New Perspectives on the Study of *Ser* and *Estar*

Edited by Isabel Pérez-Jiménez, Manuel Leonetti and Silvia Gumiel-Molina

University of Alcalá

This is the first book entirely and exclusively devoted to the grammar of the two copular verbs *ser* and *estar*, certainly one of the most intriguing features of Spanish grammar. Although the topic has long attracted the interest of scholars, it had never given rise to a collection of papers that covers both theoretical issues in syntax and semantics and topics in the acquisition domain. This volume provides a comprehensive overview of the central research questions concerning the *ser* / *estar* alternation: the syntactic or semantic nature of the distinction, its link with aspect and with the Individual-Level / Stage-Level distinction, and its connection with interface phenomena. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in Hispanic linguistics, but can be equally attractive for researchers working on Romance linguistics, theoretical linguistics (syntax, semantics, pragmatics), acquisition theory, and historical linguistics.


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“This volume presents a comprehensive and up-to-date survey on the topics involved in the distinction between the copulas *ser* and *estar* in Spanish.”

José María Brucart – Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

“The study of *ser*/*estar* is a perfect window into the interfaces between grammar components, and the papers in this volume are an impressive contribution for a more complete description of *ser*/*estar* and its consequences for the theory of grammar.”

João Costa – FCSH/Nova

“This very well-conceived book provides new empirical insights into and state-of-the-art theoretical discussion of almost all of the central questions surrounding the classic topic of the *ser*/*estar* distinction in Spanish.”

Violeta Demonte - Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

“A truly must read for Hispanic and Romance specialists.”

Marta Luján - University of Texas at Austin

“This collective volume proposes an up-to-date and pluralistic approach to an old and complex problem offered by a selection of prominent specialists in Spanish syntax and semantics.”

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