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Titel: Semantics. Scope, Definitions, Methods, [Nice1951] 046-0610

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Anvendt udgave: Louis Hjelmslev og hans kreds

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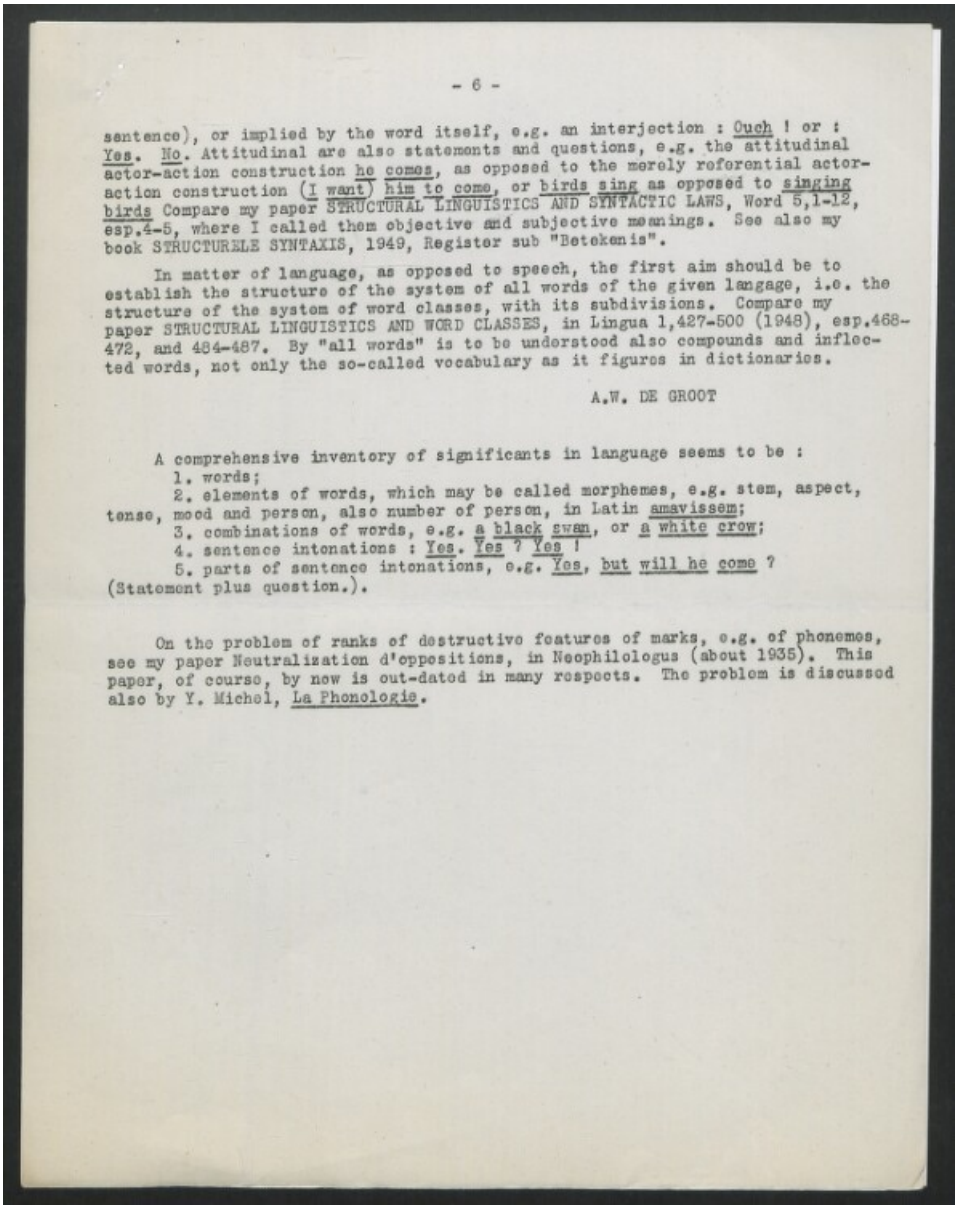

sentence), or implied by the word itself, e.g. an interjection : Ouch ! or : Yes. No. Attitudinal are also statements and questions, e.g. the attitudinal actor-action construction he comes, as opposed to the merely referential actor-action construction (I want) him to come, or birds sing as opposed to singing birds Compare my paper STRUCTURAL LINGUISTICS AND SYNTACTIC LAWS, Word 5,1-12, esp.4-5, where I called them objective and subjective meanings. See also my book STRUCTURELE SYNTAXIS, 1949, Register sub "Betekenis".

In matter of language, as opposed to speech, the first aim should be to establish the structure of the system of all words of the given langage, i.e. the structure of the system of word classes, with its subdivisions. Compare my paper STRUCTURAL LINGUISTICS AND WORD CLASSES, in Lingua 1,427-500 (1948), esp.468-472, and 484-487. By "all words" is to be understood also compounds and inflected words, not only the so-called vocabulary as it figures in dictionaries.

A.W. DE GROOT

A comprehensive inventory of significants in language seems to be :

1. words;
2. elements of words, which may be called morphemes, e.g. stem, aspect, tense, mood and person, also number of person, in Latin amavissem;
3. combinations of words, e.g. a black swan, or a white crow;
4. sentence intonations : Yes. Yes ? Yes !
5. parts of sentence intonations, e.g. Yes, but will he come ? (Statement plus question.).

On the problem of ranks of destructive features of marks, e.g. of phonemes, see my paper Neutralization d'oppositions, in Neophilologus (about 1935). This paper, of course, by now is out-dated in many respects. The problem is discussed also by Y. Michel, La Phonologie.