast’, Languages in Contrast, 12:232–50, who discuss and test two criteria which have
been proposed to account for the cross-linguistic contrast, namely the notion of domain of use
and the information status of the cause segment, and show that connectives in the two
languages only partially overlap. See also Z.’s ‘Car, Parce que, Puisque revisited: Three
Empirical Studies on French Causal 2Connectives’, JP, 44:138–53, starts from the general
assumption that parce que is used to relate semantic content, while car and puisque are used to
connect either speech-act or epistemic content, and uses corpus analysis and constrained
elicitation to show that *car* and *parce que* are often interchangeable, while, rather than overlapping with *car*, *puisque* actually introduces a cause with an echoic meaning. Liesbeth Degand and Benjamin Fagar, “‘Competing Connectives in the Causal Domain: French *Car* and *Parce que*’, *ib.*, 154–68, consider the long-standing competition between causal connectives and how, as a consequence of processes of grammaticalization and subjectification, *parce que* seems to be replacing *car* in the modern spoken (but not written) language. Ninke Stukker and Ted Sanders, “Subjectivity and Prototype Structure in Causal Connectives: A Cross-linguistic Perspective”, *ib.*, 169–90, consider the relevance of subjectivity, speech act type, and domain of use of causal connectives in English, Fr., Ger., and Dutch, and reinterpret the patterns of usage in terms of the cognitive structures underlying human categorization, with remarkable cross-linguistic convergence.


Bart Defrancq and Gert De Sutter, *“Contingency Hedges in Dutch, French, and English: A Corpus-based Contrastive Analysis of the Language-internal and -external Properties of English *depend*, French *dépendre*, and Dutch *afhangen, liggen*, and *zien*”,* pp. 33–62 of *Corpus Studies in Contrastive Linguistics*, ed. Stefania Marzo et al., Amsterdam, Benjamins, v + 171 pp., consider the syntactic, semantic, and functional properties of these items used as intersubjectivity markers, and show them to be semantically related to a conditional meaning of their source verbs and to have undergone a process of decategorialization, appearing almost exclusively in the third-person present tense with a restricted range of subjects. Catrin Norrby and Jane Warren, *“Address Practices and Social Relationships in European Languages”, Language and Linguistics Compass, 6:225–35*, provide an overview of recent research on (the development of) forms of address (second-person proforms, first and last names, titles, etc.), focusing on Fr., Ger. and Swedish, in particular in the light of the socio-political upheavals of the 1960s, underlining the central role played by the notions of social distance and common ground. Bernard Farenkia compares and contrasts *“Compliment Strategies and Regional Variation in
French: Evidence from Cameroon and Canadian French, Pragmatics, 22:447–76, on the basis of 277 compliments collected using discourse completion tasks (DCT) administered in Yaoundé and Montreal which were analysed on the basis of the (in)directness of the compliment, utterance-level lexico-semantic and syntactic features, and external modification. Nicolas Ruytenbeek, “Les Actes de langage indirects sont-ils tous conventionnels?”, RevR, 47:258–82, focuses on the various ways of communicating a directive illocutionary act in modern Fr., seeing each one as stemming from either a linguistic convention for on-record speech acts or a discursive one for off-record speech acts.

Louis de Saussure and Patrick Morency adopt ‘A Cognitive-pragmatic View of the French Epistemic Future’, JFLS, 22:207–23, and conclude that this usage is licensed not by a semantic feature such as aspect but by pragmatic effects making the utterance relevant at the moment of speech, and that they seem to fulfill the function of communicating, perhaps especially, the inference that a particular course of action has to be undertaken from the perspective of a state of affairs that is true in the present. *Interpréter Les Temps verbaux, ed. Nelly Flaux et al., Berne, Lang, 2010, vi + 252 pp.


*Décrire La Conversation en ligne: Le Face à face distanciel, ed. Christine Develotte et al., Lyon, ENS, 2011, 224 pp., includes conversation analysts and CMC specialists contrasting videoconferencing with face-to-face conversation in terms of the relative amounts of speaking, silence, gesturing, and smiling. Jan Lazar makes “Quelques Observations sur les néographies phonétisantes en français tchaté”, Linguistica Pragensia, 22:18–28, and charts the richness and frequency of the techniques used in a phenomenon which attempts to adapt written to oral form to reflect the conversational medium. *Lnv, no. 35.2, ‘SMS Communication: A Linguistic Approach’, ed. Louise-Amélie Cougnon and Cédrick Fairon, contains various items on Fr.: Pierre Accorsi et al., ‘Seek&Hide: Anonymising a French SMS Corpus using Natural Language Processing Techniques’ (163–80), which presents a tool for SMS corpus anonymization/de-identification; Philippe Langlais and Patrick Drouin, ‘Texto4Science: A Quebec French Database of Annotated Text Messages’ (237–59), which includes analysis of the main linguistic phenomena identified in 7000+ annotated SMSs, and a report on a related sociolinguistic survey; Rachel Panckhurst and Claudine Moïse, ‘French Text Messages: From SMS Data Collection to Preliminary Analysis’ (289–317), which recounts the collection, sociolinguistic tagging, and processing of 90,000 authentic Fr. SMSs in autumn 2011, as well as preliminary results; and Elisabeth Stark, ‘Negation Marking in French Text Messages’ (341–66), which shows that, similarly to previous results regarding European Fr. chatroom behaviour, regional
and stylistic factors play no major role in *ne* drop in a corpus of 4,628 Swiss-Fr. SMSs, but that clitic subjects and subject drop seem to favour/trigger categoric *ne* drop. Josie Bernicot et al., 'Forms and Functions of SMS Messages: A Study of Variations in a Corpus Written by Adolescents', *JP*, 44:1701–15, analyse the effects of Fr. writers’ age, gender, and SMS-messaging experience on message length (number of characters/words), dialogue structure (with/without an opening/closing), and message function (informative vs. relational).

The place of publication of books is Paris unless otherwise stated.
[TT]Abbreviations


Gaglia, Inflection: Inflection and Word Formation in Romance Languages, ed. Sascha Gaglia and Marc-Olivier Hinzelin, Amsterdam, Benjamins, vii + 400 pp.


Wehr, Pragmatique: Pragmatique historique et syntaxe / Historische Pragmatik und Syntax (Actes de la section du même nom du XXXIe Romanistentag allemand / Akten der gleichnamigen Sektion des XXXI. Deutschen Romanistentags (Bonn, 27. 9.–1.10. 2009)), ed. Barbara Wehr and Frédéric Nicolosi, Frankfurt-am-Main, Lang, xxvi + 323 pp.