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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgements / Stell, Gerald / Yakpo, Kofi -- Elusive or self-evident? Looking for common ground in approaches to code-switching / Stell, Gerald / Yakpo, Kofi -- Part 1: Code-switching between cognition and socio-pragmatics -- A usage-based approach to code-switching: The need for reconciling structure and function / Backus, Ad -- A psycholinguistic perspective on code-switching: Lexical, structural, and socio-interactive processes / Kootstra, Gerrit Jan -- How do Welsh-English bilinguals deal with conflict? Adjective-noun order resolution / Parafita Couto, Maria Carmen / Deuchar, Margaret / Fusser, Marika -- Combining the Markedness Model and the Matrix Language Frame Model in Analysing Bilingual Speech / Kwasi Amuzu, Evershed -- Part 2: Multilingual interaction and social identity -- Towards an integrated approach to structural and conversational code-switching through macrosociolinguistic factors / Stell, Gerald -- Code-switching: Between identity and exclusion / Anchimbe, Eric A. -- Styling bilinguals: Analyzing structurally distinctive code-switching styles in Hong Kong /

Hoi Ying Chen, Katherine -- The role of discursive information in analyzing multilingual practices / Migge, Bettina -- Creole/Superstrate code-switching: Structure and consequences / Blaxter, Adam -- Part 3: Code-switching and social structure -- Multilingual speakers in a West-African contact zone: An integrated approach to contact-induced language change / Beyer, Klaus -- Code-switching and social change: Convergent language mixing in a multilingual society / Yakpo, Kofi -- Typological and social factors influencing a new mixed language, Light Warlpiri / O'Shannessy, Carmel -- Continua of language contact / Ehrhart, Sabine -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

The study of code-switching has been carried out from linguistic, psycholinguistic, and sociolinguistic perspectives, largely in isolation from each other. This volume attempts to unite these three research strands by placing at the centre of the enquiry the role played by social factors in the occurrence, forms, and outcomes of code-switching. The contributions in this volume are divided into three parts: "code-switching between cognition and socio-pragmatics", "multilingual interaction and identity", and "code-switching and social structure". The case studies represent contact settings on five continents and feature languages with diverse linguistic affiliations. They are predictive and descriptive in their research goals and rely on experimental or naturalistic data. But they share the common goal of seeking to explain how social structures, ideologies, and identity impact on the grammatical and conversational features of code-switching and language mixing, and on the emergence of mixed languages. Given its scope, this volume is a significant addition to the empirical and theoretical foundations of the study of code-switching. It is also of relevance to the general debate on the inter-relationships between language and society.
