Introduction, 3
Methodological Context, 5
The Role of Dominance in a Cultural Difference Framework, 7
Beyond the Nature/Nurture Dichotomy, 12
Notes, 14
References, 15

 The Relativity of Linguistic Strategies: Rethinking Power and Solidarity in Gender and Dominance, 19

Introduction, 20

Overview of the Chapter, 21

Theoretical Background, 22

Power and Solidarity, 22

The Ambiguity of Linguistic Strategies, 23

The Polysemy of Power and Solidarity, 24

Similarity/Difference, 28

The Relativity of Linguistic Strategies, 31

Indirectness, 32

Interruption, 34

Silence Versus Volubility, 36

Topic Raising, 39

Adversativeness: Conflict and Verbal Aggression, 40

Conclusion, 46

Notes, 47

References, 49

2. Interpreting Interruption in Conversation, 53

Males Interrupt Females: The Research, 55

Interruption as Dominance, 56

Methodological Objection, 57

Sociolinguistic Objection, 59

Cultural Variation, 68

Ethical Objection: Stereotyping and Conversational Style, 71

Gender, Ethnicity, and Conversational Style, 72

Conclusion, 74

Afterword, 74

Notes, 77

References, 79

3. Gender Differences in Conversational Coherence: Physical Alignment and Topical Cohesion, 85

Introduction, 86

Physical Alignment, 89

Summary: Physical Alignment, 98

Topical Cohesion, 99

Summary: Topical Cohesion, 126

Conclusion: The Congruence of Posture and Topic, 127

Notes, 129

References, 133

4. Conversational Strategy and Metastrategy in a Pragmatic Theory: The Example of *Scenes from a Marriage* (with Robin Lakoff), 137

Introduction: A Theory of Communicative Competence, 139

The Selection of Scenes from a Marriage, 141

Surface Harmony and Underlying Discord: The Framework

of Scenes from a Marriage, 142

Pragmatic Relationships, 148

Individual Styles, 149

Pragmatic Identity, 161

Pragmatic Synonymy, 162

Pragmatic Homonymy, 165

The Use of Questions, 166

Conclusion, 171

Notes, 172

References, 172

5. Ethnic Style in Male-Female Conversation, 175

Indirectness in Discourse, 179

Culturally Relative Patterns of Interpretation: A Pilot Study, 184

Patterns of Interpretation: Qualitative Results, 188

Conclusion, 192

Notes, 193

References, 194

6. The Sex-Class Linked Framing of Talk at Work, 195

Sex-class Linked vs. Sex-linked, 197

Status and Connection, 202

Workplace Examples: Balancing Status and Connection, 205

Sex-class Linked Patterns at Work, 212

Further Evidence for Sex-class Linkage, 213 Reprise, 218 Notes, 218 References, 220

Index, 222