
Contents

Preface	ix
Acknowledgements	xi
List of symbols	xiii
1 A meaningful approach	1
1.1 How to use this book	1
1.2 Grammar and meaning	2
1.3 Meaning potential	3
1.4 System networks	5
1.5 Language in use	6
1.6 The study of texts	7
1.7 The notion of rank	9
1.8 Functions and metafunctions	12
Summary	15
Further study	15
Exercises	16
2 Labels	19
2.1 Music, mathematics, medicine and motor-vehicle maintenance	19
2.2 A political parable	19
2.3 Word classes	21
2.4 Subjects	30
2.5 Groups	32
2.6 Three ways of looking at a clause	35
Summary	37
Further study	37
Exercises	38
3 Clause structure	41
3.1 Subject revisited	41
3.2 Finites and Predicators	46

3.3	Complements	51
3.4	Adjuncts	53
3.5	Sample analysis	60
	Summary	61
	Further study	61
	Exercises	62
4	Information structure and thematic structure	65
4.1	Organizing ideas	65
4.2	Information structure: Given and New information	66
4.3	Thematic structure: Theme and Rheme	72
4.4	The interaction of information structure and thematic structure	80
	Summary	82
	Further study	82
	Exercises	83
5	Grammar and text	86
5.1	Text and texture	86
5.2	The textual component of the grammar	87
5.3	Thematic progression	90
5.4	Cohesive ties	95
	Summary	103
	Further study	103
	Exercises	105
6	Process and participant	108
6.1	Transitivity: the clause as representation	108
6.2	Processes	110
6.3	Material process	112
6.4	Mental process	118
6.5	Relational process	122
6.6	Verbal process	125
6.7	Other processes	128
6.8	Grammatical metaphor	129
6.9	Circumstance	134
	Summary	135
	Further study	136
	Exercises	137
7	Group structure	140
7.1	Groups revisited	140
7.2	Nominal Groups	140
7.3	Verbal groups	150

7.4	Other group complexes and phrase complexes	156
	Summary	157
	Further study	158
	Exercises	159
8	Embedded clauses	162
8.1	Embedded clause as Postmodifier/Qualifier	162
8.2	Multiple embedding of clauses	170
8.3	Embedded clause as Subject or Complement	172
8.4	Postposed clauses	174
8.5	Other embedded clauses	176
	Summary	177
	Further study	178
	Exercises	178
9	Clause complexes: expansion	181
9.1	Ways of combining clauses	181
9.2	Paratactic clause relations	181
9.3	Hypotactic clause relations	184
9.4	More complicated complexes	195
	Summary	197
	Further study	198
	Exercises	198
10	Clause complexes: projection	202
10.1	Projection	202
10.2	Paratactic projection	202
10.3	Hypotactic projection	204
10.4	Non-finite projection	207
10.5	Grammatical metaphor: embedding versus dependency	208
10.6	Even more complicated complexes	211
10.7	Ambiguous structures	216
	Summary	216
	Further study	217
	Exercises	218
11	Applications of functional analysis	222
11.1	Explanations and theories	222
11.2	Writing in science and technology	223
11.3	Language development and language teaching	228
11.4	Language and literature: valued texts	233
11.5	Language and power	235
11.6	On applications and SFL theory	238

Summary	239
Further study	240
12 Historical perspectives	242
12.1 Origins	242
12.2 Before the twentieth century	242
12.3 De Saussure	244
12.4 Linguistics in America	246
12.5 Whorf	249
12.6 The Prague School	252
12.7 Malinowski and Firth	252
12.8 Corpus linguistics	254
12.9 Some functional alternatives	256
12.10 Systemic functional 'grammars'	258
Summary	259
Further study	260
Answer key	262
Glossary	285
References	296
Index of authors	310
Subject index	314