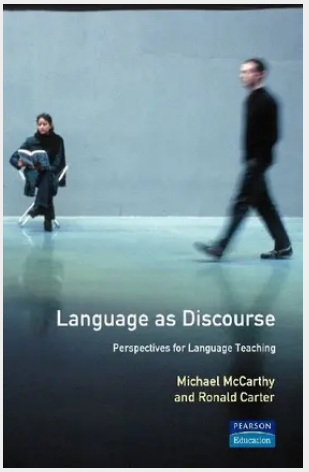
Carter / Mccarthy

Language as Discourse

Perspectives for Language Teaching

In this book Michael McCarthy and Ronald Carter describe the discoursal properties of language and demonstrate what insights this approach can offer to the student and teacher of language. The authors examine the relationship between complete texts, both spoken and written, and the social and cultural contexts in which they function. They argue that the functions of language are often best understood in a discoursal environment and that exploring language in context compels us to revise commonly-held understandings about the forms and meanings of language. In so doing, the authors argue the need for language teachers, syllabus planners and curriculum organisers to give greater attention to language as discourse.

The material in this book reviews work dating to the vocabulary control movement of the 1930s, and also refers to more recent work on the role of lexis in language learning. The main foundations of lexical semantics described, as are relevant research and pedagogical studies in vocabulary and lexicography.



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