

Rendering speech at different levels

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In formulating the topic of my talk I have taken the liberty of replacing *eigene Sprache* and *fremde Sprache* with *eigene Rede* and *fremde Rede*. I will pause over the ways in which people deal with other people's actual, imagined and imputed utterances. We can set apart several levels of interaction between a speaker's utterance and other speakers' utterances. In the first place, there is a relationship between the states of affairs reflected in the speaker's utterance and another person's utterance; this relationship is in the domain of (grammatical or lexical) evidentiality. But there is also a relationship between the form of another person's utterance and the speaker's utterance. The form of another person's utterance can be reproduced with the aim of communicating its content, but also for the sake of concentrating precisely on its form, that is, on its non-propositional and non-verbal properties. Here we enter the domain of quotativity, which also has its linguistic markers. Finally, other people's imagined and imputed utterances are no less important for the ways speakers verbalize their thoughts and define their stance than real utterances. Here we are in the domain of Sperber and Wilson's "echoic interpretations". I will look at the ways in which the rendering of other people's speech (and thoughts) is reflected in grammar and lexicon. Illustrations are drawn from several languages, including German, Dutch, Slavonic and Baltic.