Spatial particles of orientation

Lecture 6
Part 2
General orientation of the TR: to and for

To versus for: primary versus oblique goal

- He ran to the hills.
- He ran for the hills.
- She is hurrying to the ball.
- She is hurrying for the ball.

- the oriented TR appears to have a goal which involves reaching the LM
- the TR is in motion and hence following some trajectory because of the information coded by the verb
These particles can also occur in scenes which do not involve the TR moving towards the LM

• The timekeeper whistled/gestured/called to/ for the referee.

Let’s go back to:

• a. He ran to the hills.
  b. He ran for the hills.
in non-purposeful TRs, ones that clearly lack intention - *for* is semantically anomalous while *to* is acceptable in this sense *for* requires a purposeful or intentional TR
The proto-scene associated with \textit{to}

- the functional element associated with \textit{to} is the LM as goal

- the highlighted status of the LM makes it readily interpretable as a primary target or goal
The proto-scene associated with for

- the LM is represented with a dashed line, reflecting the view that it is not profiled
- The functional component is the oblique or secondary nature of the LM
The semantics of **to**

A **path** is not explicitly coded by **to**

• The clock tower faces **to** the east.
• She looked **to** her left / the distant hills.
• He is pointing **to** the clump of grass.

• orientation often does correlate both with **path** and indeed with **motion** (hence a trajectory - which is to say **motion** of a TR along a **path**)
• both **path** and **motion** are the result of conceptual integration of linguistic prompts, and are not primarily coded by **to**
The Locational Sense - TR is located with respect to the LM, no orientation

- In this picture, Diana is standing to/on my left.
- The boarders lived in the rooms to the back of the house.
- Please take the seats to the front of the auditorium.
- the TR is located in the vicinity of the speaker's left side
- The boarders lived in the rooms to/at the back of the house.
- Please take the seats to/at the front of the auditorium.
The Contact Sense denotes contact b/n the TR and LM

- The poster portrayed a young woman with her finger to her lips.
- Apply the soap directly to the stain for best results.
- cheek to cheek (hand to hand, toe to toe)
The Attachment Sense - denotes a relation, in which the TR forms a part of or is contiguous with the LM

- He added a fence to the garden.
- The vestibule to the House of Commons.
- Chris and Katherine are married to each other.
- the TR oriented with respect to the LM and subsequently undergoing contact
- a permanent situation, the notion of attachment, through pragmatic strengthening, has come to be associated with to
- a socio-legal relationship rather than a purely spatial one
The Comparison Sense - the TR is compared with the LM

- The design of this sweater is inferior to that one.
- The motion was carried by 50 votes to 29.
- The act of comparison correlates with bringing one object close to another so that they can more easily be examined and compared.
The Event Sense - denotes a relation b/n a TR and an event coded by the LM

- The captain went to the boaters' rescue.
- We went to lunch.
- this sense derived from the tight correlation in experience between a place/LM and the event which occurs at the particular location
- She sang the child to sleep.
- we hypothesize that the role of *to* as an infinitival subordinator in complementation may be ultimately derived from this particular sense
The semantics of *for*

- **to** - a number of senses are related to direction, attaining a particular target or goal, and contact
- **for** - primarily concerned with *motives, intentions and purposes*, reflecting the more intentional character of the functional element associated with the proto-scene
The Purpose Sense - TR performs a particular activity in order to achieve some purpose

- He arrived at 7.30 for dinner.
- She returned for the prize.
- She held on for dear life.
- She prayed for a miracle.

- the arrival at 7.30 is motivated by a dinner engagement
- the return is due to a prize
- the act of 'holding on' is for reasons of survival
- the purpose of the TR’s prayer is to achieve a miracle

- in the proto-scene the LM is not in focus
The Intended Recipient Sense - *for*
introduces the intended recipient of a particular action

- Susan bought the gown *for* Carol.
- Mike prepared the curry *for* Donna.

- there is a correlation between a particular *recipient* and the *purpose* of the action
- the recipient correlates with the purpose
The Benefactive Sense - *for* denotes a relation b/n an action and a beneficiary

She raised money *for* charity.
He scored *for* United.
They sang *for* each other.

- in the Intended Recipient Sense there is no receipt entailed
- in the Benefactive Sense the recipient does *actually* take receipt of the intended benefit
Orientation of the LM: in front of, before, behind and after

• particles that relate to an oriented LM

• before vs. in front of and behind vs. after

• previous accounts simply say in front of and behind primarily designate spatial/locational meanings, before and after are largely used to express temporal relations
in front of and behind

- a functional element of positive (or presence of) perceptual accessibility for in front of

- a functional element of negative (or lack of) perceptual accessibility for behind

- crucially references the human body in which the primary organs of perception are located in the front of the head
before and after - involve the notion of sequence

Before
• seeing this spatial configuration through the eyes of the TR
• the functional element associated with before is ‘in advance of’
• the TR is construed as leading the LM

After
• the TR (which is oriented to the back of the LM) is construed as following the LM
• The functional element associated with after is that of following or pursuit
The TR is located at the front of the LM, the TR is perceptually accessible

- The LM is oriented, either inherently or not
- The TR is not oriented

Proto-scene for in front of

- Jean looked everywhere for her glasses and suddenly realized they were on the counter, right in front of her all the time.
Functional orientation - the proto-scene for in front of can also be used with inanimate LMs, which are functionally oriented

- On winter evenings, they often talked for hours in front of a roaring fire in the hearth/fireplace.
- John stood in front of the oncoming car.
- John ran in front of the car as it rolled down the hill.
- what counts as the front of the LM is that part which affords accessibility
- or typical use and movement
- or actual movement
Mirror image alignment in a closed scene

- A closed scene is a spatial scene involving just 2 entities (in contrast with open scenes which involve more than 2 entities)

- Some LMs are not inherently but functionally oriented
- Some LMs can be accessed from any direction – a bush/tree
Sarah stood in front of the tree.

- a closed scene involving an animate TR and an inanimate LM
- it is common to project a front/back axis onto the LM, which objectively is non-oriented
They are **not** in a mirror-image alignment

The marathon was just in the beginning stages, but Steve was already over a mile in front of the other runners.

The teacher was difficult to hear when she was **in front of** the class because she often spoke as she wrote on the blackboard.
Both the TR and the LM are oriented in tandem alignment.

Proto-scene for before
a race with four runners, A, B, C and D

- Runner A finishes first, runner B second and runner C third.
- A being located in front of runners B and C, A is sequenced prior to both B and C, and arrives at (or encounters) the finish line prior to, or in advance of, B and C.
3 people in an *in tandem* alignment

- Gary, Nicole and Erica are standing in line
- If Donna approaches from the front of the line, Donna will encounter the three in sequential order
Sequence is associated with **before**

**Sequence Sense** is a **Temporal Sense**

- **before** can be used to denote any set of ordered entities

A is **before** B in the alphabet.

Your name is **before** his on the list of people to be admitted to the programme.

Monday is always **before** Tuesday.

- the processing required to relate two units in a sequence correlates with the passage of time
- a **sequence** is necessarily a **temporal** concept
The Location Sense of before

- no in tandem alignment and no sequential interpretation
- before appears to be (nearly) synonymous to in front of

- The rabbi performed the ritual before the congregation.
- When deserving citizens are knighted, they kneel before the queen.
- John was summoned before the principal.

- the vantage point of the LM is privileged because the LM is human
- the TR is perceptually accessible to the LM
- the TR is thus in a position to be scrutinized by the LM

?Look, Chris is standing before his new truck in this picture.
The Priority Sense

My father tried never to place one of his children before another.
This airline makes a virtue out of placing safety before all else.

• In these examples the TR is afforded a higher priority than the LM. This sense is distinct from the proto-scene associated with before as it involves an additional, non-spatial relation.
The proto-scene for behind

The student stood behind the teacher.

- the TR is located wrt the teacher's back
- the LM must have front/back orientation, such that the front is directed away from the TR

functional element - lack of perceptual access and lack of surety about the location of the TR
Functionally oriented LMs

• We normally construe non-animate entities as having front/back orientation.

The road is behind the house.
The Lack of Priority Sense

• The president placed environmental welfare behind all other items in his legislative programme.

• As being located behind another entity correlates with being less likely to achieve a desired objective or outcome.
The semantics of after

- *After* derives from a comparative form of *of*, which meant ‘farther off’/ ‘farther away’.
- *After* has a spatial sense:

  A bear was moving briskly through the wood with a cub trailing *after* her.

- *After* specifies a relation in which both the TR and the LM are oriented, and moreover, share an in tandem alignment.

* The road is *after* the house. (unacceptable)
The Sequential Sense

• It forms a contrast set with the Sequential Sense associated with before.

O is after A in the alphabet.
Wave after wave crashed into the cliff.
Dessert always comes after the main course.

• sequences are inherently temporal
To sum up

• While up, down, to and for relate to orientation of the TR, in front of, behind, before and after all involve orientation of the LM.

• The particles before and after add the additional element of the TR, as well as the LM, being oriented.
Tasks: When I entered the kitchen, I saw that the cereal box was in front of the bowl.

• Open or closed scene?
• How many entities are involved?
• Are they inherently oriented?
• On-stage or off-stage vantage point?