

LOS MARCADORES DEL DISCURSO Y SU PROCESAMIENTO COGNITIVO

ÓSCAR LOUREDA, INÉS RECIO, ADRIANA CRUZ, MARTHA RUDKA

Studi Italiani di Linguistica Teorica e Applicata, anno L, 2021, numero 1

ABSTRACT

Discourse markers guide inferences during communication according to their morphosyntactic, semantic and pragmatic properties (Portolés 2001 [1998]; Blakemore 2002). This functional definition lies on cognitive grounds: interpreting what is communicated implies that the mind is able to combine representations by means of computations that link and adjust them (Thagard 2005 [1998]). This theoretical claim can be supported by data based on the observation of mental activity during utterance processing (Loureda *et al.* 2019 and 2020). In this chapter we present the results of experiments on Spanish discourse markers (Schröck 2018, Nadal 2019, Recio Fernández 2020, Cruz 2020, Narváez 2019, Salameh Jiménez 2019, Torres 2020, Cuello in preparation, Guillén in preparation). Empirical results allow to establish correlations between discourse marking and processing patterns, and are compatible with the defining properties of discourse markers as procedural-meaning expressions (Blakemore 1987, 2002, Nadal *et al.* 2016).