

Preface¹

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The workshop from which this special issue stems was held at Selwyn College, Cambridge, in April, 1987. The meeting carried the title 'Linguistic and Psychological Approaches to Morphology'. Morphology has enjoyed a considerable renaissance of interest in linguistics. Psychologists, too, have recently developed an interest in morphology. While some of these interests have been shared ones, notably a concern with the morphological parsing of words and with aspects of the inflection/derivation distinction, developments in the two fields have, perhaps, been differently motivated and have certainly proceeded to a great extent without reference to each other. The workshop was intended, therefore, to bring together linguists and psychologists from a variety of backgrounds and with an interest in a diversity of language types, both in written and in spoken form. By severely limiting the number of participants and the duration of individual presentations we were able to find time in the program to spend a generous portion of each day in general discussion. While this deprived us of the opportunity to invite many who have made substantial contributions to this area of work, it conferred the great benefit of allowing informal but coherent discussion. We hope it also permitted us to gain a better understanding of individual approaches and objectives.

We set out to avoid producing a volume of Proceedings in which contributors to the workshop were obliged to supply a formal written version of their presentation. Accordingly, the papers that follow do not pretend to stand as a record of the meeting. They were submitted some months after the meeting and refereed and edited with regard to approachability across discipline boundaries, as well as substance. We like to think that they capture some of the spirit of the workshop discussion and reflect views which have been tempered by the encounter with different views and approaches. A personal retrospective commentary by L.H. on some of the issues raised by the meeting is to appear in *Linguistische Berichte*.

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Note

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