closely resemble that of native speakers. Channell’s work provides important insights into language use that are not yet available in many English language reference grammars, dictionaries, or ESL textbooks. As Celce-Murcia (1980: 46) says, ‘The two sources of information that ESL teachers have easy access to, i.e., reference grammars and ESL textbooks, usually do not provide information to help them formulate definitively accurate answers to frequently asked questions . . .’. This book begins to fill this void in discourse-level analysis of written and oral texts, helping ESL teachers understand what target usage is, and thus, what we need to teach toward.

Reviewed by Anne Ediger
San Diego City College

REFERENCES


When this book appeared, in 1971, it was already a little passé, the product of a small crowd of devoted friends of Jim McCawley. They were young people in the 1960s, who took a delight in being a little naughty and showing off their
newly achieved (or so they thought) sexual liberation. Since 1966, Jim himself had circulated, not unpublished, a few hilariously funny and highly scurrilous papers under the pseudonyms of Quang Phuc Dong and Yuck Foo, analysing English phrases that are, though common, hardly ever printed and never used in polite society. These papers would have been as many charming schoolboy pranks had it not been for their good linguistics and their extraordinary wit. They were unpublished, which was part of their charm. In 1971, however, they appeared in the original edition of the book under review, together with a large number of short papers and notes written by friends and students, all of whom tried desperately to be funny and daring, but never even came close to Jim's high level. The book was meant to honour Jim for his powerful and charming personality, but it somehow looked faded. It felt like a collection of speeches and lyrics of the kind loving friends put together for a celebration. It was a one-day curiosity, a personal document which I, for one, felt a little embarrassed to see published. Fortunately, the publisher was a small amateur enterprise, Linguistic Research, in Edmonton, Canada. As a publication, it did not leave any impression on the field.

The book has now been re-issued, this time by a professional publisher, Benjamins. According to the introduction by Regna Darnell, it is to serve as a companion volume to the 'real' McCawley Festschrift that has recently appeared, also published by Benjamins, but this hardly seems a sufficient reason. It really is an exercise in nostalgia by and for, again, a very restricted group (the Introduction by Regna Darnell consists largely of personal reminiscences). This re-issue will never acquire either the personal or the curiosity value of the original edition. Will it interest or endear the students or colleagues of today? I doubt it. Original copies of the unpublished Quang and Yuck papers, stencilled in pale blue typescript on bad quality paper, may provoke a wistful smile. The original 1971 edition of the book may, in addition, leave a tinge of embarrassment. This new reprint leaves one cold.

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Reviewed by Pieter A. M. Seuren
Dept. of General Linguistics and Dialectology
Nijmegen University