

1. Record Nr.	UNINA990004841660403321
Autore	Dobrée, Bonamy
Titolo	Alexander Pope / by Bonamy Dobrée
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London [etc.], : Oxford University Press, 1963
Descrizione fisica	XII, 100 p. ; 20 cm
Collana	Oxford paperbacks ; 70
Disciplina	821.5
Locazione	FLFBC
Collocazione	L 30 (11) L 30 (11) bis
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910784012503321
Titolo	Disinventing and reconstituting languages [[electronic resource] /] / edited by Sifree Makoni and Alastair Pennycook
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Clevedon, : Multilingual Matters, 2007
ISBN	1-280-70538-8 9786610705382 1-85359-925-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (265 p.)
Collana	Bilingual education and bilingualism
Altri autori (Persone)	MakoniSifree PennycookAlastair <1957->
Disciplina	400
Soggetti	Language and languages Semantics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.

Nota di bibliografia

Includes bibliographical references and index.

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Sommario/riassunto

This book questions assumptions about the nature of language and how language is conceptualized. Looking at diverse contexts from sign languages in Indonesia to literacy practices in Brazil, from hip-hop in the US to education in Bosnia and Herzegovina, this book forcefully argues that a critique of common linguistic and metalinguistic suppositions is not only a conceptual but also a sociopolitical necessity. Just as many notions of language are highly suspect, so too are many related concepts premised on a notion of discrete languages, such as language rights, mother tongues, multilingualism, or code-switching. Definitions of language in language policies, education and assessment have material and often harmful consequences for people. Unless we actively engage with the history of invention of languages in order to radically change and reconstitute the ways in which languages are taught and conceptualized, language studies will not be able to improve the social welfare of language users.