

Incrementation

Incrementation is the process whereby the new information contained in an uttered sentence is added to the information already stored in the 'discourse domain' (see *Discourse Domain*) as a result of the incrementation of preceding utterances. The notion of incrementation is relatively new, as it was developed in the context of those semantic theories that assume a specific cognitive compartment for the semantic processing of uttered sentences, the so-called 'discourse domain' or 'discourse representation' (see *Discourse Representation Theory*). These theories, mainly 'discourse representation theory' and 'discourse semantics' (see *Discourse Semantics*) regard the positing of a specific and highly structured cognitive intermediary station between (uttered) sentences and the 'world' as an inevitable measure so as to create the necessary space for the solution of a number of semantic problems, in particular that of 'donkey sentences' and that of 'presuppositions' (see *Presupposition*).

See also: Accommodation and Presupposition.

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