An annotated Functional Grammar bibliography

Compiled by A. Don (revised August 2004)

BLOOR, T, & M. BLOOR, 1995 [2nd ed 2004]: *The Functional Analysis of English: A Hallidayan Approach*. London: Arnold: a reasonable introductory textbook for those starting out with FG, although others may work better as a tableside reference.

BURNS, A. & C. COFFIN (eds), 2001: *Analysing English in a Global Context: A Reader*. London & New York: Routledge: a collection of papers exploring issues related to teaching and using English as a second and foreign language, many of which take a social-systemic perspective. Part Three is especially relevant to work on literacy which incorporates a genre perspective.

BUTT, D. et al, 2000 (2nd ed): *Using Functional Grammar: An Explorer's Guide*. Sydney: NCELTR, Macquarie University: a basic introductory textbook, used by both Peter White and Lexie to teach FG at UoB at both undergraduate and MA level. This text was originally developed in Australia with teachers of ESL in mind, and so each chapter includes exercises and advice for (language) teachers. Because it is an introduction, it necessarily leaves out a lot of detail, and may suffer from over-simplification of what has been called an 'extravagant' theory.

COFFIN, C., A. HEWINGS & K. O'HALLORAN (eds) 2004: *Applying English Grammar: Functional and Corpus Approaches*. London: Open University; Arnold. Designed as a textbook to accompany the Open University course "English Grammar in Context", it comprises sections devoted to the cross-linking of SFL with Corpus studies and CDA, as well as chapters from a range of authors including Halliday, Martin, and Peter White. Because it is designed as an adjunct to an introductory course, the contributions have been chosen for their ease of reading, and a detailed glossary of terms at the beginning of the book is provided. Some of the chapters are unfortunately dependent for some of their material on the Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English which is theoretically immiscible with SFL.

DOWNING, A & P. LOCKE, 2002. *A University Course in English Grammar*. London & New York: Routledge. A grammar reference book.

DROGA, L. & S. HUMPHREY, 2002: *Getting Started With Functional Grammar*. Sydney: Target Texts: contains exercises for analysis, as well as tables which list and simplify the main grammatical elements of SFL. It is unavailable in the UK, but may be ordered online. There is also a copy in the UoB library. This is an invaluable aid for those coming to SFL for the first time, since the theory on its own can prove quite daunting. However,

experience in teaching and learning contexts has proved that a steady diet of exercise and analysis of texts will greatly aid digestion and absorption of complex theoretical principles. Hence this book is a necessary adjunct for the introductory course.

EGGINS, S. 1994: *An Introduction to Systemic Functional Linguistics*. London: Pinter. A detailed introduction and discussion of the main themes of Systemics together with illustrative texts. This may be useful for those who already have a basic knowledge of SFL and would like to gain another perspective on its main areas of focus.

EGGINS, S. & D. SLADE, 1997: *Analysing Casual Conversation*. London: Cassell. Several conversational texts are examined using a variety of approaches under Systemics. Addresses the idea of what casual conversation is, and how it can be characterised. Highly recommended for those involved in analysing spoken interaction. Those who have studied the Hunston & Francis framework for analysing spoken interaction will recognise some extensions of that model here.

FAIRCLOUGH, NORMAN, 2003: *Analysing Discourse: Textual Analysis for Social Research*. London: Routledge. Although not strictly-speaking a SFL text, this book is one of the best overall texts for students interested in using discourse analysis for social research. It summarises all the various strands that make up the approach known as Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and is written in an accessible style. CDA has always claimed SFL as its natural partner in text analysis, and so this book is recommended for those students whose interests include the exploration of ideology, social practices, social institutions, media, etc, through the analysis of representative texts.

FEEZ, SUSAN 2003: *Text-based Syllabus Design*. NCELTR (order online). Supposedly also available via amazon.com.uk, this slim volume has been included mainly due to the bibliophiler's interest in Syllabus Design - along with its origins within systemics research. This is the book I would have liked to produce instead of the notes for the in-house MATEFL course at CELS: it covers all the theoretical territory, and presents it in the context of using authentic texts as the basis for teaching English to a variety of language learners - and within a task-based methodology as well.

HALLIDAY, M.A.K. 1994 (2nd ed): *An Introduction to Functional Grammar*. London: Arnold. Like any Bible, the IFG can be read in any order, and is open to interpretation - but is probably best used as a reference work. The index, plus a knowledge of terminology and what you're looking for, is helpful if you wish to get the best from it. The 3rd edition (2004) has just been published and was written in conjunction with Christian Matthiessen, but the word on the street is that the 2nd edition will be the classic reference. If you can get a copy of the 1994 edition, snap it up. You may view copies in the library. Otherwise, if you plan to extend your research in linguistics and discourse analysis of any kind, then the 3rd edition will be a useful addition to

your bookshelf, and will be invaluable as a reference for years to come. It is published in paperback and is therefore not fabulously expensive for a doorstop.

HALLIDAY, M.A.K. & R. Hasan, 1985: *Language, Context and Text: Aspects of Language in a Socio-Semiotic Perspective*. Geelong, Victoria Australia: Deakin University Press. (Republished by Oxford University Press, 1989). Unfortunately out of print. There is a copy in the UoB library. One of the best overall texts showing how SFL can be applied to the investigation of social context. Highly recommended for those more interested in exploring social context through discourse analysis rather than just the nature of grammar itself.

HALLIDAY, M.A.K. and R. Hasan, 1976: *Cohesion in English*. London: Longman. Often quoted, a definitive study of cohesion and lexical relations.

HASAN, R. 1985: *Linguistics, Language and Verbal Art*. Geelong, Victoria: Deakin University Press. May be out of print, although UoB library has a copy. Excellent use of systemics applied to a number literary texts - useful for students of Stylistics and Poetics - it argues for a systematic application of grammatics to the analysis of rhetorical style, in contrast to the more recent fashion of literary analysis in which individual interpretation is regarded as sacrosanct. Because systemics finds sympathy with theorists such as Mikhail Bakhtin, its application to literature may be criticised for its out-of-date resemblance to structuralism. It is probably fair to say that its proponents can be labelled as post-structuralist in orientation. See for example, Lemke, Thibault, van Leeuwen and others.

HASAN, R. 1996: *Ways of Saying: Ways of Meaning*. London: Cassell: a collection of papers on various aspects of Ruqaiya's work in SFL, including chapters addressing child language development, genre analysis, and the social philosophy of language. Recommended for people who like a good argument - in both senses of the word.

LOCK, G. 1996: *Functional English Grammar: An Introduction For Second Language Teachers*. Thorough, authoritative, but somehow, not my favourite. If it doesn't suit one person, however, it may suit another.

MARTIN, J.R. 1992: *English Text: System and Structure*. Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins. The first "purple book": this is a detailed and thorough examination of all aspects of the grammar of English using a systemic functional perspective. Recommended for serious discourse analysts. (The second "purple book", sometimes rather unkindly known as the "lavender book", refers to Susan Hunston & Geoff Thompson (eds) 2000, *Evaluation In Text*, which contains chapters on analysing evaluation using a number of frameworks, including those other than SFL - explaining why it is not included in this bibliography at top ranking. However, for those inclined

to analyse discourse for evaluation and stance, this is indispensable. Oh, and it includes a chapter by Jim Martin as well.)

MARTIN, J. R., MATTHIESSEN, C. & C. PAINTER, 1997: *Working With Functional Grammar*. London & New York: Arnold. Designed as a companion to the IFG 2nd ed, this text is an invaluable aid for discourse analysts using the SFL framework. Complete with index, each chapter also presents a 'troubleshooting' guide which addresses some of the typical problems for the grammatical analysis of English, as well as exercises and answer key. Anyone doing any extended discourse analysis using a functional perspective will find this book a definite tableside necessity.

MARTIN, J. R. & DAVID ROSE, 2003: *Working With Discourse: Meaning Beyond the Clause*. London & New York: Continuum. Takes an 'outside in' approach, by first introducing a number of different texts, concerned with similar events, which are then analysed using the various grammatical tools SFL provides. Detailed yet approachable. Said to be a distilled version of Martin's 1992 "English Text". There have been some complaints regarding the 'style' of the discourse, however, I have found it mostly readable. It also benefits from a certain looseness in interpretation - the authors have been willing to speculate on several aspects of the grammar in use.

POYNTON, C. 1985: *Language and Gender: Making the Difference*. Geelong, Victoria: Deakin University Press. May be out of print, but UoB library has a copy. This slim volume looks at the means by which social roles and relationships (tenor) are construed in the grammar, with particular reference to naming and addressing practices.

THOMPSON, G. 2004 (2nd ed): *Introducing Functional Grammar*. London: Arnold. One of the best introductions to SFL for anyone already familiar with grammatical analysis - easy to read, with enough detail to provide useful contribution for further work with SFL. The 2nd edition is a slightly updated version of the original 1996 publication, and was revamped to coincide with the publication of the IFG3 (see above).

YOUNG, L. & C. HARRISON (eds) 2004: *Systemic Functional Linguistics and Critical Discourse Analysis: Studies in Social Change*. London & New York: Continuum. A collection of 15 chapters representing some of the papers given at the 2001 International Systemic Functional Linguistics Conference, which engaged in a critical discourse perspective. CDA has long claimed SFL to be its natural linguistic framework, and this collection brings together the concerns of the two disciplines in a variety of analytic studies of text and discourse. Many of the papers are concerned with the representation of national and institutional identity.

Websites:

http://www.wagsoft.com/Systemics/ - the best and most comprehensive page for systemics, maintained by Mick O'Donnell. This page has links to all the sites mentioned below, as well as to a few others for those interested in pursuing further studies into systemic theory and practice. Mick has also developed a systemic coder which is downloadable free from his site (Windoze and unix only), and it allows discourse analysts to more efficiently devise system networks and analyse texts, as well as calculating statistics on the analysis and displaying features of the analysis in colour. Up to you, of course, to interpret your findings.

http://www.wagsoft.com/Systemics/Bibliographies/index.html - a list of all the available works on systemics. Recommended as a reference/reading list.

http://www2.educ.fukushima-u.ac.jp/~yamaguch/ - an intriguing website maintained by Noburu Yamaguchi. It uses diagrams to make clear many of the concepts of systemics - in great detail! Yamaguchi Sensei studied with Halliday at Sydney University, and has always been keen to translate theory into visual modes.

http://www.grammatics.com/appraisal - a site devoted to 'Appraisal Theory' and maintained by Peter R. R. White (author of Functional Grammar notes for MA course at CELS). Appraisal uses systemics as a basis for a framework developed to explore the resources of interpersonal positioning. The site may be of use to those who wish look at systemics and its applications to text analysis in more detail, especially the analysis of evaluation in text and its function in construing discourse semantics.

http://www.sacsa.sa.edu.au/index_fsrc.asp?t=ECCP&ID=E8A - a site put up by the South Australian government, it features a new curriculum and syllabus outline for learners of English as a Second Language, K - 12, which uses systemic functional linguistics as a basis for the 'scope' and the 'scaling' of its objectives and outcomes. This is a very detailed application of SFL to the concerns of a local second language development curriculum. Recommended if you are interested in language planning or curriculum design.

Journals with a systemic flavour, later editions (2000 onwards) of which are available from the Birmingham IS eJournals resource <http://www.eJournals.bham.ac.uk/proxy.htm>:

Text

Functions of Language

Only available in print at the UoB library:

Word (per P1.W6)