Note: This listing acknowledges the receipt of recent writings in the study of language, with particular attention to those concerned with language history and the mechanisms of language change, comparative-historical philology, and language typology. Only in exceptional instances will a separate acknowledgment of receipt be issued; no book can be returned to the publisher after it has been analyzed in this section. It should be pointed out, moreover, that by accepting a book, no promise is implied that it will be given a full review in *Diachronica*. Reviews are printed as circumstances permit, and offprints will be sent to the publishers of the works reviewed, including those items briefly commented upon in the present section.

Bybee, Joan. 2001. *Phonology and Language Use* (= *Cambridge Studies in Linguistics*, 94.) Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, xviii + 238 pp. [In this study, B argues that language use helps shape both the form and content of phonology, drawing on recent work from an array of fields, stretching from cognitive and connectionist research to phonetics to functionalist linguistics. Building on her own previous work, she assigns a key role to frequency in determining how language is stored and processed. After reviewing relevant parts of her related theory of morphology, B takes up in turn the role of phonetic detail in lexical representation, phonetic implementation and gestures, interactions between phonology and morphology, phonology above the level of the word, and lexicalized sandhi alternations. The last chapter examines universals and crosslinguistic tendencies in phonology “arguing that there is an essential diachronic component to any attempt to explain linguistic structure or to account for universals of language” (p.17). Throughout, this book is directly and indirectly concerned with diachronic matters, often in engaging ways that historical linguists will read with great interest. The volume includes extensive references, an index of names, one of languages and another of subjects.—Joseph Salmons, University of Wisconsin.]

Christides, A.-Ph., ed. 2001. *Istoria tis elinikis glosas, apo tis arxes eos tin isteri arxeotita*. Thessaloniki: Instituto Neoelinikon Spudon (Iridima Manoli Triandafilidi), xxviii, 1213. [This handsomely produced and massive work, containing some 125 articles of roughly 8 pages in length each, all in Greek, presents (as its title indicates) various facets of the history of the Greek language, from its Indo-European beginnings up to late antiquity, ending with Greek of the Hellenistic period. Topics covered include the nature of language in general; the external history of Greek; the dialects of Ancient Greek; the structure of Ancient Greek; changes evident in Greek in the ancient period; contacts between Greek and other languages in the East, in the Balkans, and in the rest of Europe; translation practices in ancient times; language and culture with regard to Greek in this...]


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era; how the ancients viewed language; and how Ancient Greek was received by, and
affected in its own right, speakers of other languages in later periods; and finally, the use
of Ancient Greek in various contexts. Each section has an introduction written by the
editor, a prominent Greek linguist, that frames the relevant issues addressed, and each
has a bibliography as well. There is a brief glossary of technical terms, charts of the
phonological system of Greek in the Classical, Hellenistic, Medieval, and Modern eras,
and extensive name, language, word, and topic indices. — Brian D. Joseph, The Ohio
State University.

De Guzman, Videa P. & Byron W. Bender, eds. 2000. Grammatical Analysis: Morphology,
syntax, and semantics. Studies in Honor of Stanley Starosta, (= Oceanic Linguistics Special
Publication, 29.) Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, 298 pp. [This volume contains
articles written by students of Stanley Starosta, in gratitude for the influence of his
scholarship on their work. In addition to an Editor’s Note, a Preface, and a list of
Selected Publications of Stanley Starosta, the contents are: Part I, “Theory, History,
Pragmatics”: “The Architecture of Syntactic Representations: Binarity and Deconstruct-
ion” by William O’Grady; “Paradigms as Rules” by Byron W. Bender; “Sources of
Proto-Oceanic Initial Prenasalization: The View from Outside Oceanic” by Lawrence A.
Reid; “Deixis and Anaphora and Prelinguistic Universals” by Marybeth Clark; “The
Emerging Particle poko in Korean: A Grammaticalization” by In-Seok Yang; “Power and
Intimacy: A Contradiction in a Thai Personal Pronoun” by Pranee Kullavanijaya. Part
II, “Morphology, Syntax, Semantics”: “Some Aspects of Pazeh Syntax” by Paul Jen-kuei
Li; “Lexical Prefixes and Prefix Harmony in Siraya” by Shigeru Tsuchida; “What Part of
Speech is nii ‘this’ in Thai?” by Amara Prasithrathsint; “Multiple Lexical Entries of klo
in Thai” by Saranya Savetamalya; “Hunger Acts on Me: The Grammar and Semantics of
Bodily and Mental Process Expressions in Kalam” by Andrew Pawley, Simon Peter Gi,
Ian Saem Majnep, and John Kias; “On Nonverbal Predicates in Thai” by Kimita
Indrambahya; “Double Object Constructions in Thai Revisited” by Supriya Wilawan;
“Some Remarks on the Grammatical Functions of the Nonabsolutive Agent in Tagalog
by Videa P. De Guzman; “Notes on a Possessive Construction in the Formosan
Languages” by Elizabeth Zeitoun; “The Syntax and Semantics of Saisiyat Negators” by
Marie Meli Yeh; “Subordinate Clauses and Ergative Patterns in Shoshoni” by Francis
Lindsey, Jr. — Monica Macaulay, University of Wisconsin.]

Fertig, David. 2000. Morphological Change Up Close: Two and a half centuries of verbal
inflection in Nuremberg, (= Linguistische Arbeiten, 422.) Tübingen: Max Niemeyer, ix +
179 pp. [Drawing on the massive empirical base built in his dissertation — more than
86,000 tokens of verb forms culled from original handwritten texts — F pursues a
number of distinctly theoretical questions about morphological variation and change,
both language-internal and sociolinguistic. His texts date from 1356 to 1619, a turbulent
period in the history of German, and reasonable biographical information is typically
available for the writers. After introductory and theoretical chapters, further chapters are
devoted to structural topics: changes in inflectional endings, stem alternations,
infectional-class transfer and the use of the ge- prefix. A briefer final chapter covers the
relationship between sociolinguistic variation and language change. The central finding
here is that chancery writers and administrators follow one pattern, while women
writers follow another. This holds across a broad set of changes, from variants in specific verb forms \( \text{sind} \sim \text{sen} \) ("are") to general processes like apocope and syncope. The volume concludes with a verb frequency list, sample lines from F's complete data tables, text sources and extensive bibliographical references. — Joseph Salmons, University of Wisconsin.

Fischer, Olga, Ans van Kemenade, Willem Koopman & Wim van der Wurff. 2000. The Syntax of Early English. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, xviii + 341 pp. [This textbook treats a range of syntactic phenomena with a focus on Old and Middle English and using a Principles and Parameters framework, looking to balance attention to formal theory against attention to detailed historical data. After an introduction to language change within Principles and Parameters, the next two chapters give broad overviews of Old and Middle English syntax, respectively. Chapter 4 turns to V2 and its demise in the history of English, while ch. 5 treats the loss of object-verb word order, ch. 6 deals with verb particles, ch. 7 is on infinitival constructions, and ch. 8 reviews the history of the ‘easy-to-please’ construction. A final chapter deals with “Grammaticalization and Grammar Change”, drawing data from have to periphrastic constructions and sentential negation, where the authors analyze these phenomena as normal grammatical change, driven ultimately by the overall structure of the language rather than semantic bleaching and not as cleanly unidirectional as grammaticalization proponents have argued. The book opens with a long list of editions used and concludes with one brief appendix, bibliographical references, and a single general index including names, languages and subjects. — Joseph Salmons, University of Wisconsin.]

Garry, Jane & Carl Rubino, eds. 2001. Facts About the World’s Languages: An encyclopedia of the world’s major languages, past and present. New York & Dublin: The H. W. Wilson Company, xiv, 896 pp. [This compendium contains sketches about 191 of the world’s languages, selected so as to include virtually “all languages currently spoken by two million or more people” (p. xi) as well as a number of major ancient languages (e.g., Coptic, Latin, Sanskrit, Sumerian, etc.) and “some languages with smaller populations [that] provide representation to less frequently described language families and … give a broader typological perspective” (p. xi, e.g., Arapesh, Navajo, Warlpiri, etc.). Each sketch provides for the target language basic information on genetic affiliation, geographic location, number of speakers, external history, orthography, phonology, morphology, syntax, evidence of contact with other languages, common words, example sentences, and bibliography. Endmatter for the volume includes a substantial (23-page(!)) glossary of technical terms, an index of languages by country, an index of languages by family, and an index of all language names, including alternate designations, used in the book. — Brian D. Joseph, The Ohio State University.]

General Linguistics, vol. 37, 2000 (1997), 233 pp., ed. by Carol F. Justus. [This issue marks the revitalization of an outlet for research in historical linguistics, one that has been missed for a number of years, under a new team of editors who invite work “including general theoretical approaches to comparative, historical, and typological data”, as well as empirically-oriented descriptive studies. This issue contains “Umlaut, Ablaut, and Phonetic Symbolism” by Mark Louden, “Gender and the Dot on the ‘I’ in German” by

Janišková, Ilona & Helena Karlíková, eds. 2000. Studia Etymologica Brunensia, 1. Prague: Euroslavica, 375 pp. [This volume contains the proceedings of a 1999 conference in Brno on Slavic etymology in the Indo-European context in honor of the Slavist, Eva Havlová. The majority of the 51 papers, therefore, deal with Slavic issues, such as “Überlegungen zur Genese des urslawischen *ch” by Heinz Schuster-Šewc; “The Common Slavic i-Stem Declension in light of the Data from other Indo-European Languages” by Bogumil Ostrovski; “Latin Influences on Czech and Russian Syntax” by Stanislav Žaža; and “The Semantic Motivation of some Terms for Baked Goods in the Slavic Languages” by Pavla Valčáková, which points not only to Slavic and other Indo-European sources, but also to loans from Turkish and Hungarian. Each paper has its own references, and most of those in Slavic languages have abstracts in German or English.—Peter A. Michalove, University of Illinois.]

Johanson, Lars. 2001. Discoveries on the Turkic Linguistic Map (= Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul, Publications, 5). Stockholm: Universitetstryckeriet, 56 pp. [This handsomely produced booklet (complete with a color map of Asia from 1744 on the cover) presents an expanded version of a public lecture delivered by author J on 20 October 1997, to celebrate the 90th birthday of Professor Gunnar Jarring, thus inaugurating what has since become an annual commemorative lecture series. J offers here first a survey of “pioneering achievements” in Turcology, especially those made by Scandinavian scholars, and then an overview of current research, particularly that involving fieldwork, into the many still largely undocumented and generally endangered dialects and languages among the 125,000,000 Turkic speakers stretching mostly from Turkey to China. He then turns to a thoughtful consideration of the need for this documentation in the light of the pressures on these languages and dialects towards extinction, citing compelling humanistic, cultural, and scholarly (e.g., comparative and typological linguistic) reasons as justification. This most interesting overview of Turkic ends with a substantial (eight-page) bibliography and contains a schematic map locating the various languages.—Brian D. Joseph, The Ohio State University.]

Olsen offers "Reflections of Ritual Behavior at Botai, Kazakhstan". Other papers include "The Growth of IE Ablaut: Contrastive Accent and Vṛddhi" by Jens Elmegård Rasmussen; and "The Age of Indo-European Present -r Personal Endings" by Carol Justus. Each paper has its own bibliography, and there is a general index. — Peter A. Michalove, University of Illinois.

Journal of Historical Pragmatics. Vol. 1 (1), 160 pp., ed. by Andreas H. Jucker & Irma Taavitsainen. 2000. [The first issue of this new journal contains seven articles. The opening article initiates discussion about the rhetoric of historical pragmatics itself. Four others analyze diachronic speech acts inside socio-historical and literary contexts, striving to keep the historical pragmaticist balanced between awareness of subjectification / rhetorical manipulation and of patterns in the evolution of semantic fields. Two further articles examine pragmatized and/or grammaticalized polysemies. The journal concludes with a book review of Gerd Fritz's Historische Semantik. After an editor's preface follow the seven articles: "Some remarks on the rhetoric of historical pragmatics" by Susan M. Fitzmaurice; "Invoking scalarity: The development of in fact" by Scott A. Schwenter and Elizabeth Closs Traugott; "Development of demo type connectives and na elements: Two extremes of Japanese discourse markers" by Noriko O. Onodera; "Is a diachronic speech act theory possible?" by Marcella Bertuccelli Papi; "Diachronic speech act analysis: Insults from flyting to flaming" by Andreas H. Jucker and Irma Taavitsainen; "Constructing witches and spells: Speech acts and activity types in Early Modern England" by Jonathan Culpeper and Elena Semino; "But-þat þou louye me, Sertes y dye fore loue of þe: Towards a typology of opening moves in courtly amorous interaction" by Thomas Honegger. — Nathan Hillman, University of Wisconsin.]

Kessler, Brett. 2001. The Significance of Word Lists. Stanford: Center for the Study of Language and Information, x + 277 pp. [Based on the author's Stanford University doctoral thesis, this book tackles perhaps the single biggest obstacle to moving comparative linguistics ahead, namely developing more explicit recurrence metrics. K argues on the one hand the now generally accepted position that quantitative methods can be useful in comparative linguistics and on the other, less widely accepted, that quantification is by no means a methodological "straightjacket". After basic overviews of some concepts from statistics and probability, K examines how traditional methods and rules of thumb comport with quantitative tests. After an extended "recipe" for how to do rigorous quantitative comparison, the book closes with an "appraisal" and suggestions on where K's approach might be applied. The volume concludes with an appendix of word list items used in the text (from a variety of Indo-European, Athapaskan, Polynesian, and Oceanic languages, as well as Turkish), references and a general index. — Joseph Salmons, University of Wisconsin.]

Macha, Jürgen, Elmar Neuss & Robert Peters, eds., with assistance from Stephan Elspaß. 2000. Rheinisch-Westfälische Sprachgeschichte. (= Niederdeutsche Studien, 46.) Köln: Böhlau, xii + 409 pp. [This volume grows from a 1999 roundtable meeting at the Universität Münster aiming to develop a clear and detailed picture of language history in the Rhineland-Westphalian region. Remarkable about this book is the richness that

Martínez, Javier & Michiel de Vaan. 2001. *Introducción al Avéstico*. Madrid: Ediciones Clásicas, 132 pp. [This volume is an introduction to the Avestan language, explained within the framework of Indo-Iranian and Indo-European linguistics. It begins with a short introduction to the geographical, historical, and textual background of the language, and the writing system. It then presents the phonological inventory of the language, before moving into the morphology, presenting the nominal forms and categories, explaining derivational processes, and giving paradigms of the various stem types. This section includes adjectives, numbers, and pronouns. Verbs are then presented, with explanation of roots and the stems, the moods and voices, and with conjugations given of the different stem types. Non-finite verbal forms are also summarized. This is followed by a brief chapter on syntax, which explains the usage of the nominal cases and numbers and the verbal moods, introduces the structure of coordination, subordination, and negation, and deals briefly with some historical changes. The last chapter contains sections from four different Avestan texts with Spanish translations. The book concludes with a bibliography of relevant works, including translations, commentaries, grammars, and dictionaries. A short glossary is included, with references to where the forms are explained in the book. Two indices conclude the book, the first of word-forms, listed by language, and the second of terminology.—Hope C. Dawson, The Ohio State University.]

McMahon, April. 2000. *Change, Chance, and Optimality*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, x + 201 pp. [This book critically examines some of the fundamental claims made by Optimality Theory (OT), the currently most widely-accepted formal approach to phonology. M argues that some OT claims, most prominently that derivational rules are unnecessary and that all constraints are universal and innate, are flawed, and ultimately cannot be sustained. M notes that sound change was not a fundamental concern of OT at the beginning of the theory, but points out that later practitioners of OT have
examined sound change within OT, claiming that sound change is constraint reranking. However, M finds OT approaches to sound change inadequate, for a number of reasons, including what she calls the “chicken and the egg problem” — does constraint reranking cause sound change, or does sound change trigger constraint reranking? M further draws on insights from evolutionary biology, and suggests that the predictions made by evolutionary biology do not match up with the claims of innateness made in OT. The volume contains a sizable bibliography and a detailed index. — Marc Pierce, University of Michigan.

Newman, Paul & Martha Ratliff, eds. 2001. Linguistic Fieldwork. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 288 pp. [This volume contains twelve papers on fieldwork by a group of experienced and for the most part well-known fieldworkers. Following the editors’ Introduction, the contents are: “Fieldwork as a State of Mind” by Larry M. Hyman; “Who Shapes the Record: the speaker and the linguist” by Marianne Mithun; “Places and People: field sites and informants” by Gerrit J. Dimmendaal; “Ulua (Southern Sumu): the beginnings of a language research project” by Ken Hale; “Escaping Eurocentrism: fieldwork as a process of unlearning” by David Gil; “Surprises in Sutherland: linguistic variability amidst social uniformity” by Nancy C. Dorian; “The Role of Text Collection and Elicitation in Linguistic Fieldwork” by Shobhana L. Chelliah; “Monolingual Field Research” by Daniel L. Everett; “The Give and Take of Fieldwork: noun classes and other concerns in Fatick, Senegal” by Fiona McLaughlin and Thierno Seydou Sall; “Phonetic Fieldwork” by Ian Maddieson; “Learning as One Goes” by Keren Rice; “The Last Speaker is Dead — Long Live the Last Speaker!” by Nicholas Evans. — Monica Macaulay, University of Wisconsin.]

Polomé, Edgar C., ed. 1999. Miscellanea Indo-Europea. (= JIES Monograph, 33.) Washington: Institute for the Study of Man, 313 pp. [A collection of studies, this volume includes a comprehensive bibliography of Indo-European Studies by Alain de Benoist; “Archaeology, Social Evolution, and the Spread of Indo-European Languages and Cultures” by Garrett Olmstead; “Nomadenhypothese und Ursprung der Indogermanen” by Alexander Häusler; and “Homère et le pelasge” by Françoise Bader. Carol Justus writes “Can a Counting System Be an Index of Linguistic Relationships?”; and Nick Allen discusses “Hinduism, Structuralism, and Dumézil”. Further papers include “Who Deals with the Gods: Kings and other intermediaries” by Dean Miller; and Edgar Polomé concludes with “IE Initial /b/ and Germanic Initial /p/” and “Views on Developments in Indo-European Religion During the Last Decade or So”. — Peter A. Michalove, University of Illinois.]

Rauch, Irmengard & Gerald F. Carr, eds. 2001. New Insights in Germanic Linguistics II. (= Berkeley Insights in Linguistics and Semiotics, 38). New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 250 pp. [This collection of 14 essays from the 1998 Berkeley Germanic Linguistics Roundtable is an extension of the first volume of the same name, published in 1999. The book provides essays on historical and synchronic issues. Several of the essays on synchronic topics are framed within Optimality Theory, including Donald Steinmetz’s “The Great Gender Shift and the Attrition of Neuter Nouns in West Germanic: The example of German”, Irmengard Rauch’s “Analogy’s Hidden Triggers” and Marc...
Pierce’s “On the Fate of Final Obstruents in Modern German”. Dagmar Bittner’s study, “The Definite Articles in German: What are the features creating an underspecified paradigm?” examines morphology, and Kerstin Schwabe investigates syntax in her article, “On Shared Constituents in German Coordinative Sentences”. The three remaining synchronic studies have a more sociolinguistic focus. These include Paul Listen and Iona Vandergriff’s essay on “PC Aspects of Human Nouns in German”, a study by Irmengard Rauch et al. on snail-mail, and Rogier Nieuweboer’s article on “The language of the Siberian Mennonites”. Among the historical papers are three studies on prosody: Anatoly Liberman’s “Apocope in Germanic, or an ax(e) to grind”, Yuri Kleiner’s “Compensatory Variation” and Yasuko Suzuki’s “The Prosody and Syntax of Light Elements in West Germanic Alliterative Verse, with special reference to Beowulf”. The remaining historical phonetic and/or phonological papers include Kurt Gustav Goblirsch’s argument for voice-neutral spirants instead of voiced aspirates in “The Third Obstruent Series in Old Germanic”, as well as James Ritchie’s “Perceptual Cues in the Old High German Monophthongization”. Eugene Green provides the only non-phonologically-based historical study in “Semiotics of Compounds in Old English Riddles”, where he investigates primarily syntax and semantics. Although each individual chapter contains a bibliography, the book contains no general introduction, conclusion, bibliography or index. — Kristen Reifsnyder, University of Wisconsin.


Robinson, Orrin W. 2001. Whose German? The ich/ach alternation and related phenomena in ‘standard’ and ‘colloquial’. (= Current Issues in Linguistic Theory, 208.) Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, xi + 169 pp. [R undertakes here a far-ranging investigation of the infamous problem of the German dorsal fricatives, examining in particular the problem of what data are the appropriate object of a phonological (or other linguistic) analysis. He argues for inclusion of a broad range, including dialectal and colloquial, while treating loanwords as a very distinct dataset. R reviews analyses in many theoretical frameworks and proposes his own accounts within both Lexical Phonology and Optimality Theory, eventually concluding that the latter appears well-suited for this problem. At the same time, the author treats empirical and theoretical issues from sociolinguistics (especially orthoepists and the development of the modern standard language), dialectology, and morphology, but throughout with direct attention to diachrony. The book concludes with extensive references, a name index and a subject index.—Joseph Salmons, University of Wisconsin.]

Sagart, Laurent. 1999. The Roots of Old Chinese (= Current Issues in Linguistic Theory, 184.) Amsterdam & Philadelphia: John Benjamins, xi + 255 pp. [This book is a state-of-the-art analysis and revision of the reconstruction of Old Chinese. It is assumed that the reader is familiar with the field, particularly the work of William H. Baxter. The book starts by introducing the importance of word families (i.e., morphologically-related words) and morphology in a reconstruction of Old Chinese, and moves on to modifications of existing reconstructions, particularly the segmentals. It continues with detailed discussions of the prefixes, suffixes, consonant clusters, and the infix of Old Chinese. Having teased apart phonology and morphology, the rest of the book focuses on select semantic groupings of words, examining their etymologies. It ends with a list of reconstructions and a list of characters found in the book. Throughout, it is richly illustrated with relevant examples from modern languages. The methodology employed is exacting and constrained. This book makes important contributions to our understanding of Old Chinese. — Blaine Erickson, Kanazawa Institute of Technology.]

Schaner-Wolles, Chris, John Rennison, & Friedrich Neubarth, eds. 2001. Naturally! Linguistic studies in honour of Wolfgang Ulrich Dressler presented on the occasion of his 60th birthday. Torino: Rosenberg & Sellier, xxxiv, 514 pp. [This most aptly named volume celebrates a milestone event in the life of one of Europe’s — and indeed the world’s — most productive and best known linguists. It contains 56 articles by friends and colleagues, covering a wide range of topics, as befits the interests of the honorand.
Although the vast majority of the contributions will be of interest to readers concerned with historical linguistics through their discussion of interesting data, theoretical issues, and matters (e.g., language acquisition) that have an impact on historical considerations, there are six contributions in particular that deal with topics that fall squarely within the field: Peter Auer’s “Some observations on the role of lexicalization in standard/dialect phonology and in sociophonological change”, Andrew Carstairs-McCarthy’s “Morphology, biuniqueness, and language evolution”, Anna Giacalone Ramat’s “Emergent auxiliaries and the theory of grammaticalization”, Brian D. Joseph’s “On the development of Modern Greek ὀχι ‘no!’”, Paolo Ramat’s “De-grammaticalization or transcategorization?”, and the late Wolfgang Ullrich Wurzel’s “Is language change directed? A contribution to a theory of change”. Two very useful features are a Curriculum Vitae and complete bibliography for D, the latter with 371 items (12 authored co-authored monographs, 25 edited or co-edited anthologies, and 334 articles) through 1999. — Brian D. Joseph, The Ohio State University.

Schmalstieg, William R. 2000. The Historical Morphology of the Baltic Verb. (= JIES Monograph, 37). Washington: Institute for the Study of Man, 445 pp. [This volume lays out a scenario for the historical development of the Baltic verb. After some introductory comments on the nature of the Indo-European verb, there are short sections on the personal endings, and notions of transitivity. These are followed by the main section of the book, a discussion of the actual conjugations and forms of the Baltic verb. While there are many questions still open in Baltic morphology, particularly in areas like accentuation, this book devotes a great deal of space to the statement of other writers’ views before giving the author’s own conclusions. Another useful aspect of the book is the attention given to various Lithuanian dialect forms. These features make the extensive bibliography and index verborum particularly valuable. — Peter A. Michalove, University of Illinois.]

Stewart, Thomas W. Jr. & Nathan Vailllette, eds. 2001. Language Files: Materials for an Introduction to Language and Linguistics, Eighth Edition. Columbus: The Ohio State University Press, 508 pp. [This familiar and serviceable introductory linguistics sourcebook and text appears in a new, slimmer format from years past. New files include 3.6 “Non-English Speech Sounds”, 8.2 “Drawing conclusions: Entailment and Implicature”, 11.5 “Case Studies in Language Contact” and 14.4 “Communicating with Computers” (the latter as part of a new section on Language and Computers). Less-often used files, such as one on acoustic phonetics and the one with a mixed set of language change problems, have been dropped; other shorter, related files have been merged; and certain files have been re-located (for example the English Borrowings file is in Language Contact now, rather than Language Change). The Language Variation files now more logically precede rather than follow the Language Change files. Beyond these large-scale organizational changes, however, a close inspection of the files on historical linguistics show that careful editorial changes have touched almost every paragraph to good effect. For example, in File 12.1 “Language Change”, the more common “A chess set is comprised of thirty-two pieces” has been substituted for “Thirty-two pieces comprise a chess set” found in earlier editions as an example of how “comprise” has undergone semantic change. And in File 12.4 “The Comparative
Method", the third step in the reconstruction process now involves an appeal to Occam's Razor, with an explanation of its application to reconstruction methodology, in place of the old guideline of last resort, “majority rules”. Many sentences have been re-written for greater clarity and extra exemplification has been added where needed. This is a truly new edition, and not just a facelift. — Martha Ratliff, Wayne State University.

Thomason, Sarah G. 2001. *Language Contact: An introduction*. Washington, D.C.: Georgetown University Press, x, 310 pp. [This work is designed both as a textbook but also, as author T puts it, as “a personal book … reflect[ing] my own view of the field of language contact” (p.ix). She does not, therefore, attempt to exhaustively present all the different viewpoints adopted in the literature. Its 10 chapters do, however, survey the emerging field of contact linguistics quite adequately, covering, after an introductory chapter, “Contact Onsets and Stability”, “Multilingualism in Nations and Individuals”, “Contact-Induced Language Change: Results”, “Linguistic Areas”, “Contact-Induced Language Change: Mechanisms”, “Contact Languages I: Pidgins and Creoles”, “Contact Languages II: Other Mixed Languages”, “Language Death”, and “Endangered Languages”. The presentation is lively and straightforward, with considerable attention to external setting of particular contact situations and to the involvement of real people in the contact. The coverage is geographically quite broad but considerable detail is provided in many instances (e.g. on Asia Minor Greek, Chinook Jargon, contact involving Arabic, contact involving Salishan, etc.). The book has a number of added features that enhance its utility as a textbook and as a general survey, including notes on source material and suggestions for further reading after each chapter; a map in one Appendix locating some key contact situations; a list in another Appendix of official languages found in the nations of the world; a 24-page glossary identifying over 200 linguistic terms, language names, and other crucial concepts; an extensive (15-page) bibliography, and indices for languages, names, and subjects. — Brian D. Joseph, The Ohio State University.]

van Coetsem, Frans. 2000. *A General and Unified Theory of the Transmission Process in Language Contact*. 309 pp. Heidelberg: Carl Winter. [This important work is a follow-up to the author’s 1988 volume on a closely related topic. VC focuses on transmission of change under contact conditions, positing three “integral parts”: recipient language agentivity, source language agentivity and neutralization. This kind of process-oriented perspective will be welcomed by many diachronic linguists, and the author concentrates on developing this view, and applying it to many case studies (most but not all familiar in the contact literature), without dwelling on contextualizing the work in the broader landscape of language contact studies. As in earlier work, VC makes use of a “stability gradient” but while leaving for the future a comprehensive definition of this difficult notion. This volume also develops a detailed taxonomy of language contact, including the position of pidgin and creole languages. The book closes with an appendix and an index of names and another of subjects, plus a very useful set of synthesizing diagrams. — Joseph Salmons, University of Wisconsin.]
van Oostendorp, Marc. 2000. *Phonological Projection: A theory of feature content and prosodic structure*. Berlin & New York: Mouton de Gruyter, x + 396 pp. [O develops and defends the hypothesis that the head of a syllable determines the prosodic structure of that syllable (the ‘Headedness Hypothesis’), based primarily on evidence from Dutch, French, and Norwegian. The study employs a version of Optimality Theory (OT) divided into lexical and postlexical phonologies. Central conclusions of the study include the following: the vowel system of Standard Dutch is largely based on the feature [ lax], and not on length, as many previous scholars have argued (although there are a few vowels that are ‘truly long’); schwa has only one feature, [−cons], and can therefore head only a very special (O uses the term ‘defective’) type of syllable; there is a vowel-glide alternation in Rotterdam Dutch that closely resembles Sievers’ Law, one of the most famous problems of Indo-European phonology. The volume contains a series of appendices, which list the various constraints used and discuss the arguments for their ranking. There is also a lengthy bibliography and two indices, one for subjects and one for languages. — Marc Pierce, University of Michigan.]

standarisation in eighteenth-century England”, Susan Fitzmaurice uses the social network theory to look at social and political factors that lead to prescriptivism. Although most studies in the book like Kytö and Romaine’s “Adjective Comparison and Standardisation Processes in American and British English from 1620 to the Present” focus either on morphological or syntactic features, Roger Lass’s study entitled “A Branching Path: Low vowel lengthening and its friends in the emerging standard” concentrates on the phonological treatment of /aː/. Going against more traditional claims of the Midland dialect as the precursor to the English standard, the collection of essays found in Wright’s book offers a promising contribution to the study of the language standardization process in England. This well-structured book also contains a bibliography after each chapter and an index. — Kristen Reifsnyder, University of Wisconsin.]