

Politeness in Language

Studies in its History, Theory and Practice

Edited by

Richard J. Watts

Sachiko Ide

Konrad Ehlich

Mouton de Gruyter

Berlin · New York 1992

Contents

List of Contributors	ix
----------------------	----

Introduction	
Richard J. Watts, Sachiko Ide and Konrad Ehlich	1

Part 1: The Theory and History of Linguistic Politeness

1. Intracultural tact versus intercultural tact	
Richard W. Janney and Horst Arndt	21
2. Linguistic politeness and politic verbal behaviour: Reconsidering claims for universality	
Richard J. Watts	43
3. On the historicity of politeness	
Konrad Ehlich	71
4. Literary texts and diachronic aspects of politeness	
Roger D. Sell	109
5. Politeness in linguistic research	
Gudrun Held	131
6. Traditional and modern views: the social constitution and the power of politeness	
Konrad T. Werkhofer	155

Part 2: Empirical Studies in Politeness

7. Secondhand politeness	
Annelie Knapp-Potthoff	203
8. Between matter-of-factness and politeness	
Judith Stalpers	219
9. Children's understanding of white lies	
Sabine Walper and Renate Valtin	231

Part 3: Politeness in a Non-Western Cultural Setting

10. The metapragmatics of politeness in Israeli society	
Shoshana Blum-Kulka	
11. The concept of politeness: An empirical study of	

American English and Japanese Sachiko Ide, Beverly Hill, Yukiko M. Carnes, Tsunao Ogino and Akiko Kawasaki	281
12. Linguistic etiquette in Japanese society Florian Coulmas	299
13. Politeness in Thai Manfred Kummer	325
References	337
Index	369