dra Georgakopoulou (chap. 15), Amy Shuman (chap. 18), Paul Atkinson & Sara Delamont (chap. 20), and Eric E. Peterson & Kristin M. Langellier (chap. 21), who all focus on narrative as discourse and social action. Two chapters, in particular, point to the spirit of debate in the collection: Mark Freeman's (chap. 16), which offers a defense of "big stories," and Crispin Sartwell's (chap. 19), which disputes the centrality of narrative to the organization of experience.

The collection includes several overview chapters, including those by Ruthellen Josselson (chap. 2), outlining seven grounds for comparing narrative studies; James Phelan (chap. 11), reviewing five current issues in narratology; and Mary M. Gergen & Kenneth J. Gergen (chap. 14), reviewing work in three areas of narrative practice. Among the disciplines, psychology is the most strongly represented. Dan McAdams (chap. 3) proposes a three-tier conceptual framework using life stories to understand personality, and Brian Schiff points out the potentials and limitations of narrative psychology (chap. 4). Wolfram Fischer & Martina Goblirsch (chap. 5) focus on biographical memory, and Stephanie Taylor (chap. 12) and Wolfgang Kraus (chap. 13) on narrative and identity work. Literary perspectives are represented by Patrick Colm Hogan, who reviews Aristotle's *Poetics* to revisit the analytical development in narrative theory (chap. 9), and by David Herman, who analyzes scenes of talk in Virginia Woolf's *To the lighthouse* (chap. 10). Linguistics is also represented in contributions from William Labov (chap. 6), discussing the pre-construction of narratives of personal experience; Barbara Johnstone (chap. 7), discussing narratives of dialect variation in Pittsburgh; and Jan Blommaert (chap. 22), who uses ethnopoetics as a means of analyzing asylum-seeking stories.

While the majority of papers are concerned with analysis of narratives and their roles in discourse, the last four chapters cover applications in professional settings: Rita Charon (chap. 23) in health care, James McLeod (chap. 24) and Nairán Ramírez-Esparza & James W. Pennebaker (chap. 25) in psychotherapy, and Roger Schank & Tammy Berman (chap. 26) in education.

Overall, this collection fulfils the promise of its title to provide a "state-of-the-art" look at narrative research. It gives readers a sense of where narrative research has come from and raises the question: Where is it going next? The answer to this question is reflected in the kaleidoscopic nature of this volume.

(Received 30 August 2007)

TOPE OMONIYI & GOODITH WHITE (eds.), *The sociolinguistics of identity*. London, UK: Continuum, 2006. Pp. vii, 239. Hb $160.00.

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This book brings together a collection of 12 articles addressing current theoretical, methodological, and empirical issues in sociolinguistic research on identity. As described in the Introduction, the contributions to the book cast a critical eye on various poststructural tenets about the relationship between language and identity. Part I discusses existing and/or novel theoretical perspectives on the construction of identity through language. The rest of the book presents empirical cases that show how various sociolinguistic approaches may illuminate the study of identity in different settings. Each case examines how the deployment of either linguistic features (Part II) or different languages and language varieties (Part III) contributes sociolinguistic resources for identity work.

Chap. 1 proposes an innovative analytical framework, "hierarchy of identities." Centered on the notion of "moments," this framework enables one to analyze how several identities can be hierarchically co-produced during interaction. Chap. 2 provides a review and critique of current constructionist theories of identity. This chapter underscores the value of social constructionism while questioning the constructionist neglect of constraints and continuity in identity construction. Chap. 3 critiques the poststructural lack of attention to the psychological dimension of identity. The chapter assesses how psychoanalysis could be used to investigate "the psychological self" in applied linguistics.

Chap. 4 discusses and exemplifies how languages may be discursively constructed and deployed as emblems of national identity. This article primarily deals with how struggles over language issues as well as naming practices can shed light on the role of language in the construction of nationhood. Chap. 5 explores the role of identity in learning and teaching EFL pronunciation through interviews that elicit EFL teachers' perceptions of (non-)native English accents.

Chaps. 6 and 7 adopt a language ideological framework to investigate how sociolinguistic variation may index different orientations to place in two different towns in northern England. Chap. 8 links identity with language revitalization efforts in a case study of the "ethnolinguistic vitality" of the French vernacular on the island of Guernsey, off the coast of France. Chaps. 9 and 10 use discourse analysis in order to delve into gender identities in two institutional settings in the UK. Chap. 9 deals with how women articulate professional and feminine identities in narrative. Chap. 10 looks at the emergence of masculine identities in a college-level classroom.

Chaps. 11 and 12 return to the issue of ethnolinguistic identities by situating the production of these identities in multilingual primary and secondary classrooms in the Netherlands and in the United States, respectively. Finally, chap. 13 analyzes attitudes toward the use of Irish English in Ireland in order to shed light on the relationship between a standard variety and national identity.

This edited volume offers an array of state-of-the-art sociolinguistic research that will be of great interest to graduate students, researchers, and language practitioners trying to understand identity through the study of language.

(Received 30 August 2007)

Frederick Erickson, *Talk and social theory*. Malden, MA: Polity, 2004. Pp. 232. Pb $24.95.

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Frederick Erickson describes *Talk and social theory* as an attempt to bridge the gap between the study of situated, face-to-face interaction and a variety of different discourse-oriented social theories after the linguistic turn. Opening the book with a series of social theory-inflected accounts of his own previous fieldwork, Erickson moves on in the second half to explore in detail the work of a number of theorists: On the sociolinguistic side, he is particularly concerned with Goffman, but he is also deeply influenced by Gregory Bateson; on the social theory side, he ranges across a great number of theorists (Foucault, Bourdieu, Gramsci, Norman Fairclough), discussing the work of Anthony Giddens most extensively.

The first half of the book includes a number of case studies of interaction, analyzed from the viewpoint of established sociolinguistic methodologies (some contributed by Erickson himself). Chap. 1 sets out basic concepts relevant to the entire book, most notably the notion of *kairos* as "the time of tactical appropriateness" within interaction. Chap. 2 examines a single interaction recorded in September 1974, within which Erickson shows the pervasive coordination of speech and gestural rhythms by mapping a transcript of the interaction onto a musical score reduced to a single dimension of punctuated syllables and gestures. Chap. 3 examines the cutthroat power politics of interactional dupes and "sharks" in a kindergarten classroom. Chap. 4 describes the carefully modulated pastoral care practiced by a community college teacher looking to motivate and encourage a friendly student. Finally, chap. 5 examines subtly racialized language in an interaction between a white doctor, a black medical intern, and a black patient.

The second half of the book examines a variety of issues in social theory, attempting to bring these issues into a dialogue with a sociolinguistic perspective notably attuned to the "ecology" of interaction. Chap. 6 describes an attempt to bring together "local ecologies" of talk with "global ecologies" of the same. Chap. 7 attempts to expand interactional analysis in the direction of Giddens's theory of "structuration" and related notions of the opportunistic bricolage of interactional structures. Chap. 8 brings together a number of different strands from the book, arguing for further