II. DUTCH STUDIES
LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS

MICHEL VAN DER HOEK, University of Minnesota/Bethel University

1. General

*TeT* is continuing to play catch-up and published several back issues during 2013, re-establishing itself as one of the leading journals in the field. The first issue for the year 2012 is a thematic issue on word order in the right periphery, discussed below.

2. Linguistics:
Grammar, Phonology, Morphology, Syntax and Semantics

*Synchrony and Diachrony: A Dynamic Interface*, ed. Anna Giacalone Ramat, Caterina Mauri, and Piera Molinelli, Amsterdam, Benjamins, 450 pp., offers two articles on shifting Dutch noun gender. Lien De Vos, ‘On Variation in Gender Agreement. The Neutralization of Pronominal Gender in Dutch,’ (237–60) describes changes in gender agreement of pronouns in Belgian Dutch dialects as a result of the loss of gender-distinguishing morphology. Syntactic and semantic agreement are in competition; in particular when the antecedent lacks salience (cf. the Givenness Hierarchy), neuter gender is developing into the default for all inanimate antecedents. Chiara Semplicini, ‘Synchronic Variation and Grammatical Change. The Case of Dutch Double Gender Nouns,’ (261–82) describes gender agreement of so-called double-gender nouns. S. shows that Dutch is shifting away from grammatical towards semantic gender.

Eefje P.M. Boef, *Doubling in Relative Clauses. Aspects of Morphosyntactic Microvariation in Dutch*, Utrecht, LOT, 278 pp., an Utrecht PhD dissertation, explains the behaviour of pronouns in so-called long-distance restrictive relative clauses. In colloquial Dutch the relative pronoun introduces not only the relative clause but also the embedded finite clause (‘de man die ik denk die ze geroepen hebben’). Working within Chomsky’s Minimalist framework, B. makes a persuasive case that these doubled pronouns are ‘the result of successive-cyclic movement via SpecCP together with multiple copy spell out’, i.e. copies left in those positions during the chain movement of these items (Copy Theory of Movement).

Lobke Aelbrecht and Marcel den Dikken, ‘Preposition Doubling in Flemish and Its Implications for the Syntax of Dutch PPs’, *JCGL*, 16.1:33–68, examine the phenomenon, restricted to a small group of Belgian Dutch dialects in Flemish Brabant, of preposition doubling, as in ‘dat hij op dem berg op is geklommen’ where Standard Dutch would have ‘dat hij de berg op is geklommen.’ The authors argue that in these dialects C[Place] head is defective, in particular the identical spell-out of a PLoc and a PDir.

Georges De Schutter, ‘Werkwoordvormen in de zuidelijke Nederlandse dialecten: stamkeuze, werkwoorduitgangen en fonologische aanpassingen in de stam’ *TeT*, 63.2, 2011[2013]:229–80, is the third in a series on verb endings in southern Dutch dialects; this article deals with 2nd person sg. and pl, and 3rd person sg.

Robert S. Kirsner, *Qualitative-Quantitative Analyses of Dutch and Afrikaans Grammar and Lexicon*. Amsterdam, Benjamins, 239 pp., is a dialogue between Columbia School linguistics...
(CS) and Cognitive Grammar (CG) and offers eleven qualitative-quantitative studies — five on Dutch and six on Afrikaans — on five separate topics: demonstratives, pragmatic particles and imperatives, puzzling ‘dismissive’ idiom, progressive aspect and indirect objects. K. brings an interesting evaluation of two different theoretical frameworks and concludes, based on a number of case studies, that the two frameworks each have their separate strengths and applicabilities, depending on the type of linguistic system under consideration.


### 3. History of the Dutch Language and of Dutch Linguistics

Several publications appeared in 2013 that used the *Brieven als buit/Letters as Loot* corpus at the Leiden University Centre of Linguistics (LUCL). This corpus includes *Sailing Letters*, letters by Dutch sailors captured by British privateers during the Anglo-Dutch wars. The focus on the language of the lower classes (language history ‘from below’) is an invaluable addition to diachronic linguistics.

The first two titles are companion pieces, as they are two Leiden dissertations by fellow PhD candidates at the LUCL; they will be considered together, as they investigate the same questions in the same period. A third title is a co-authored article by the same two authors, mentioned below. The first is Judith Nobels, *(Extra)Ordinary Letters. A View from Below on Seventeenth-Century Dutch*, Utrecht, Lot, 319 pp. The second title is Teuntje ‘Tanja’ Simons, *Ongekend 18e-eeuws Nederlands. Taalvariatie in persoonlijke brieven*, Utrecht, Lot, 369 pp. Both dissertations investigate a change in the forms of address from *ul* to *UE*, the establishment of the reflexive pronoun *zich* and the reciprocal pronoun *elkaar*, the switch from a bipartite to a single negation, the treatment of word-final schwa in the three dialects, the factors influencing the use of the various diminutive allomorphs (velar and palatal, with –n and without, forms with –j vs. those with *i*) and the use of genitive constructions and their alternatives. Both dissertations are great showcases of the growing subfield of research into the written language of the lower classes. They complement each other rather than doubling each other’s work.