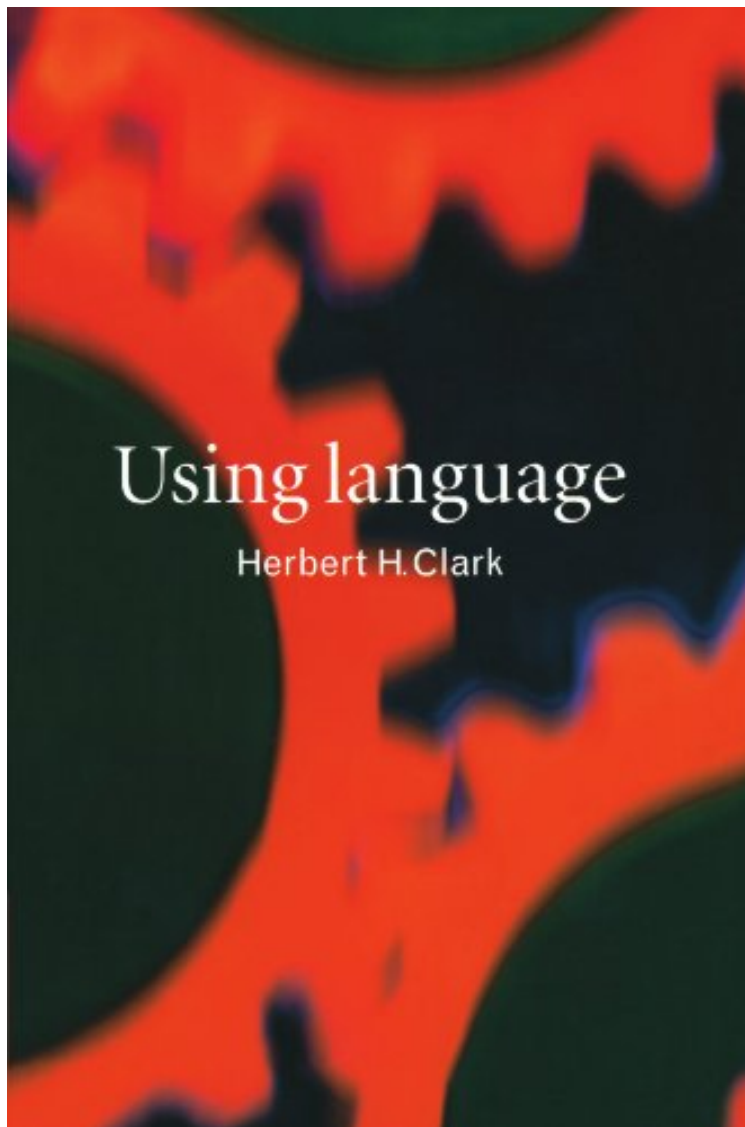


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Using Language

Herbert H. Clark

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Herbert H. Clark : Using Language before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Using Language:

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Basics of Pragmatics Couldn't be More Clear By Jake Keenan This is a dense, important, juicy, rewarding book. Clark builds a convincing umbrella theory of language usage. The beauty is in the details, however, as he builds up concept after concept working with the simplest of actual language examples. Joint projects, common ground, grounding, layering, double tracking are some of the top level gems that popped out at

me as he demonstrated them. But Clark finds little regularities, rules, and trade-offs at all levels. Every couple of pages brought out a new generality or a new insight. The book made me work and think a lot, but it was hugely worth it. Clark is very clear that his theory is about the usage rather than the structure of language. All us conversationalists know that there are tons of little messages and social adjustments in every utterance; Clark brings these situations and language strategies out like walking into a planetarium to see stars. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. well done By floxinia I have already read some Clark's papers. This book collects a lot of the themes the researcher has developed during his studies. 3 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic By David Tannenbaum A very comprehensive and insightful book. Also, Clark is a fantastic writer. The focus of the book is on language, but I found it very useful for my own thinking (I'm a social psychologist interested in moral judgment and decision-making).

Herbert Clark argues that language use is more than the sum of a speaker speaking and a listener listening. It is the joint action that emerges when speakers and listeners, writers and readers perform their individual actions in coordination, as ensembles. In contrast to work within the cognitive sciences, which has seen language use as an individual process, and to work within the social sciences, which has seen it as a social process, the author argues strongly that language use embodies both individual and social processes.