

## ***Tipo (Like)... do you get me?***

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Keywords: mental spaces, intersubjectivity, space builder, grammaticalization, vagueness.

*Tipo* is a Spanish noun referring to a representative example of an object, or to the class to which it belongs:

(1) yo no sé si este *tipo* de entrevistas sirven para que uno se ponga a dar cátedra. (CSCM)

The meaning of class in *tipo* and other semantically related expressions allows them to express vagueness. From this vague meaning, different pragmatic and adverbial functions have been identified for *tipo* in Argentinian Spanish (Mihatsch ms.), and for *kind of* (Margerie 2010), *sort of* (Mihatsch 2007), and *like* in English (Andersen 2001). These functions include approximation (2), attenuation (3), and quotation (4):

(2) ... porque querían creo que en la universidad querían hacer *tipo* charlas (ColaBA)

(3) yo también, pero me fui porque *tipo* me harta *tipo* la pibita ella ahí (ColaBA)

(4) conversando en el colegio oh eh ah *tipo* hola hola quién sos (ColaBA)

This analysis calls to question what has been labeled the quotative marker function. While it is true that we find examples like (5):

(5) hoy apenas salió el teaser se lo mostré a una amiga... y cuando acabó estaba *tipo*: “me encantó, está rebuena la canción si los viste? Ah está increíble” (Twitter 2018)

We come across examples like (6) as well:

(6) soy la única que cancela lugares? *tipo* voy y me acuerdo de cosas malas q pasaron y no quiero volver más (Twitter 2018)

The analysis in this study demonstrates that the quotative marker function observed in *tipo* is just an instance of a broader function, namely, the ability to create mental spaces (Fauconnier 1994; Dancygier 2012). It also supports the hypothesis that *tipo* is a marker of shared viewpoint, allowing both interlocutors to share the same experience (Sweetser 2012), and that its core function is intersubjective by nature, aiding our ability to take someone else’s perspective (Verhagen 2005).

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