

## Book reviews

Ken-Ichi Takami: *Preposition Stranding: From Syntactic to Functional Analyses*. Berlin and New York: Mouton de Gruyter, 1992. xi + 304 pp.

This book (henceforth PS) discusses the analysis of preposition stranding phenomena in English and, marginally, in a few other languages. After a brief introduction there are chapters on "Preposition stranding in VPs or Ss," "Preposition stranding in NPs," "Pseudo-passives," "Tough-movement on prepositional phrases," "The violin-sonata paradox revisited," "Stranding of displaced prepositions," and "Preposition stranding in Danish and Swedish," followed by a short concluding chapter. The overview of the main properties of stranding in English is fairly complete, as is the bibliography. As such, this is a useful tool for linguists venturing into the fascinating complexities of stranding phenomena.

The central chapters all have the same structure. They start out with a review of the mainstream syntactic analyses, followed by a critique of these proposals. More often than not the core point of the critique is that there is considerable factual variation within the simple-minded black-and-white categories of grammatical vs. ungrammatical created by the syntactic rules and principles. Thus if most syntactic analyses correctly predict that (1) is ungrammatical, it is then pointed out that the structurally identical (2) is grammatical (PS: p. 57).

- (1) \*Which car do you like the girl in?
- (2) Which baseball team do you like the players in?

While such facts, if correct, do show that extant syntactic analyses are less than adequate, insufficiently equipped to deal with such cases, the conclusion in PS is invariably that the syntactic analysis should be REPLACED by a functional one.<sup>1</sup> The chapter will then discuss and criticize existing functional approaches to such phenomena. These are then rejected in favor of a functional proposal by the author. In this case, the