

UNDERSTANDING LANGUAGE SERIES

Sebastian Löbner

Understanding
Semantics

second edition

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Understanding Semantics



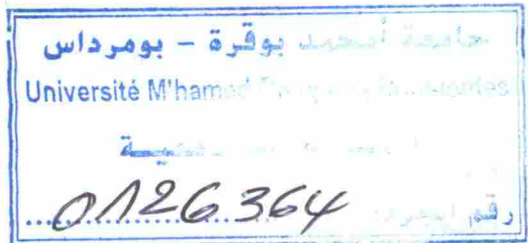
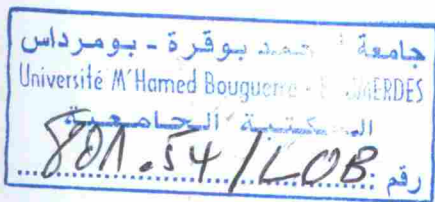
Understanding Semantics, Second Edition, provides an engaging and accessible introduction to linguistic semantics. The first part takes the reader through a step-by-step guide to the main phenomena and notions of semantics, covering levels and dimensions of meaning, ambiguity, meaning and context, logical relations and meaning relations, the basics of noun semantics, verb semantics and sentence semantics. The second part provides a critical introduction to the basic notions of the three major theoretical approaches to meaning: structuralism, cognitive semantics and formal semantics.

Key features include:

- A consistent mentalist perspective on meaning
- Broad coverage of lexical and sentence semantics, including three new chapters discussing deixis, NP semantics, presuppositions, verb semantics and frames
- Examples from a wider range of languages that include German, Japanese, Spanish and Russian
- Practical exercises on linguistic data
- Companion website including all figures and tables from the book, an online dictionary, answers to the exercises and useful links at routledge.com/cw/loebner.

This book is an essential resource for all undergraduate students studying linguistics.

Sebastian Löbner is Professor for general linguistics at the University of Düsseldorf, Germany. His main research interests are linguistic semantics and cognitive linguistics.



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'Sebastian Löbner's *Understanding Semantics* is a rare treat for both seasoned researchers in semantics and novices to the field, and I believe this book should be on every semantics curriculum as it has been on mine since it first appeared.'

Luna Filipovic, *University of East Anglia, UK*

'Sebastian Löbner deserves great credit for producing an introduction to linguistic meaning that is both accessible and thorough.'

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'This excellent and well-written introductory textbook provides students with easy access to the fascinating world of semantics.'

Klaus von Heusinger, *University of Cologne, Germany*

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Series editors: Bernard Comrie, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany, and Greville Corbett, University of Surrey, UK.

The **Understanding Language** series provides approachable, yet authoritative, introductions to major topics in linguistics. Ideal for students with little or no prior knowledge of linguistics, each book carefully explains the basics, emphasising understanding of the essential notions rather than arguing for a particular theoretical position.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS/SEMANTICS



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ISBN 978-1-4441-2243-5



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