Abstract

In this article, new units of oral discourse are proposed in order to facilitate the segmentation and analysis of formal registers in spoken Spanish. The unit UTTERANCE is suggested, between the units EXCHANGE and ACT, as well as a lower unit, the SEMIACT. Furthermore, it is convenient to consider two types of acts: the HIERARCHICAL and the LINEAL. These units will not only enable a more efficient segmentation in certain types of texts, but they will also serve to distinguish among certain discourse markers (CONNECTORS, REFORMULATORS and ORGANIZERS). When the acts are linked by a hierarchical function (hierarchical acts), two types of markers are suggested: connectors and reformulators. When there is not hierarchical function between the acts, the cohesive markers will be the organizers.

Keywords

units in discourse, spoken discourse, discourse markers