

## Cognitive English Grammar

2-492

Angeliki Athanasiadou

A Cognitive Grammar is based on the following assumptions:

The grammar of a language is part of **human cognition** and interacts with other cognitive faculties, perception, attention, memory.

The grammar of a language reflects and presents **generalizations** about phenomena in the world as its speakers experience them.

Forms of grammar are, like lexical items, **meaningful** and never “empty” or meaningless.

The grammar of a language represents the whole of a native speaker’s **knowledge** of both the lexical categories and the grammatical structures of her language.

The grammar of a language is **usage-based** in that it provides speakers with a variety of structural options to present their view of a given scene.

(Radden & Dirven 2007: XI-XII)

## References

Geeraerts, Dirk (ed.)

2006 *Cognitive Linguistics: Basic readings*. Mouton de Gruyter.

Lakoff, George

1987 *Women, Fire, and Dangerous Things*. What Categories Reveal about the Mind. The University of Chicago Press. Chicago and London.

Radden, Guenter and Rene Dirven

2007 *Cognitive English Grammar*. J. Benjamins Publishing Company.

Rudzka-Ostyn, Brygida

2003 *Word Power: Phrasal Verbs and Compounds. A Cognitive Approach*. Mouton de Gruyter.