English abstract

Turns and Concepts: Perspectives on Linguistic Discussion

Like language itself, linguistic research is moving and changing. Revolution, evolution, renewal, turn, and other terminological choices that characterize the discipline as a whole, or within it, describe how linguistic research has conceptualized the various changes in the field and viewed them from a variety of perspectives. This collection of articles, Käänteitä ja käsitteitä: Näkökulmia kielitieteelliseen keskusteluun [Turns and Concepts: Perspectives on Linguistic Discussion], represents research on linguistic research itself.

The collection focuses on metatheory and conceptual history. It is the contribution of its writers to meta-level linguistic research, which has hitherto received fairly little attention in Finnish.

The collection consists of ten articles in two broadly thematic sections. The first section focuses on various twists and turns in linguistic research. What does linguistic research and its various subjects (e.g. research on language learning, research on variation, Soviet linguistics, linguistic semantics) look like from the perspective of scientific development as change in progress?

The second section delves into five different concepts (sign, construction, phonological unit, norm, analogy) from a qualitative perspective. Terminological choices not only describe and categorize their subject, but also link research to particular perspectives and traditions. They offer a view to the turns of the discipline as limited by concepts.

This collection is aimed at linguists and students of linguistics. It is suitable as a stimulus for further studies in the field of linguistics metatheory and as study material for basic and postgraduate studies in linguistics. The book can also be read by any reader interested in language studies.