Meaning Components

Francis Bond
Division of Linguistics and Multilingual Studies
http://www3.ntu.edu.sg/home/fcbond/
bond@ieee.org

Lecture 9
Location: LT17

Overview

➢ Revision: Speech as Action
  ➢ Austin’s Speech Act Theory
  ➢ Categorizing Speech Acts
  ➢ Indirect Speech Acts

➢ Componential Analysis

➢ Katz’s Semantic Theory

➢ Levin’s Verbal Alternations

➢ Talmy’s Cognitive Structure

➢ Jackendoff’s (Lexical) Conceptual Structure

➢ Pustejovský’s Generative Lexicon

➢ Next Lecture: Chapter 10 — Formal Semantics

Finish Annotation by 17:00 Oct 21st; Submit Report by 17:00 Nov 4
Revision: Speech as Action
Language is often used to do things: speech acts language has both

- interactivity
- context dependence

There are four syntactic types that correlate closely to pragmatic uses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Syntactic Type</th>
<th>Speech Act</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>declarative</td>
<td>assertion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>interrogative</td>
<td>question</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imperative</td>
<td>order or command</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>optative</td>
<td>wish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mismatches are indirect speech acts
Perfomative Utterances

(1) I promise I won’t drive home
(2) I bet you 5 bucks they get caught
(3) I declare this lecture over
(4) I warn you that legal action will ensue
(5) I name this ship the Lollipop

➢ Uttering these (in an appropriate context) is acting
Utterances themselves can be actions

➢ In English, we can signal this explicitly with hereby
Felicity Conditions

➢ Performatives (vs Constantives) (Austin)
Given the correct felicity conditions

A1 There must exist an accepted conventional procedure that includes saying certain words by certain persons in certain circumstances,
A2 The circumstances must be appropriate for the invocation
B1 All participants must do it both correctly
B2 . . . and completely
C1 The intention must be to do this the act
C2 The participants must conduct themselves so subsequently.

➢ If the conditions don’t hold, the speech act is infelicitous

➢ Failing A or B is a misfire
➢ Failing C is an abuse
Explicit and Implicit Performatives

➢ Explicit Performatives

➢ Tend to be first person
➢ The main verb is a performative: promise, warn, sentence, bet, pronounce, . . .
➢ You can use hereby

➢ Implicit Performatives

(6) You are hereby charged with treason
(7) Students are requested to be quiet in the halls
(8) 10 bucks says they’ll be late
(9) Come up and see me some time!

Can be made explicit by adding a performative verb
Elements of Speech Acts

**Locutionary act** the act of saying something

**Illocutionary act** the force of the statement

**Perlocutionary act** the effects of the statement “such as persuading, convincing, scaring, enlightening, inspiring, or otherwise getting someone to do or realize something whether intended or not” (Austin 1962)

Illocutionary force indicating devices (IFID)

- word order; stress; intonation contour; punctuation; the mood of the verb performative verbs: \( I \ (Vp) \ you \ that \ . . . \)
Searle’s speech act classification

**Declarative** changes the world (like performatives)

**Representative** describes the (speaker’s view of the) world

**Expressives** express how the speaker feels

**Directives** get someone else to do something

**Comissives** commit oneself to a future action
Literal and non-literal uses

(10) a. Could you get that?
    b. Please get pass the salt.

(11) a. I wish you wouldn’t do that.
    b. Please don’t do that.

(12) a. You left the door open.
    b. Please close the door.

➢ People have access to both the literal and non-literal meanings

➢ Non literal meanings can be slower to understand

➢ Some non-literal uses are very conventionalized
  \textit{Can/Could you X?} \rightarrow \textit{Please X}

➢ Questioning the felicity conditions produces an indirect version
Why be Indirect?

➢ Mainly for politeness

➢ **Positive Face** desire to seem worthy and deserving of approval
➢ **Negative Face** desire to be autonomous, unimpeded by others
➢ Threats to another’s face
  * to positive: disapproval, disagreement, interruption
  * to negative: orders, requests, suggestions
➢ Face-saving acts:
  * don’t threaten another’s face: *I may be wrong but*, …
  * allow for negative face: *Could you please*, …
➢ Is politeness trans-cultural?
Componential Analysis
Break word meaning into its components

➤ For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Semantic Components</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>woman</td>
<td>[FEMALE] [ADULT] [HUMAN]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spinster</td>
<td>[FEMALE] [ADULT] [HUMAN] [UNMARRIED]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bachelor</td>
<td>[MALE] [ADULT] [HUMAN] [UNMARRIED]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wife</td>
<td>[FEMALE] [ADULT] [HUMAN] [MARRIED]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>girl</td>
<td>[FEMALE] [CHILD] [HUMAN]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boy</td>
<td>[MALE] [CHILD] [HUMAN]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**semantic components/primitives** shown as [COMPONENT]

➤ components allow a compact description
➤ interact with morphology/syntax
➤ form part of our cognitive architecture

Inspired by work on phonetics in the Prague School
Defining Relations using Components

➢ hyponymy

A lexical item P is a hyponym of Q if all the components of Q are also in P.

\[\text{spinster} \subset \text{woman} ; \text{wife} \subset \text{woman}\]

➢ incompatibility

A lexical item P is incompatible with Q if they share some components but differ in one or more contrasting components

\[\text{spinster} \not\approx \text{wife}\]
We can make things more economical (fewer components):

- **woman** [+FEMALE] [+ADULT] [+HUMAN]
- **spinster** [+FEMALE] [+ADULT] [+HUMAN] [–MARRIED]
- **bachelor** [–FEMALE] [+ADULT] [+HUMAN] [–MARRIED]
- **wife** [+FEMALE] [+ADULT] [+HUMAN] [+MARRIED]
- **girl** [+FEMALE] [–ADULT] [+HUMAN]

Which should be +? [+FEMALE] or [–MALE]

Presumably also [–ELECTRIC], [–CONICAL], . . .

Only show relevant features

**antonyms** differ in only one binary component
Redundancy Rules

We can add relations between components:

\[
\begin{align*}
[+\text{HUMAN}] & \rightarrow [+\text{ANIMATE}] \\
[+\text{ADULT}] & \rightarrow [+\text{ANIMATE}] \\
[+\text{ANIMATE}] & \rightarrow [+\text{CONCRETE}] \\
[+\text{MARRIED}] & \rightarrow [+\text{ADULT}] \\
[+\text{MARRIED}] & \rightarrow [+\text{HUMAN}] 
\end{align*}
\]

Which allows us to write:

- **woman**  \([+\text{FEMALE}] [+\text{ADULT}] [+\text{HUMAN}]\)
- **spinster** \([+\text{FEMALE}] [+\text{ADULT}] [+\text{HUMAN}] [−\text{MARRIED}]\)
- **bachelor** \([−\text{FEMALE}] [+\text{ADULT}] [+\text{HUMAN}] [−\text{MARRIED}]\)
- **wife** \([+\text{FEMALE}] [+\text{MARRIED}]\)

Can we say \([−\text{MARRIED}] \rightarrow [+\text{HUMAN}]\)?
More Complex Breakdowns

We can add relations between components:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{[+FATHER]} & \rightarrow \text{[+MALE]} \ [+PARENT] \\
\text{[+FATHER]}(x,y) & \rightarrow \text{[+MALE]}(x) \ [+PARENT](x,y) \\
\text{[+SON]}(x,y) & \rightarrow \text{[+MALE]}(x) \ [+PARENT](y,x) \\
\text{[+BROTHER]}(x,y) & \rightarrow \text{[+MALE]}(x) \ [+PARENT](z,x) \ [+PARENT](z,y) \\
\text{[+GRANDFATHER]}(x,y) & \rightarrow \text{[+MALE]}(x) \ [+PARENT](x,z) \ [+PARENT](z,y)
\end{align*}
\]

Assume \([+PARENT](x,y)\) means “\(x\) is the parent of \(y\)”

There are various ways you can formalize such relationships
Katz’s Semantic Theory
Katz’s Semantic Theory

➢ Two Central Ideas:

➢ Semantic rules must be recursive to deal with infinite meaning
➢ Semantic rules interact with syntactic rules to build up meaning, which is compositional

➢ Two major components:

➢ A dictionary pairing lexical items with semantic representations
➢ A set of projection rules that show how meaning is built up

Compositional: the meaning of the whole depends only on the meanings of the parts and the method of combination.
The dictionary

> **bachelor** \{N\}

1. (human) (male) [one who has never been married]
2. (human) (male) [young knight serving under the standard of another knight]
3. (human) [one who has the lowest academic degree]
4. (animal) (male) [young fur seal without a mate in the breeding season]

> **(semantic markers)** are the links that bind lexical items together in lexical relations

> **[distinguishers]** serve to identify this particular lexical item

this information is not relevant to syntax

Similar to *genus* and *differentiae.*
Projection Rules

1. Projection rules combine with syntactic rules to produce the meaning of a sentence

➢ Information is passed up the tree and collected at the top.
➢ Information is only added, never deleted
➢ It must come from words or rules (or constructions)

2. Selectional restrictions ⟨ ⟩ help to reduce ambiguity and limit the possible readings

More about this in Theories of Syntax/HPSG
Selectional restrictions

1. *colorful* {adj}
   (a) *(color)* [abounding in contract or variety of bright colors] \langle (physical object) or (social activity) \rangle
   (b) *(evaluative)* [having distinctive character, vividness or picturesqueness] \langle (aesthetic object) or (social activity) \rangle

2. *ball* {N}
   (a) *(social activity)* *(large)* *(assembly)* [for the purpose of social dancing]
   (b) *(physical object)* [having globular shape]
   (c) *(physical object)* [solid missile for project by engine of war]

➢ *colorful ball*: The selectional restrictions rule out: 1b + 2b, 1b + 2c

Modern theories prefer *selectional preferences*: probabilities not categories.
Grammatical Rules and Semantic Components
We can investigate the meaning of a verb by looking at its grammatical behavior.

Consider the following transitive verbs:

- Margaret cut the bread
- Janet broke the vase
- Terry touched the cat
- Carla hit the door

These do not all allow the same argument structure alternations.
Diathesis Alternations

➢ Causative/inchoative alternation:

\[ Kim \text{ broke the window} \leftrightarrow The \text{ window broke} \]
also \[ the \text{ window is broken} \] (state)

➢ Middle construction alternation:

\[ Kim \text{ cut the bread} \leftrightarrow The \text{ bread cut easily} \]

➢ Conative alternation:

\[ Kim \text{ hit the door} \leftrightarrow Kim \text{ hit at the door} \]

➢ Body-part possessor ascension alternation:

\[ Kim \text{ cut Sandy’s arm} \leftrightarrow Kim \text{ cut Sandy on the arm} \]
A verb’s (in)compatibility with different alternations is a strong predictor of its lexical semantics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>break</th>
<th>cut</th>
<th>hit</th>
<th>touch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Causative</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conative</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body-part</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[
\text{break} = \{\text{break, chip, crack, crash, crush, ...}\} \\
\text{cut} = \{\text{chip, clip, cut, hack, hew, saw, ...}\} \\
\text{hit} = \{\text{bang, bash, batter, beat, bump, ...}\} \\
\text{touch} = \{\text{caress, graze, kiss, lick, nudge, ...}\}
\]

(Levin, 1993)
We can analyze components that correlate with the alternations

- **break**: CAUSE, CHANGE
- **cut**: CAUSE, CHANGE, CONTACT, MOTION
- **hit**: CONTACT, MOTION
- **touch**: CONTACT

The semantic class/components predicts the syntax of novel words

Not all parts of meaning are relevant to syntax

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Has an affect</th>
<th>Has no affect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semantic Markers</td>
<td>Semantic Distinguishers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammatically Relevant Subsystem</td>
<td>Unrestricted Conceptual Representation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semantic Structure</td>
<td>Semantic Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semantic Form</td>
<td>Conceptual Structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semantic Structure</td>
<td>Conceptual Structure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Levin, 1993)
Verbs often link their thematic roles to arguments in different ways

(14) a. *He loaded newspapers onto the van* 〈AGENT, THEME〉
b. *He loaded the van with newspapers* 〈AGENT, GOAL〉

But the meanings are not identical: (14b) implies completion, and the theta-grid does not deal with the adjuncts

We need more than just theta-grids/roles
Movement-to-location verbs

➢ locative alternation

(15) a. Andy poured oil into the pan
    b. *Andy poured the pan with oil

(16) a. *Andy filled oil into the pan
    b. Andy filled the pan with oil

(17) a. Andy brushed oil onto the pan
    b. Andy brushed the pan with oil

(18) a. ⟨AGENT, THEME, PP:GOAL⟩
    b. ⟨AGENT, PATIENT, PP:INSTRUMENT?⟩
Explain with verb classes

➢ Verbs of movement: ‘X causes Y to move into/onto Z’

1. Simple motion verbs: *put, push*
2. Manner specified: *pour, drip, slosh*

\[ X \text{ puts } Y \text{ on } Z \]

➢ Verbs of change of state: ‘X causes Z to change state by means of moving Y into/onto Z’: *fill, coat, cover*

\[ X \text{ fills } Z \text{ with } Y \]

➢ Verbs of movement ‘X causes Y to move into/onto Z’ which also describe a kind of motion which causes an effect on the entity Z: *spray, paint, brush*

\[ X \text{ paints } Z \text{ with } Y \]

*Slightly circular: alternations motivate classes which explain alternations*
Components and Conflation Patterns
Cognitive Semantics

- Major semantic components of Motion:
  - **Figure**: object moving or located with respect to the **ground**
  - **Ground**: reference object
  - **Motion**: the presence of movement of location in the event
  - **Path**: the course followed or site occupied by the Figure w.r.t. the Ground.
  - **Manner**: the type of motion

(19) *Kim swam away from the crocodile*
    Figure Manner Path    Ground

(20) *The banana hung from the tree*
    Figure   Manner Path   Ground

- These are lexicalized differently in different languages.

(Talmy, 2000)
Different Lexicalizations of Movement

➢ English: Manner in verb, Path as adjunct

(21) *The bottle floated into the cave*
(22) *They rolled the keg into the party*

➢ Spanish: Path in verb, Manner as adjunct

(23) *La botella entró a la cueva flotando*
  the bottle moved-in to the cave floating
  “The bottle entered the cave, floating”
(24) *Metí el barril a la bodega rodandolo*
  I-moved-in the barrel to the storeroom rolling
  “I put the keg into the storeroom, rolling”
### Typology of Motion in Languages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language (Family)</th>
<th>Verb Conflation Pattern</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Romance, Semitic, Polynesian, ...</td>
<td>Path + fact-of-Motion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indo-European (− Romance), Chinese</td>
<td>Manner/Cause + fact-of-Motion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navajo, Atsuwegei, ...</td>
<td>Figure + fact-of-Motion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **verb-framed** (Motion with Path)
- **satellite-framed** (Motion with Manner)

Which group is this from?

(25) 樽 を 倉庫 に 転がして 入れた
    taru-wo souko-ni korogasite ireta
    barrel-ACC storeroom-TO rolling put
    “I put the keg into the storeroom, rolling”
Jackendoff’s Conceptual Semantics: Lexical Conceptual Structure
Describing Mental Representations

➤ An attempt to explain how we think

➤ **Mentalist Postulate**

  Meaning in natural language is an information structure that is mentally encoded by human beings

➤ Try to capture regularities

  x lifted y entails y rose
  x gave x to y entails y received z
  x persuaded y that P entails y came to believe P
  x cause E to occur entails E occurs

➤ Also linked to vision and music (through X-bar theory)

(Jackendoff, 1990, 1997)
Semantic Components

➤ Universal Semantic Categories

➤ Event
➤ State
➤ Material Thing/Object
➤ Path
➤ Place
➤ Property

(26)  a. \[ S [NP Bobby] [VP [V went] [PP [P into] [NP the house]]] \]
     b. \[ Event \ GO ([Thing BOBBY], [Path \ TO ([Place \ IN ([Thing house]))))] \]
(27) *Bobby went into the house*

(28) “Bobby traverses a path that terminates at the interior of the house”

(29) Event

GO

Thing

Path

BOBBY

TO

Place

IN

Thing

HOUSE

(30) *The car is in the garage*

(31) “The car is in the state located in the interior of the garage”

(32) State

BE-LOC

Thing

Place

CAR

IN

Thing

GARAGE
## Extend Location in three ways

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semantic Field</th>
<th>BE (state)</th>
<th>GO (event)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>spatial location</td>
<td>Jo is in the club</td>
<td>Alex went into the house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temporal location</td>
<td>The exam is on Wednesday</td>
<td>The exam moved to Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>property ascription</td>
<td>The class is full</td>
<td>The class went from full to empty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>possession</td>
<td>This theory belongs to Ann Elk</td>
<td>The prize went to JC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

➢ Break down the meaning into components

(33) a. *The pool emptied*
    b. \[ Event \text{INCH} ([ State \text{BE-IDENT} ([\text{Thing} \text{POOL}], [ Place \text{AT} ([ Property \text{EMPTY}]))]))]]

(34) a. *Sandy emptied the pool*
    b. \[ Event \text{CAUSE} ([\text{Thing} \text{SANDY}], [ Event \text{INCH} ([ State \text{BE-IDENT} ([\text{Thing} \text{POOL}], [ Place \text{AT} ([ Property \text{EMPTY}]))]))]))]
THING: Boundedness and Internal Structure

➤ Two components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boundedness</th>
<th>Internal Struct.</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+b</td>
<td>−i</td>
<td>individuals</td>
<td>a dog/two dogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+b</td>
<td>+i</td>
<td>groups</td>
<td>a committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>−b</td>
<td>−i</td>
<td>substances</td>
<td>water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>−b</td>
<td>+i</td>
<td>aggregates</td>
<td>buses, cattle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

➤ This can be extended to verb aspect (the verb event is also [±b, ±i]).

Sleep [−b], cough [+b], eat [±b]

(35) Bill ate two hot dogs in two hours.
(36) *Bill ate hot dogs in two hours.
(37) #Bill ate two hot dogs for two hours.
(38) Bill ate hot dogs for two hours.
Conversion: Boundedness and Internal Structure

➢ Including

- **plural** \([+b, -i] \rightarrow [-b, +i]\)  
  
  - brick \(\rightarrow\) bricks

- **composed of** \([-b, +i] \rightarrow [+b, -i]\)  
  
  - bricks \(\rightarrow\) house of bricks

- **containing** \([-b, -i] \rightarrow [+b, -i]\)  
  
  - coffee \(\rightarrow\) a cup of coffee/a coffee

➢ Excluding

- **element** \([-b, +i] \rightarrow [+b, -i]\)  
  
  - grain of rice

- **partitive** \([-b, \pm i] \rightarrow [+b, -i]\)  
  
  - top of the mountain, one of the dogs

- **universal grinder** \([+b, -i] \rightarrow [-b, -i]\)  
  
  - There's dog all over the road

---

See Bond (2005) for an extension to Japanese and computational implementation.
Pustejovsky’s Generative Lexicon
The Generative Lexicon

➢ This brings in more encyclopedic knowledge

➢ Each lexical entry can have:
  ARGUMENT STRUCTURE
  EVENT STRUCTURE
  LEXICAL INHERITANCE STRUCTURE
  QUALIA STRUCTURE:
  CONSTITUTIVE  constituent parts
  FORMAL       relation to other things
  TELIC         purpose
  AGENTIVE     how it is made

➢ Interpretation is generated by combing word meanings
The ideas behind the Generative Lexicon

- Word meaning is decomposed, so that it can be composed with other words
- The range of composition teaches us something about the internal structure of the word
  - Rich Representation: lexical decomposition
  - Rich Rules: coercion, sub-selection, co-composition
Events have complex structure

- **State** $S$
  - $e$
    - understand, love, be tall

- **Process** $P$
  - $e_1 \ldots e_n$
    - sing, walk, swim

- **Transition** $T$
  - $e_1 \rightarrow e_2$
    - open, close, build
Different Alternations

(39) *The door closed*

\[ T \]

\[ P \]

\[ \neg \text{closed(\text{door})} \]

\[ S \]

\[ \text{closed(\text{door})} \]

(40) *Jamie closed the door*

\[ T \]

\[ P \]

\[ \text{act(j, door)} \land \neg \text{closed(\text{door})} \]

\[ S \]

\[ \text{closed(\text{door})} \]

(41) *The door is closed*

\[ S \]

\[ e \]

\[ \text{closed(\text{door})} \]
(42) Jamie closed the door rudely
 a. Jamie closed the door in a rude way [with his foot]

\[
T \\
\text{P \ [rude(P)]} \\
\text{[act(j, door) \ \land \ \neg \ \text{closed(door)}]} \\
\text{[closed(door)]}
\]

b. It was rude of Jamie to close the door

\[
T \ [\text{rude(T)}] \\
\text{P} \\
\text{[act(j, door) \ \land \ \neg \ \text{closed(door)}]} \\
\text{[closed(door)]}
\]
(43) **fast typist**

a. a typist who is fast [at running]

b. a typist who types fast

\[\text{typist} \begin{bmatrix}
\text{ARGSTR} & \begin{bmatrix}
\text{ARG1} & x: \text{typist} \\
\text{FORMAL} & x [ \subset \text{person} ] \\
\text{TELEC} & \text{type}(e, x)
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix}\]

\[\begin{cases}
\text{(43a) fast modifies } x \\
\text{(43b) fast modifies } e
\end{cases}\]

See Bond and Paik (1997) for an account of numeral classifiers using the GL.
Problems with Components of Meaning

➢ Primitives are no different from necessary and sufficient conditions it is impossible to agree on the definitions but they allow us to state generalizations better

➢ Don’t capture all aspects of meaning

➢ Psycho-linguistic evidence is weak

➢ It is just markerese which still needs to be explained, there is no grounding

➢ Recent work replaces components with inheritance

➢ $boy_1 \subseteq male_1 \land \subseteq child_1$

➢ same generalizations, more psychologically plausible
Meaning can be broken up into units smaller than words: **components**

- These can be combined to make larger meanings
- At least some of them influence syntax
- They may be psychologically real

**Note:** Selectional restrictions are too strict, selectional preferences (giving prototypical arguments and measuring the similarity) are more common in modern approaches: assigning probabilities to interpretations
Truly Unique Things

➤ the music of Beethoven
➤ the intuition of a woman
➤ the obstinacy of an ass
➤ the crowing of a cock
➤ the song of a tit
➤ the waywardness of the wind

Alas Smith and Jones (1986)

Mistakenly attributed to Oscar Wilde (1854 – 1900), who actually said:

“Intuition: the strange instinct that tells a woman she is right, whether she is or not.”
Fry & Laurie: Language

➢ Series 1 Episode 2
http://abitoffryandlaurie.co.uk/sketches/language_conversation

➢ Series 2 Episode 6
http://abitoffryandlaurie.co.uk/sketches/beauty_and_ideas

➢ Stephen Fry on Language


