PAMELA FABER AND RICARDO MAIRAL (1999). Constructing a Lexicon of English Verbs. Berlin: Mouton.

Review by Christopher S. Butler

In July 1995, the functional linguistics community was shocked and deeply saddened to hear of the sudden and untimely death of Professor Leocadio Martín Mingorance, of the University of Córdoba, Spain. Martín Mingorance's work, combining the Functional Grammar of Simon Dik with the lexematics of Eugene Coseriu into the lexically-based Functional Lexematic Model, began the process of developing the Functional Grammar conception of the lexicon into a model which integrates semantic, syntactic and pragmatic aspects of lexemes within a framework in which both paradigmatic and syntagmatic patterning find their place.

Prominent among Martín Mingorance's collaborators were Pamela Faber and Ricardo Mairal Usón, whose determination to carry on and develop the line of research pioneered by their friend and mentor has resulted in the present volume. Their aim in this book is impressively ambitious: to give an account of the English verbal lexicon which not only systematises the meanings of lexemes within a hierarchical framework, but also demonstrates the principled connections between meaning and, on the one hand, the syntactic complementation patterns of verbs, and on the other hand, patterns of conceptualization in the human mind.

Such an endeavor is entirely compatible with the tendency towards lexically-based approaches in modern grammatical theory. This shift in paradigm is explored in the first part of Chapter 1 of the book, where developments in lexicology and lexicography are reviewed in relation to their impact on linguistic theorising. Matters of psychological adequacy and computational implementation are also discussed.

Chapter 2 provides an overview of Functional Grammar, concentrating on the role of the lexicon, as a background to the integrated onomasiological model of lexical description represented by the Functional Lexematic Model, within which Faber and Mairal's own proposals are situated.

Chapter 3 provides a more detailed picture of the Functional Lexematic Model and begins to outline Faber and Mairal's own proposals. The scene is set by discussion of the often-criticised concept of ' semantic field' (relabelled as 'domain'in the Functional Lexematic Model), and its relationship with cognitive and generative linguistics, and with a number of

approaches to lexical semantics. The aim in the Functional Lexematic Model is to find a kind of onomasiological organization of the lexicon which will be consonant with what is known of the organization of the mental lexicon. Faber and Mairal argue that a hierarchical paradigmatic model comes closest to this goal, but also that the paradigmatic organization of the lexicon into domains and subdomains is the basis for predicting the syntagmatic behaviour of lexemes, insofar as this is represented in syntactic complementation patterns. Hierarchies are developed through detailed, bottom-up analysis of entries in a range of monolingual dictionaries, the guiding principles being those of definitional analysis and lexical decomposition. Faber and Mairal's aim is to develop hierarchies, and their associated complementation patterns, for the whole of the verbal lexicon, in order to achieve a global characterisation of the design of the English vocabulary. Here, as throughout the book, methods are explained, and arguments made, through the analysis of an impressively wide range of semantic domains and their attendant syntax.

In Chapter 4, the relationships between the semantic and syntactic behaviour of verbs are explored in much greater depth, through discussion of three types of lexically-realized parameters which play a part in the generation of clause structures. Grammatical parameters are those which have a direct effect on complementation, and include duration, temporal sequence, iteration, inception, achievement, cessation, causation, conation and factivity: optional parameters are those which are semantically present, but not necessarily syntactically realized; while contextual parameters act as clues for contextual setting. An important claim is that the greater the semantic scope of a lexeme, the greater is its variation in complementation behaviour.

Chapter 5 completes Faber and Mairal's extension of the Functional Lexematic Model, by providing an account of the relationship between lexical structure and cognition. A key concept here is that of the predicate schema, which integrates paradigmatic and syntagmatic information about an individual lexeme, a lexical subdomain, or a whole domain. Predicate schemas at the subdomain level are accorded particular importance in the model, as they represent the links between the lexical macrostructure and individual lexemes. The authors demonstrate the power of the predicate schema approach in explicating the systematic relationships which underlie many metaphorical extensions of meaning. Chapter 6 concludes the book and presents an overview of the main claims.

Faber and Mairal´s book is most welcome at this stage in the development of functional linguistics, in presenting a thought-provoking,

challenging and at times controversial account of lexical patterning and its relationship with meaning, syntax and cognition. It is sure to give rise to discussion which will take us even further forward on the road to a functional account of language which responds to the criteria of pragmatic, psychological and typological adequacy so strongly advocated by Dik. It also represents a fitting tribute to the pioneering work of a scholar who was able to take an aspect of Dik's theory and develop its potential: Leocadio Martín Mingorance.