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The Lexicon in Case Grammar

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Part I *Semantic properties of the verbs accuse, criticize, credit and praise*

Fillmore (1969) describes the role structure of the verbs as follows:

(A) ACCUSE [Judge, Defendant, Situation (of)] (Performative)

Meaning: SAY [Judge, 'X', Addressee]

X=RESPONSIBLE [Situation, Defendant]

Presupposition: BAD [Situation]

(B) CRITICIZE [Judge, Defendant, Situation (for)]

Meaning: SAY [Judge, 'X', Addressee]

X=BAD [Situation]

Presupposition: RESPONSIBLE [Defendant, Situation]

Presupposition: ACTUAL [situation]

(C) CREDIT [Judge, Defendant, Situation (with)]

Meaning: THINK [Judge, 'X']

X=RESPONSIBLE [Defendant, Situation]

Presupposition: GOOD [Situation]

(D) PRAISE [Judge, Defendant, Situation (for)]

Meaning: SAY [Judge, Addressee, 'X']

X=GOOD [Situation]

Presupposition: RESPONSIBLE [Defendant, Situation]

Part II *Some queries against his descriptions*

1. The verb *praise*, it seems, presupposes the factuality of the situation just as in *criticize*.
2. It should be indicated in the presupposition that the verbs *accuse* and *criticize* take nouns marked [---+human] as their Defendant.

- (1) *John accused the dog of taking the missing sandals.
3. There seems to exist some complicated relation between the presupposition *Actual* and the use of the determiner in (2) or the personal pronoun in (3), but it remains an open question just what it is.
- (2) John criticized Harry for *the* accident.
- (3) John criticized Harry for his cowardice.
4. The sentential object and the subject of the gerundial phrase do not have to be identical but the Defendant should be responsible for what has been done by the subject.
- (4) I accused Harry of his sister's marrying a Frenchman.

Part III I propose the case frame of the verbs as follows:

(E) ACCUSE

+ [----AGT EXP OBJ]

Preposition: of

Prep. Phrase: Ger.

[-Prep Phrase Del.]

(F) CRITICIZE

+ [----AGT (EXP) OBJ]

Preposition: for

Prep. Phr.: Ger.

(G) CREDIT

+ [----AGT (EXP) OBJ]

Prep.: with

Prep. Phr.: Ger.

[-Prep. Phr. Del.]

(H) PRAISE

+ [----AGT (EXP) OBJ]

Prep. : for

Prep. Phr.: Ger.