1. Record Nr. UNINA9910162812503321

Titolo Future Research Directions for Applied Linguistics / / Simone E. Pfenninger, Judit Navracsics

Pubbl/distr/stampa Blue Ridge Summit, PA : , : Multilingual Matters, , [2017]
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ISBN 1-78309-714-0
1-78309-713-2

Edizione [1st ed.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (306 pages)

Collana Second Language Acquisition

Classificazione ES 600

Disciplina 418

Soggetti Applied linguistics - Research - Methodology

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index.

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Sommario/riassunto

This edited volume provides an overview of current thinking and directions for further research in applied linguistics by bringing together in a single volume a range of perspectives regarding original research agendas and innovative methodological approaches. It focuses not only on the challenges that applied linguistics researchers have been facing in recent years but also on producing workable and productive research designs and on identifying ways of how alternatives to conventional research methodologies can be used. Discussions featured in the volume include the so-called 'Bilingual Advantage' in psycho- and neurolinguistics; the optimal starting age debate in foreign language learning; the growing interest among applied linguists in more nuanced and more complex (statistical) data analysis and the priority given to more descriptive and social approaches to linguistics rather than to theorising. The collection will be a useful reference and stimulus for students, researchers and professionals working in the areas of applied linguistics, psycholinguistics, second language acquisition and second language education.