

# Editor's Notes

In the simplest terms, language is often described as the primary tool for communicative interaction. When we talk about interaction, we inevitably connect it to information about the human experience, where language is the most direct means of making sense of ourselves, and at the same time, our way of forging connections with others.

In understanding the mechanisms of communicative interaction, there is a tendency to overlook the smallest units of language, such as function words and affixes. However, these units serve central roles in facilitating and structuring information necessary to ensure effective communication. The papers featured in this issue of *The Archive* generally deal with the interaction within and across language systems, both at the micro-level of internal language structure, as well as the macro-level of information processing.

Leo Gregory Fordan investigates the nature and distribution of cross-referent pronouns in three Sambalic languages, Sambal, Botolan, and Bolinao. Cross-referent pronouns are elements that co-refer to a particular argument within a construction, and they generally serve pragmatic functions such as reference tracking. Moreover, their varying distribution across the three languages investigated suggests influencing factors such as language-specific phonological and morphological

structures. Such findings also demonstrate the crucial interaction of different components of grammar.

Ethan Nicholas Salvador describes the verbal paradigms of Masbatenyo that are used to encode parameters such as voice, aspect, and mode. As a canonical Philippine language, Masbatenyo exhibits what has been described in linguistic typology as a complex morphosyntactic system, which conveys information about *who* does *what* to *whom*, through small units that combine with the verb. These elements, moreover, are systematically organized within the language system, forming respective paradigms that interact with each other.

Jem Javier gives a nuanced treatment of how the Filipino language conceptualizes the idea of SPACE primarily through the function word *sa* as well as the suffix *-an*. Using the framework of Conceptual Metaphor Theory, the author treats grammatical structures as outcomes of metaphorical extensions, where expressions of time and location (through *sa* and *-an*) are said to be extensions of the metaphorical construct of space. The study effectively demonstrates how the domain of semantics interacts with the domains of morphology and syntax, as well as how information such as space is crucially encoded and extended through language.

Finally, Mark Kevin Reginio addresses the question of language choice in the perception of information. Particularly relevant to risk communication in contexts such as disaster and disease, language choice is a central factor in ensuring the effective and accurate transmission of information. The linguistic context of the community is also an important consideration when investigating the effects of language choice, and the author presents evidence that the degree of bilingualism

in Filipino and English contributes to how Filipinos generally perceive information in both languages.

This issue of the journal also contains abstracts of three recently completed graduate theses and dissertation, namely *A Grammar of Itneg Inlaud* by Ryn Jean Fe Gonzales (PhD Linguistics, supervised by Mary Ann Bacolod), *Imperative Constructions in Marinduque Tagalog* by Reb Nuñez (MA Linguistics, supervised by Mary Ann Bacolod), and *Complex Constructions in Pangasinan* by John Meynard Sanchez (MA Linguistics, supervised by Francisco Rosario, Jr.).

I took the liberty to write about interaction to highlight how the science of language is ultimately a social one. In writing this piece, I have been inspired by Stephen Levinson's book entitled *The Interaction Engine: Language in Social Life and Human Evolution*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2025. Language is deeply tied to the human experience, and our linguistic descriptions, no matter how esoteric, all ultimately take root in the fundamental goal of uncovering how humans are able to understand and interact with each other.

As the first issue of *The Archive* under my editorship, I reiterate the role the journal in providing space for scholarly ideas and discussions on social interaction, the human experience, and how language and linguistic structures are woven into them.

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**Maria Kristina S. Gallego**

Editor-in-Chief