

Sur ce, qu'en dit-on ?

Sur ce, what do they say?

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Abstract: On the basis of the theoretical and methodological postulate stating that a difference in form correlates to a difference in meaning (and *vice versa*), we distinguish two uses of the adverbial phrase *sur ce* in contemporary French: one as a 'conjunctive textual marker' – illustrated by *Il me laissait deux jours. Après quoi, l'agence aurait la visite de son homme de loi. Sur ce, il a raccroché* – which appears in narrative texts and has a temporal and consecutive value (like *juste après*) announcing a sudden consequence (with a negative connotation) related to the facts reported in discourse; the other as a 'discourse marker' – illustrated by *On pourrait même te donner des cours si tu voulais... Sur ce, bonsoir, bonne nuit et bonne année* – which appears in conversational situations and has a temporal and definitive closure value enabling speakers to put an end to a conversation in a polite manner.

Key words: *sur ce*, textual marker, discourse marker, time, consequence, discursive closure, connective.