To appear in: eLanguage

Theoretical and Crosslinguistic Approaches to the Semantics of Aspect. Ed. by Susan Rothstein. Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 2008. Pp. viii, 453. ISBN: 978-90-272-3374-5. $180 US (Hb).

In this edited volume, Susan Rothstein collates thirteen papers presented at a workshop on the semantics of aspect held at Bar Ilan University, Israel, in June 2005. The volume deals with central theoretical issues in aspectual research and is divided into three themed sections: part one on 'tense, aspect and Vendler classes', part two on 'issues in Slavic aspect', and part three on 'aspect in non-Indoeuropean languages'.

'Tense, aspect and Vendler classes' includes contributions on lifetime inferences made from tenses, the semantics of grammatical aspectual operators, a typology of direction, and the Vendler classification of verbs. In 'lexicalised meaning and the internal temporal structure of events', **Malka Rappaport Hovav** argues that the Vendler classification pertains to VPs based on a verb's lexical specification of scale and its contribution to telicity and boundedness. **Susan Rothstein** contrasts this view in 'telicity, atomicity and the Vendler classification of verbs' by arguing that the

Vendler classification pertains to verbs, while (a)telicity is a property of the VP: (a)telicity rests in the count domain with singular/plural contrasts at the crux of the issue.

'Issues in Slavic aspect' includes papers on the semantics of (a)telicity, (im)perfectivity, lexical aspect, and plurality; in particular, the relation between (a)telicity and (im)perfectivity. In 'formal and informal semantics of telicity', **Elena Paducheva** and **Mati Pentus** explore Krifka's definition of (a)telicity (cumulativity and quantization) in Russian by considering the aspectual contrast between perfectivity and imperfectivity. They conclude that viewpoint is the crucial contrast in the semantics of the Russian aspects. **Hana Filip** takes telicity further in 'events and maximalization: the case of telicity and perfectivity' and discusses the central role of measurement in the calculation of telicity in Slavic and Germanic.

'Aspect in non-Indoeuropean languages' includes contributions on Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Hebrew, and Kalaallisut exploring the expression of time and grammatical aspect, aspectual particles, and telicity. In 'habituality and the habitual aspect' **Nora Boneh** and **Edit Doron** examine habituality in Modern Hebrew and argue for two types of aspectual operator: one is modal (gnomic habituality) and the second is an aspectual head (actualized habituality). The semantics of *le* in Mandarin Chinese is the focus of **Hooi Ling Soh**'s paper in 'the syntax and semantics of change/transition: evidence from Mandarin Chinese' where she suggests that this ambiguous particle connects perfectivity and the identification of transitions with different transitions determined by *le*'s syntactic position.

The specific contribution of this volume to the field of aspect, and to semantics in general, is timely when researchers are considering the universality of aspect and questioning aspectual categories. This volume's major strength is its cross-linguistic dimension which not only explores diverse language families with some interesting findings, but also effectively interfaces the theoretical with the cross-linguistic approaches. This notable achievement will be an informative tool for researchers working on the various facets of aspect and aspect-marking in many languages.

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