

Koji Sugisaki, Recipient of the 2017 ELSJ Award

It is a great honor and pleasure to be awarded the English Linguistic Society of Japan (ELSJ) Award 2017 for my book, *First Language Acquisition: A UG-based Approach* (written in Japanese). I would like to thank the members of the ELSJ Awards Committee for taking their time to read and evaluate my book.

In this book, I summarize the major findings of my own research, and discuss the theoretical implications of these findings, placing them in a broader perspective. Thus, I believe that this book can be used both as a collection of research papers and as a textbook for the introduction to the UG-based approach to child language acquisition.

This book would not have existed without the support from a number of researchers. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Masaru Kajita, Yukio Otsu, and William Snyder for introducing me to the fascinating field of UG-based child language acquisition, and for giving me constant guidance, support, and encouragement. I would also like to thank Mamiko Hamakado (Iwanami Shoten) for providing me the opportunity to publish this book.

The materials and the organization of this book are based on my lectures for undergraduate students at Mie University and Nanzan University. I am grateful to the professors of linguistics at Mie University (Seiki Ayano, Noriko Hattori, Osamu Sawada, and Etsuko Yoshida) and Nanzan University (Mamoru Saito and Keiko Murasugi) for offering me the opportunity to teach a course on language acquisition.

The research summarized in this book has been supported by a number of people. I sincerely hope that this book will, in turn, provide some support for those who want to start their own research in the field of child language acquisition.