

## INTERACTIVITY AND INTERACTIVE ACTS

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ofIntroduction

The recognition that the production of speakers of any language consists of segments which are connected to each other in some way has always been part of our grammatical legacy. Traditional grammars invariably contain sections on conjunction, coordination, subordination and the like. But the treatment of this recognition, irrespective of the nature and extent of the segments, had until recently been for the most part purely semantic, sentence-based, and consequently neglectful of the speaker or the user and the context within which s/he is operating. This semantic treatment of 'relations' includes the works of the traditional grammarians, as well as the more recent writing. Such literature presents connection as being between sentences or clauses in texts. The clauses or sentences express 'meanings' (Curme 1935:162) or 'thoughts' (Mason 1901:120). Here relations are treated under structural descriptions of 'coordination' or 'subordination'. The classification of relations in all traditional grammars is in fact carried out under the sections on 'adverbial clauses', a consequence of their treatment in sentence grammars.

Adverbial clauses are categorised according to their 'meaning', giving rise to clauses of reason, purpose, result, concession, condition and so on. There is no explicit explanation of the criteria leading to the classification. Instead, it is assumed that the copious examples supplied will help the reader to distinguish one class from another (Curme 1935, Kennedy 1935, Kruisinga 1932, Zandvoort 1962). The class names are also assumed to be self-explanatory, i.e. the second clause expresses a result or reason etc, in relation to the first.

