## Contents

1 Introduction
---
1.1 The Standard Notions and Their Problems
---
1.2 Aim of the Book
---
1.3 Plan of the book
---

2 Against the Standard Notions of Literal Meaning and Non-literal Meaning
---
2.1 Literal Meaning and Context-Independence
---
2.1.1 Literal Meaning as Compositional Meaning?
---
2.1.2 Literal Meaning as Context-Independent?
---
2.1.3 Literal Meaning as Primary to Non-literal Meaning?
---
2.2 Non-literal Meaning and Conventionality
---
2.2.1 Empirical Evidence
---
2.2.2 Theoretical Considerations
---
2.3 Consequences for Lexical Meaning
---
2.3.1 Problematic Data
---
2.3.2 Approaches to Meaning in the Lexicon
---
2.3.2.1 The Maximalist Approach
---
2.3.2.2 The Intermediate Approach
---
2.3.3 Semantic Underspecification in the Lexicon
---
2.3.3.1 The Minimalist Approach
---
2.3.3.2 Ruhl’s monosemic approach
---
2.3.3.3 A Cognitive Approach
---
2.3.3.4 Underspecification and Conventionality
---
2.3.3.5 Underspecification and Semantic Relations
---
2.3.3.6 More Underspecification in the Lexicon
---
2.3.3.7 Underspecification of Semantic Composition
---
2.4 Empirical Investigations of Aspects of Semantics
---
2.4.1 Polysemy vs. Underspecification in the Lexicon
---
2.4.2 Empirical Evidence for Semantic vs. Pragmatic Processing
---
2.5 Why the Standard Notions?
---
2.6 Summary
---

3 Utterance Meaning and the Literal/Non-literal Distinction
---
3.1 Levels of Meaning
---
3.1.1 Grice’s Four Types of Meaning
---
3.1.2 Bierwisch’s Three Levels of Meaning
### Contents

3.1.3 Summary — 110  
3.2 The Problem of Characterising the Level of Utterance Meaning — 112  
3.2.1 Explicit/Implicit Meaning — 114  
3.2.1.1 Explicatures — 114  
3.2.1.2 Implicitures — 123  
3.2.2 Unarticulated Constituents vs. Hidden Indexicals — 127  
3.2.3 Minimal Semantic Content and Full Propositionality — 138  
3.2.4 Minimal Proposition vs. Proposition Expressed — 147  
3.3 Summary — 154

4 Utterance Meaning and Communicative Sense – Two Levels or One? — 159  
4.1 Problematic Phenomena — 161  
4.1.1 Metaphor — 161  
4.1.1.1 Traditional Characterisation and its Problems — 161  
4.1.1.2 Metaphor and The Similarity of Various Types of Meaning — 163  
4.1.1.3 Metaphor and Attributive Categories — 166  
4.1.1.4 Empirical Results Concerning Metaphor Interpretation — 168  
4.1.1.5 Formal approaches to metaphor interpretation — 172  
4.1.1.6 Summary — 179  
4.1.2 Irony — 181  
4.1.2.1 Traditional Characterisation and its Problems — 181  
4.1.2.2 Irony as echoic interpretive use — 182  
4.1.2.3 Irony as a Form of Indirect Negation — 185  
4.1.2.4 Empirical Results Concerning Irony Interpretation — 188  
4.1.2.5 Summary — 195  
4.1.3 Conversational Implicatures — 196  
4.1.3.1 Generalised vs. Particularised Conversational Implicature – Theoretical Approaches — 196  
4.1.3.2 (Mostly) Empirical Evidence Concerning GCIs — 207  
4.1.3.3 Summary — 216  
4.1.4 Speech Acts — 217  
4.2 Differentiating What is Said from What is Meant — 222  
4.2.1 What is Said/What is Meant and Indirect Speech Reports — 224  
4.2.2 Primary vs. Secondary Pragmatic Processes — 229  
4.2.3 What is Said/What is Meant and Distinct Knowledge Systems — 234  
4.3 Summary — 242
5 Varieties of Meaning, Context and the Semantics/Pragmatics Distinction — 246

5.1 Towards an Alternative Characterisation of (Non-)Literal Meaning — 246

5.1.1 Literal Meaning and Types of Non-literal Meaning — 248

5.1.2 Literal Meaning as ‘Minimal Meaning’ — 255

5.1.3 Nature of the Processes Determining (Non)-Literal Meaning — 261

5.1.4 (Non-)Literal Meaning as (Non-)Basic Meaning — 268

5.2 The Nature of Context in Utterance Interpretation — 275

5.2.1 Context and the Interpretation of Implicit Meaning Aspects — 276

5.2.1.1 Free Enrichment and Implicit Meaning Aspects — 276

5.2.1.2 Discourse Interpretation and Information from Conceptual Frames — 280

5.2.1.3 Free Enrichment and Information from Conceptual Frames — 284

5.2.1.4 Consequences — 292

5.2.2 Context, Semantic Interpretation and the Semantics/Pragmatics Distinction — 293

5.3 Summary — 304

6 Summary — 307

List of Figures — 311

Bibliography — 313

Index — 325