PERSONAL DEIXIS IN SPANISH-ITALIAN SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION

Sara Bani

sara.bani@unict.it
Universidad de Catania

Abstract

Personal deixis encodes the role of the participants in a communicative event and it is relevant to the rethorical construction of discourse. In simultaneous interpretation, personal deixis may undergo significant changes: some references are omitted, while others are added or modified. The study examines how first person singular and plural deixis is interpreted from Spanish into Italian. The analysis is based on a corpus of spoken texts which were pronounced by Latin American speakers during a journalism festival organized by the magazine *Internazionale*. All texts were simultaneously interpreted from Spanish into Italian by free-lance professional interpreters. The aim of this study is to identify patterns in the simultaneous interpretation of personal deixis from Spanish into Italian.

Keywords: Personal pronouns. Deixis. Journalism. Spanish-Italian interpretation. *Internazionale*

1. Introduction and aims

One of the macro-features of orality is the presence of a shared extralinguistic context (Bazzanella 1994: 14). Deixis establishes a relationship between the language and the extralinguistic context, since the interpretation of deictic expressions is linked to their specific context of communication. As Eguren states (1999: 931), deictics are "a relatively closed set of linguistic units or expressions that make reference to an unlimited number of entities in the world".

The *Grande grammatica italiana di consultazione* (Vanelli & Renzi 2001: 263) defines deixis as the linguistic codification of contextual features which are associated to the egocentric organization of communicative interaction. Utterances are egocentric - meaning that the speaker, as the sender of the message, assumes the role of *ego* and relates everything else to his point of view, with an egocentricity that is both spatial and temporal (Lyons 1977: 638). Therefore, the interpretation of deictic expressions revolves around the deictic centre or zero point of the spatio-temporal coordinates of the context: *here, now* and *me* (Eguren 1999: 932).

Person, time and space are three features that are language universals at a conceptual level, even though their manifestation is far from uniform: the universality of deictic categories does not depend on their expression, but it is always reflected on a grammatical or lexical level (Levinson 2004: 112).

Deictic expressions have aroused the interest of many disciplines. Philosophy, and more specifically logic, highlighted the importance of knowing the communicative context to establish the truth of an utterance that contains a deictic expression or, in Lyons' words (1977: 646), "deixis, in general, sets limits upon the possibility of decontextualization". Deixis may be a synonym of *indexicality*, even though in some cases (such as in Levinson 2004: 97) this term is used to refer to broader phenomena of contextual dependence, whereas *deixis* applies to indexicality phenomena that are relevant from a linguistic point of view. In logic, *indexical field* is used to refer to spatial, temporal and personal coordinates, whose centre is represented by the time and the circumstances of the utterance. In the field of psychology, Rommetveit (1968) coined

the expression *deictic anchoring* to highlight how deixis link the utterance to its spatio-temporal context. This definition was used in the linguistic field by Fillmore (1975).

There are many classifications of deixis that are based on different criteria and that sometimes may overlap. Fillmore (1975) and Lyons (1977) drew the most traditional and widespread classification among personal, spatial and temporal deixis (to which later social and textual deixis were added).

Personal deixis encodes the role of participants in the speech event and includes personal pronouns, personal verbal inflection, possessive and demonstrative adjectives and pronouns. The grammatical category of person directly reflects on the different roles that participants play in the communicative event: speaker, addressee, other entities (Levinson 2004: 112). In the traditional grammar terminology, the word *person* (first, second and third), which comes from the latin *persona*, indicated a mask and was taken by the Greek word that identified a dramatic character: the speech event was conceived as a drama in which the main role belonged to the first person, the secondary role to the second and all the others to the third (Lyons 1977: 638). Since in a conversation the deictic centre (which Bühler 1934 called *origo*) usually concides with the speaker, when the speaker changes, the deictic centre changes as well; this is why Jespersen (1922) and then Jakobson (1957) used the alternative term *shifters* to refer to deictic elements.

Spatial deixis locates entities in relation to the speaker's "here" and includes demostrative adjectives and pronouns, some adverbs and prepositional utterances with a locative meaning, as well as some verbs of motion (Eguren 1999: 934). Temporal deixis relates the speech to the moment in which the communicative event takes place, and it includes adverbs, nominal and prepositional utterances with a temporal meaning, as well as the tense (Eguren 1999: 934). Textual deixis relates to text fragments that precede or follow the deictic expression, and social deixis indicates the social relationships between the participants in the speech event, by means of direct or indirect references to their social status or their role in the communication (Levinson 2004: 119), as the forms of treatment *tú* and *usted* in peninsular Spanish.

Moreover, depending on the exclusive or not exclusive deictic nature of an expression, we can differentiate between *pure* and *impure* deixis (Eguren 1999: 935). Pure deictics have an exclusive deictic meaning and give no additional information whatsoever (such as personal pronouns *yo* or *tú*). On the contrary, impure deictics convey additional information, such as the gender in *nosotras* or the tense in the verbal inflection (*soy/era/seré*).

Personal deixis, which will be discussed in this paper, introduces an ineradicable subjectivity in the semantic structure of natural languages (Lyons 1977: 646) and plays a crucial role in the rethorical construction of discourse: throughout personal deictics, the speaker places himself in relation to others, identifies himself as an individual or as part of a group (with the first person plural, both inclusive and exclusive). Usually personal or group identification implies an opposition to another individual or group (*tú, vosotros/ustedes* or *ellos*).

In this regard, we can differentiate between transparent (or complete) and opaque (or incomplete) deictic expressions. Transparent or complete deictics point directly to the reference that has to be taken into consideration in a specific communicative context. Two examples of personal transparent deictics are *yo* and *tú*. Eguren (1999: 935) lists the following characteristics of transparent deictics:

a) they determine *a priori* the kind of reference
b) they can only be used in a specific situation
c) their reference cannot be changed by a gesture, although they can be reinforced by one

On the other hand, opaque or incomplete deictics (*él, ellas*) do not guarantee an accurate identification of their references, they can refer to different elements of the communicative event and their reference can be changed by a gesture. Eguren also states that opaque deictis are the only ones that can be used anaphorically.

Finally, as political or racist discourse studies have shown (Van Dijk 2003 & 2008), personal deixis facilitates the transmission of political convictions and is used to accept or reject linguistically the responsability for an action.

Due to the role that personal deixis plays in the discourse, it is interesting to study the shifts they undergo in interpreter-mediated communicative events. The aim of this paper is to analyze the interpretation of personal deictic references (more specifically, of the first person singular and plural) in a corpus of texts that have been translated orally from Spanish into Italian, in order to identify possible trends. Do deictics undergo any changes in the interpreted text? Are they mantained in the target text or not and, if they are, how? Are there any patterns that characterize the interpretation from Spanish into Italian?

2. Corpus description

Our corpus includes the transcription of the original version (OV, in Italian and in Spanish) and the interpreted version (IV, into Italian) of three meetings which were held during a festival of journalism in Ferrara (Italy). The festival, known as *Internazionale a Ferrara*, is organized by the Italian weekly magazine *Internazionale*. Meetings are always chaired by an Italian journalist, whereas the other participants are foreign guests, mostly journalists, who have been invited to talk about the political situation of their countries or other specific phenomena related to their geographical origin.

In communicative events such as the ones we are going to analyze, speakers' identity plays a crucial role. Actually, the festival is advertised as "a weekend with journalists from all over the world" (and not simply as "a weekend to talk about the world"): meetings focus on the foreign journalists and their specific knowledge.

The parameters of the three communicative events are very similar: there are no variations as far as the setting, the initiator or the organizer are concerned. The same goes for the interpretation technique (simultaneous), the sociological characteristics of the interpreters (all of them are Italian freelance professionals), the language and the culture of the foreign participants (Spanish-speaking journalists coming from Latin America) and the language and culture of the public (Italian).

It is important to stress that the festival organizers invite every year journalists from all over the world that speak different languages (English, French, Portuguese, Chinese or Russian, among others); therefore, our analysis could be broadened to other linguistic combinations (foreign language-Italian), without varying any other parameters of the communicative event. Many of the festival meetings are available on the magazine's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/user/internazionale), both in the original and in the interpreted version, which we used for our study. Broadening the analysis could highlight the difference between patterns that only recur in one linguistic combination and those which can be found in more than one linguistic combination.

Table 1 presents the Italian titles of the three meetings, the abbreviations that will be used to indicate them, the date in which each communicative event took place and its duration (expressed in minutes):

Titles	Abbreviation	Date	Duration
Colombia, una guerra senza colpevoli	CO	01/10/11	92
Benvenuti a Narcolandia. Le nuove rotte del traffico della droga	NA	05/10/12	113
Venezuela, la stella cadente	VE	04/10/13	86

Table 1. Meetings

Altogether, the foreign guests of the three meetings are ten (four women and six men). Four guests come from Colombia, three from Mexico, two from Venezuela and one from El Salvador. Table 2 presents the abbreviations that will be used to indicate speakers in transcript extracts:

Meeting	Name	Abbreviation
CO	Hollman Morris	HM
CO	Javier Darío Restrepo	JDR
CO	Alma Guillermoprieto	AG
CO	Libardo Sarmiento Anzola	LSA
NA	Carlos Dada	CD
NA	Diego Enrique Osorno	DEO
NA	Cynthia Rodríguez	CR
VE	Boris Muñoz	BM
VE	Maye Primera	MP
VE	María Teresa Ronderos	MTR

Table 2. Foreign participants

As we already mentioned, the public is homogenously Italian and it is mainly composed by the readers of the weekly magazine *Internazionale*, which publishes articles that are translated into Italian from the world press (similar magazines are the French *Courrier International* and the Portuguese *Courrier Internacional*). The interpreting service is entrusted to free-lance interpreters. All the interpreters of the three meetings (whose names are not mentioned on the YouTube channel) are women. Their mother tongue is Italian, but they interpret both from Spanish into Italian (for the public) and from Italian into Spanish (for foreign guests). The organization of the festival also relies on a service that prepares the (mobile) booths and assures the sound quality. The

three meetings took place at the Municipal Theatre of Ferrara, which can host 990 people. Available headphones (exclusively with the Italian channel) were 400 for each meeting.

Altogether, the three meetings have a duration of 291 minutes. The transcription amounts to 53.975 words (28.392 for the OV and 25.583 for the IV). Due to the aim of our analysis, we opted for an ortographic transcription.

Considering the reduced size of our corpus, our conclusions are to be considered a first approach to the issue of deictics in interpretation. However, it is important to stress once again that our corpus presents the advantage of being very homogeneous as far as all the communicative event parameters are concerned.

3. Analysis

From a linguistic point of view, personal deixis is expressed through subject and object personal pronouns, possessive pronouns and adjectives or verbal inflection. Texts that deal with personal deixis usually state that this kind of deixis is expressed, as far as its transparent or complete form is concerned, by the first and the second person, singular and plural. However, the linguistic variety that characterizes the Latin American journalists at the meetings substitutes the second person plural (*vosotros*, *vosotras*) by the third person plural (*ustedes*), which is used to address the other participants.

Firstly, we identified the deictic elements in the transcription of the OV and the IV. We then decided to eliminate from the recount the discourse marker *digamos/diciamo*, due to its massive presence which we considered empty of a deictic meaning. Table 3 presents the results of our search:

yo	55%	io	55%
nosotros	34%	noi	37%
tú	5%	tu	2%
ustedes	6%	voi	6%

Table 3. Percentage of deictics in the OV and the IV

At a first glance, the percentage of deictic references does not vary much from the original to the interpreted text. Even though the quantitative presence of deixis is not substantially different in the two texts, its distribution in the IV is the result of an interpreting process that inevitably implies some changes.

Considering that in the two versions more than half of the deictic references regards the first person singular and more than a third concerns the first person plural, we focused our analysis on these two persons.

We identified five different cases in the corpus:

1) the deictic reference does not change as far as the person is concerned, although its linguistic expression may change (that is, we did not take into consideration the difference between pure and impure deixis, and we did not consider relevant the shift from an expression such as "yo creo" to "secondo me", as they both convey the presence of a first person singular);

2) the deictic reference changes, as in *yo → noi* or *tu*, where the first person singular changes to a first person plural or a second person singular, or *nosotros → io*, where the first person plural shifts to a first person singular;

3) the deictic reference is omitted;

4) a deictic reference is added in the IV;

5) in some (although not many) cases, interpreters omit a larger fragment of the utterance. We decided to differentiate between the mere omission of a deictic reference (case 3) and the omission of a larger fragment (case 5).

We will focus our analysis on the deictic references that have been omitted or added for the first person singular and plural.

3.1. First person singular

Almost a fourth part of the deictic references (24,21 per cent) is omitted in the IV. The main part are matrix clauses that are introduced by the verb *creo*. They are used to mitigate the strenght of an assertion and stress the subjectivity of the speaker, by focusing on the *yo* as the active deictic centre (Haverkate 1998: 48 and Barrenechea 1979). Table 4 presents some examples from the corpus:

Meeting	Name	Minute	OV	IV
NA	CR	47.23	el número **yo creo** que es incalculable	è incalcolabile il numero delle vittime
VE	BM	10.38	ese es el telón de fondo económico que **creo** que ayuda a explicar esa dramática caída en los números de aceptación de la gestión de Maduro	questo è lo sfondo economico la cornice entro cui si devono interpretare tutte le cifre di cui abbiamo parlato per Nicolás Maduro
VE	MP	01.08.00	plantear la división política en Venezuela como una lucha de clase o como un problema ideológico **yo creo** que es equivocado no	parlare di divisione politica in Venezuela come lotta di classe come problema ideologico è un errore
CO	LSA	01.22.40	el botín de la guerra de robo en tierras a campesinos es de 7 millones de hectáreas **creo** que una extensión muy grande	sette milioni di ettari sono stati rubati ai contadini quindi una superficie enorme
CO	JDR	01.18.02	pero en este momento la situación del país **creo** que se puede resumir en una gran expectativa	ma in questo momento la situazione del paese può essere riassunta in una grande aspettativa

Table 4. Omitted deictics (first person singular)

In some cases, the mitigation of the utterance strenght passes to the adverb *forse*:

Meeting	Name	Minute	OV	IV
CO	LSA	36.40	**yo creo** que con Colombia pasa un poco lo mismo	ecco in Colombia **forse** accade un po' lo stesso
CO	LSA	01.17.30	hacer que en unas elecciones **no sé** si de estas u otras que vendrán más allá se pueda eliminar una casta política	far sì che nel corso di un'elezione libera **forse** non questa **forse** una prossima sia possibile eliminare una casta politica

Table 5. Substitution of the deictic - adverb *forse*

On the other hand, added references correspond to the 16,77 per cent, and they are due to a choice by the interpreters. Many of the added references are discourse markers and depend on the difficulty of planning the discourse,

such as *dicevo* or other verbs of saying. Table 6 presents some examples from the corpus:

Meeting	Name	Minute	OV	IV
CO	HM	19.40	la historia nos enseña	la storia **dicevo** ci insegna
CO	LSA	50.22	ese último periodo ha implicado una guerra	e in quest'ultimo periodo **dicevo** c'è stata una guerra
CO	LSA	47.16	Colombia es uno los países por los beneficios que le da a las transnacionales y al sector financiero internacional una de las utilidades más altas que puede uno mirar de rentabilidad de negocios en el mundo	la Colombia è uno dei paesi per quanto riguarda il settore finanziario nazionale **dicevo** è uno dei paesi che ha la redditività maggiore per quanto riguarda l'estero
CO	LSA	47.42	qué quiere decir eso que la rentabilidad de una transnacional operando en Colombia es del 33 por ciento	perché vi **dico** tutto questo perché semplicemente per dire che la redditività di una multinazionale che lavora in Colombia è del 33 per cento
CO	AG	58.55	una de ellas ha sido una de las ciudades más afectadas por la violencia que fue Medellín afectada por la violencia del narcotráfico	e curiosamente uno di essi una delle città più toccante dalla violenza del narcotraffico e **parlo** di Medellín

Table 6. Added deictics (first person singular)

Finally, table 7 presents an example where the mitigation of the strenght of the utterance expressed by the conditional tense (*habría*) passes to a verb (*credo*) which conveys the same mitigation meaning and moreover introduce a deictic dimension of the first person singular:

Meeting	Name	Minute	OV	IV
NA	CD	21.32	lo primero que **habría** que establecer como punto de partida	**credo** che la prima cosa da dire come punto di partenza

Table 7. Substitution conditional - deictic reference (first person singular)

3.2. First person plural

When we analysed the omission of first person plural deictics, we noted that the first person plural usually changes to a third person plural in presence of a specific syntactic structure: plural noun + first person plural verb. It is a syntactic construction that identifies directly the speaker as a part of a group in Spanish, such as in "los españoles somos menos altos que los ingleses" (Carrera Díaz 1997: 36). In Spanish, a first person plural group can be preceded by a generic noun, whereas in Italian the same structure is agrammatical, because a plural generic noun necessarily implies the use of a third person plural verb. Due to the linearity of the language and the speed of elocution, interpreters face a structure that is difficult to translate with a first person plural. In some cases, interpreters try to reintroduce the deictic elements and create anacoluthons:

Meeting	Name	Minute	OV	IV
CO	HM	17.19	Quisieron pretendieron que **los periodistas que** durante muchos y muchos años **hemos cubierto** la historia del conflicto armado en Colombia **nos quedáramos** en las salas de redacción es decir **nos quedáramos** en las sombras.	Hanno voluto fare in modo che **i giornalisti** che durante molti moltissimi anni **si sono occupati** di coprire la storia del conflitto armato in Colombia **rimanessero** fuori dal nucleo ovvero volevo volevano che **rimanessimo noi** nell'ombra
CO	HM	25.46	diciéndoles a **los periodistas que entrábamos** a las zonas de conflicto aliado del terrorismo	dicendo **ai giornalisti che entravano** nelle zone di conflitto che **eravamo** alleati del terrorismo
NA	CR	01.13.10	todos estos fenómenos políticos obviamente que también tienen tratos con narcotraficantes son las cosas que tienen que han hecho que **los ciudadanos no tengamos** ninguna confianza en las autoridades	tutti questi fenomeni politici che sono legati al narcotraffico sono ciò che ha fatto sì che **i cittadini non abbiano** più nessuna fiducia nelle autorità

Table 8. Omitted deictics (first person plural)

As far as the added deictic references are concerned, we noted that the group identity is strenghtened in relation to the geographical origin of the speakers,

which is one of the most relevant feature that differentiate the (Italian) public from the (foreign) guests:

Meeting	Name	Minute	OV	IV
VE	BM	09.28	Venezuela sufre una crisis de abastecimiento de bienes esenciales	credo che tutti in sala sappiano che in Venezuela **abbiamo** una crisi nel reperimento dei beni di base
VE	MP	20.37	Venezuela en este momento está importando gasolina	adesso **stiamo comprando** combustibile
VE	MP	24.25	justamente por el sistema económico tan perverso que se tiene ahora que es que en Venezuela	a causa del sistema economico perverso in cui **viviamo** attualmente in Venezuela

Table 9. Added deictics (first person plural)

Table 10 presents another example from the corpus where the deictic reference shifts from the spatial to the personal plan (*acá → noi*), with no changes as far as the *origo* of the utterance is concerned:

Meeting	Name	Minute	OV	IV
VE	MP	01.07.58	no ocurre como en Colombia que desde hace más o menos doscientos años gobiernan las mismas familias **acá** es como que cada cincuenta años se establece un nuevo grupo de poder	non succede come in Colombia dove diciamo da duecento anni praticamente governa la stessa famiglia **da noi** ogni cinquant'anni si consolida un nuovo gruppo al potere

Table 10. Substitution: spatial deictic - personal deictic

3.3. Deixis relativization

Finally, we would like to make some remarks about personal deixis when it is used in a narration where the speaker identifies with another speaker: as Bühler (1934) states, deictic expressions can be transposed or relativized in relation with another *origo*, usually the person of the protagonist in relevant time and space of a narrative (Fillmore 1975). The citation is often introducen by a verb os saying, which helps to mark the shift from the original *origo*. In the example we propose in Table 11, the speaker uses deictics which do not relate to her *origo*, but to another one. The deictic centre of the utterance is

not changed in comparison to the original production: the speaker lends his voice to another person, that acts as the speaker in the referred speech. The example in Table 11 comes from the meeting about Venezuela. Through the verb *dijo,* María Teresa Rondero introduces twice a fictional *origo* (government and guerrilla), to which she lends her voice by using the first person singular (*no me siento*). We can note that the personal pronoun *yo* has been added in the IV. It is marked with a prosodic accent, probably in order to stress the fictional nature of the *origo*:

Meeting	Name	Minute	OV	IV
VE	MTR	30.27	tiene cinco puntos la agenda dos puntos que puso el gobierno y que dijo **no me siento a negociar** sin estos dos puntos dos puntos que puso la guerrilla que dijo **no me siento a negociar** sin estos dos puntos	ci sono cinque punti sul programma due imposti dal governo che ha detto **io non mi siedo a negoziare** se non accadono queste due cose due punti stabiliti dai guerriglieri che hanno detto **io non mi siedo al tavolo negoziale** senza questi due punti

Table 11. Fictional *Origo*

4. Conclusions

Our analysis of the corpus reveals that, although at a first glance the percentage of deictic references is relatively similar in the OV and the IV, the IV texts undergo considerable changes: some references are omitted, whereas others are added or modified. Changes in deixis distribution imply a partial modification of the message of the OV.

As far as the first person singular is concerned, omitted deictics are mainly opinion verbs and expressions that mitigate the strenght of an utterance. These omissions partially decrease the speakers' subjectivity in the IV in comparison with the OV, and give the IV texts a more objective tone. On the other hand, added deictics are mainly discourse markers which are probably due to the difficulty of planning the text by the interpreters, because of the linearity of the OV and the speed elocution. Their function do not correspond to the one of the omitted references and their presence do not compensate the decrease of subjectivity of speakers in the IV.

As far as the first person plural is concerned, some deictic references disappear because of a syntactic asymmetry between Spanish and is difficult to handle in interpretation. Once more, this is due to the linearity of the spoken

language and the speed of elocution, which combine with a limited *décalage*. As for the first person singular, the omission of first person plural deictic references decreases speakers' subjectivity in the IV and their involvement in the discourse. Finally, some added references help to consolidate the speakers' geographical identity, a choice that is functional in the socio-communicative context of the festival that is advertised, as we mentioned earlier, as a weekend with journalists "from all over the world".

References

BARRENECHEA, Ana María. (1979) "Operadores pragmáticos de actitud oracional. Los adverbios en *-mente* y otros signos." In: Barrenechea, Ana María *et al.* (eds.) 1979. *Estudios lingüísticos y dialectológicos: Temas hispánicos*. Buenos Aires: Hachette, pp. 39-59.

BAZZANELLA, Carla. (1994) *Le facce del parlare*. Florence: La Nuova Italia.

BÜHLER, Karl. (1934) *Sprachteorie. Die Darstellungfunktion der Sprache*. Stuttgart: Gustav Fischer. Cited in the Italian translation by Serena Cattaruzza Derossi: *Teoria del linguaggio. La funzione rappresentativa del linguaggio*. Roma: Armando, 1983.

CARRERA DÍAZ, Manuel. (1997) *Grammatica spagnola*. Bari & Roma: Laterza.

EGUREN, Luis. (1999) "Pronombres y adverbios demostrativos." In: Bosque, Ignacio & Violeta Demonte (eds.) 1999. *Gramática descriptiva de la lengua española*. Madrid: Espasa-Calpe, vol. 1, pp. 1275-1316.

FILLMORE, Charles. (1975) *Santa Cruz Lectures on Deixis*, 1971. Bloomington: Indiana University Linguistic Club.

HAVERKATE, Hank. (1998) "Estrategias de cortesía. Análisis intercultural." In: Celis, Ángela & José Ramón Heredia (eds.) 1998. *Actas del VII Congreso de ASELE. Lengua y cultura en la enseñanza de español a extranjeros*. Cuenca: Ediciones de la Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, pp. 45-57.

JAKOBSON, Roman. (1957) "Shifters, verbal categories, and the Russian verb." In: Waugh, Linda & Monique Monville-Burston (eds.) 1990. *On Language: Roman Jakobson*. Cambridge (Mass.): Harvard University Russian Language Project, pp. 386-392.

JESPERSEN, Otto. (1922) *Language. Its Nature, Development and Origin*. London: George Allen & Unwin.

LEVINSON, Stephen C. (1983) *Pragmatics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

LEVINSON, Stephen C. (2004) "Deixis." In: Horn, Laurence & Gregory Ward (eds.). *The Handbook of Pragmatics*. Oxford: Blackwell, pp. 97-121.

LYONS, John. (1977) *Semantics. Vol. 2*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Cited in the Spanish translation by Ramón Cerdà: *Semántica*. Barcelona: Teide, 1980.

Rommetveit, Ragnar. (1968) *Words, meanings and messages*. New York: Academic Press.

Van Dijk, Teun. (2008) *Discurso y poder*. Barcelona: Gedisa.

Van Dijk, Teun. (2003) *Racismo y discurso de las élites*. Barcelona: Gedisa.

Vanelli, Laura & Lorenzo Renzi. (2001) "La deissi." In: Renzi, Lorenzo; Giampaolo Salvi & Anna Cardinaletti (eds.) 2001. *Grande grammatica italiana di consultazione*. Bolonia: Il Mulino, vol. 3, pp. 261-350.

BIONOTE

Sara Bani received her PhD in Translation Science from the University of Bologna in 2007. She is currently a researcher in Spanish language and literature (RTD, L-LIN/07) at the University of Catania. Her main research interests include journalistic discourse and translation, lexicography, linguistic mediation and interpretation.