Modality in Contemporary English

Edited by
Roberta Facchinetti
Manfred Krug
Frank Palmer

Mouton de Gruyter
Berlin • New York 2003
Contents

Preface
Roberta Facchinetti, Manfred Krug, Frank Palmer

Modality in English: Theoretical, descriptive and typological issues
Frank Palmer

The semantics and pragmatics of core modal verbs
Irrealis, past time reference and modality
Paul Larreya

Modal auxiliary constructions, TAM and interrogatives
Richard Matthews

A pragmatic analysis of the epistemic would construction in English
Gregory Ward, Betty J. Birner, Jeffrey P. Kaplan

Towards a contextual micro-analysis of the non-equivalence of might and could
Stéphane Gresset

The status of emerging modal items
On two distinct uses of go as a conjoined marker of evaluative modality
Philippe Bourdin

Had better and might as well: On the margins of modality?
Keith Mitchell

What you and I want: A functional approach to verb complementation of modal want to
Heidi Verplaetse
Between epistemic modality and degree: The case of really
Carita Paradis

Stylistic variation and change

Modality on the move: The English modal auxiliaries 1961-1992
Geoffrey Leech

Changes in the modals and semi-modals of strong obligation
and epistemic necessity in recent British English
Nicholas Smith

Shall and will in contemporary English: A comparison with
past uses
Maurizio Gotti

Pragmatic and sociological constraints on the functions
of may in contemporary British English
Roberta Facchinetti

Sociolinguistic variation and syntactic models

The role of epistemic modality in women's talk
Jennifer Coates

Double modals in the southern United States: Syntactic structure
or syntactic structures?
Stephen J. Nagle

Modal verbs in Tyneside English: Evidence for (socio)linguistic
theory
Graeme Trousdale

Subject index