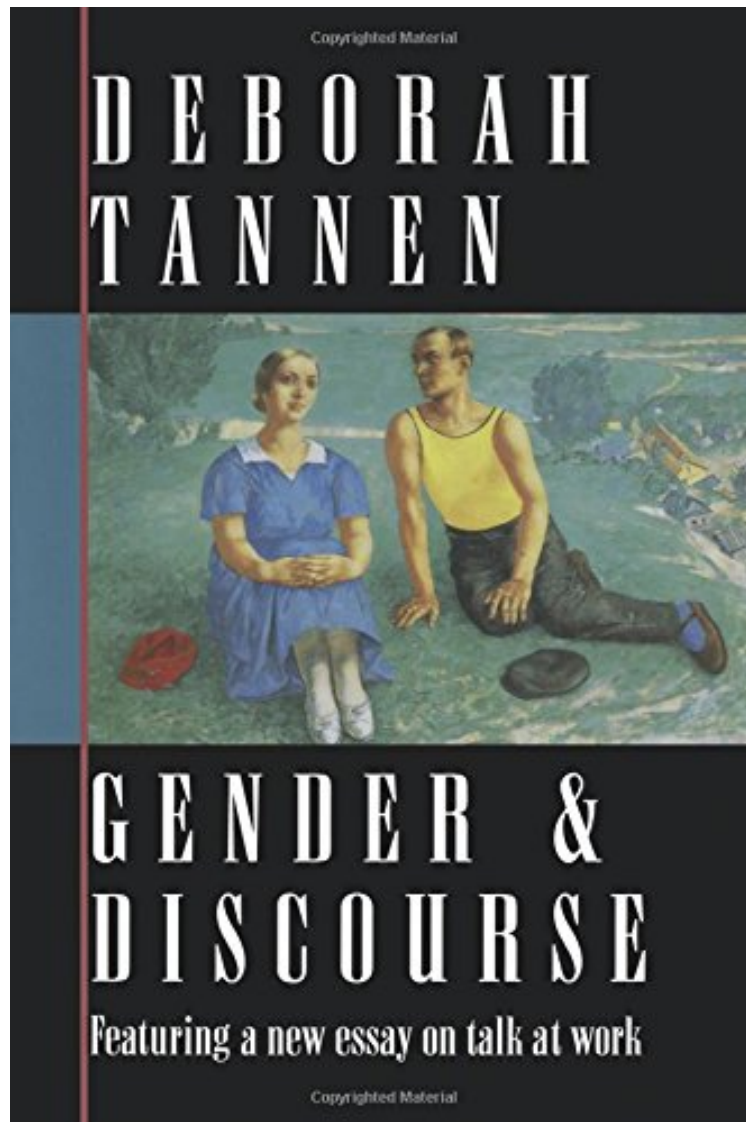


Gender and Discourse

Deborah Tannen

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#920423 in Books Deborah Tannen 1996-01-04 1996-01-04 Original language: English PDF # 1 5.31 x .47 x 7.941, .45 #File Name: 0195101243240 pages Gender and Discourse | File size: 73.Mb

Deborah Tannen : Gender and Discourse before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gender and Discourse:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A must read!By Special TeacherExplains a lot of misconceptions we have when we interact with each other. Explains why we think the other gender is giving out "false clues". Really helps with relationships with everyone.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Amazing and BrilliantBy Annie B.Dr. Tannen is a brilliant author and the "go to" researcher on matters concerning gender differences in

communication. This book is research-based and a more difficult read when compared to her more popular books. I read this book cover to cover in graduate school and I recommend it highly for any adult learner. Brilliant! 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. used the ideas a lot in my studies
By Stephen Pellerine
This is a well researched book and is very thought provoking and interesting to flip through. I think that if you are writing a paper on gender and language, as many TESOL MA programs require/allow this is a valuable resource. This is more a resource than a read for me - and emphasize that you should be keen in the field of linguistics for this to be an enjoyable read. I liked it and used the ideas a lot in my studies.

Deborah Tannen's *You Just Don't Understand* spent nearly four years (in cloth and paper) on The New York Times Best Seller list and has sold over a million and a half copies. Clearly, Tannen's insights into how and why women and men so often misunderstand each other when they talk has touched a nerve. For years a highly respected scholar in the field of linguistics, she has now become widely known for her work on how conversational style differences associated with gender affect relationships. Her life work has demonstrated how close and intelligent analysis of conversation can reveal the extraordinary complexities of social relationships--including relationships between men and women. Now, in *Gender and Discourse*, Tannen has gathered together six of her scholarly essays, including her newest and previously unpublished work in which language and gender are examined through the lens of "sex-class-linked" patterns, rather than "sex-linked" patterns. These essays provide a theoretical backdrop to her best-selling books--and an informative introduction which discusses her field of linguistics, describes the research methods she typically uses, and addresses the controversies surrounding her field as well as some misunderstandings of her work. (She argues, for instance, that her cultural approach to gender differences does not deny that men dominate women in society, nor does it ascribe gender differences to women's "essential nature.") The essays themselves cover a wide range of topics. In one, she analyzes a number of conversational strategies--such as interruption, topic raising, indirection, and silence--and shows that, contrary to much work on language and gender, no strategy exclusively expresses dominance or submissiveness in conversation--interruption (or overlap) can be supportive, silence and indirection can be used to control. It is the interactional context, the participants' individual styles, and the interaction of their styles, Tannen shows, that result in the balance of power. She also provides a fascinating analysis of four groups of males and females (second-, sixth-, and tenth-grade students, and twenty-five year olds) conversing with their best friends, and she includes an early article co-authored with Robin Lakoff that presents a theory of conversational strategy, illustrated by analysis of dialogue in Ingmar Bergman's *Scenes from a Marriage*. Readers interested in the theoretical framework behind Tannen's work will find this volume fascinating. It will be sure to interest anyone curious about the crucial yet often unnoticed role that language and gender play in our daily lives.

From Library Journal
Linguistics professor Tannen (*You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation*, LJ 4/1/92) presents five previously published theoretical essays, each revised and introduced for the specialist and accompanied by notes and references. An introduction describes her research methods and conflicts surrounding interdisciplinary gender studies. Included is a study that was crucial in motivating her to study gender and language further. This is not a mere working over of earlier papers but a useful thematic compilation for larger public and all academic libraries.
Helen Rippier Wheeler, formerly with the Univ. of California at Berkeley, SLIS
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From Kirkus
In attempt to defend and expand upon her theories of miscommunication between men and women, sociolinguist Tannen provides the scholarly underpinnings of her 1990 bestseller, *You Just Don't Understand*. The material included in these five previously published and ponderous essays differs from Tannen's earlier book primarily in that it is addressed to a jury of her academic peers. Jargon abounds throughout, from terms like "kinesic/proxemic analogue" to "the polysemy of power and solidarity." However, the central ideas are quite familiar: Pervasive miscommunication between men and women is due, in large part, to a complex set of "cross-cultural" and stylistic differences; though men do tend to dominate women in society, their domination of women in conversation is not necessarily born of an intent to dominate; linguistic strategies (such as interruption) can mean different things in different instances; and understanding style differences allows for adjustments without casting blame on either gender. Also repeated are many of the studies and examples Tannen cites elsewhere (Marianne and Johan's conversational strategies in Ingmar Bergman's *Scenes From a Marriage*; videotaped dialogues between eight pairs of same-sex friends). Tannen is at her most interesting (and original) in the introduction, in which she elaborately defends her own "culture difference theory and research." Responding primarily to her scholarly critics who see gender and language according to models of power and dominance, rather than cultural differences, she insists that one does not preclude the other. Though she does not convince so much as pique interest in the debates raging in her field, this is one of the book's more compelling sections. This may offer intrepid Tannen fans or academicians worthy bits of information and insight, but general readers are likely to find little reward in this dense tome. -- Copyright 1994, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. "A clear and cogent synthesis of important research in linguistics discourse analysis and gender studies."--Bennett Rafoth, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
"Excellent book....The topic of genderlects simply cannot be approached without reference to Tannen,

and this book gathers together some of her most impressive findings."--bridget Drinka, University of Texas at San Antonio"I...found the contents to be lucidly written and to have extremely significant relevance to interdisciplinary communications studies."--Harold Battersby, SUNY-Geneseo"A very interesting and useful book. I like the organization. It's up-to-date and thought-provoking."--Barbara Abbott, Michigan State University"Great for use in a communication and gender course."--Judith Barnes, San Jose State University"Deborah Tannen is the archangel of clarity....She makes the art of listening less scary and more fascinating than any other sociolinguist or therapist writing today."--Los Angeles Times"Tannen explains the scholarly underpinnings of her bestseller *You Just Don't Understand*"--The Washington Post"A useful thematic compilation for larger public and all academic libraries."--Library Journal"A mature and inspiring synthesis of rigorous method and humanistic as well as scientific goals."--Paul Friedrich, author of *The Language Parallax*"Tannen brings together five studies that bear on dominance vs. culture as interpretations of gender difference in languages, and frames the studies with an introduction addressing the debate. All concerned with the issue will need to address what she says."--Dell Hymes, author of *Foundations in Sociolinguistics*