

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910453670103321
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Titolo	Auxiliary selection in Spanish : gradience, gradualness, and conservation // Malte Rosemeyer, University of Freiburg
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam ; ; Philadelphia : , : John Benjamins Publishing Company, , [2014] ©2014
ISBN	90-272-7040-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (333 p.)
Collana	Studies in language companion series (SLCS) ; ; volume 155
Disciplina	465
Soggetti	Spanish language - Variation Spanish language - Study and teaching Electronic books.
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.
Nota di contenuto	Auxiliary Selection in Spanish; Editorial page; Title page; LCC data; Dedication page; Epigraph; Table of contents; Conventions; List of tables; List of figures; Acknowledgements; Chapter 1. Introduction; 1.1 Aims and concepts; 1.2 Outline of the study; Chapter 2. Theoretical prerequisites; 2.1 What is auxiliary selection?; 2.2 Auxiliary selection in Spanish; 2.2.1 Auxiliated verbs; 2.2.2 Sentence-level constraints; 2.2.3 A note on reflexive verbs; 2.2.4 Why was ser + PtcP replaced by haber + PtcP?; 2.3 Summary; Chapter 3. A constructional approach to Spanish auxiliary selection 3.1 Resultatives and anteriors 3.1.1 The stativity of resultative constructions; 3.1.2 Persistence of the resultant state at reference time; 3.2 Origins of Spanish auxiliary selection; 3.2.1 Origins of haber + PtcP; 3.2.2 Origins of ser + PtcP; 3.2.3 Differences between habere + PtcP and esse + PtcP; 3.3 Summary; Chapter 4. A model of linguistic disappearances; 4.1 Gradience and gradualness; 4.2 Actualisation and diffusion; 4.3 Interim summary: Two types of diffusion; 4.4 Why and how do linguistic elements disappear?; 4.5 Remanence and conservation; 4.5.1 Remanence; 4.5.2 Conservation 4.6 Persistence as conservation 4.7 Summary; Chapter 5. Methodology and corpus; 5.1 Quantitative data in historical linguistics; 5.1.1 Usage

frequencies and discourse traditions; 5.1.2 Usage frequencies and copying; 5.1.3 Dating the texts; 5.2 Data selection; 5.2.1 A corpus of historiographical texts; 5.2.2 Determining the envelope of variation; 5.2.2.1 The multivalency of ser + PtcP and haber + PtcP; 5.2.2.2 Verbs displaying variable behaviour; 5.2.3 Queries; 5.2.4 Randomisation; 5.2.5 Quantitative survey of the data; 5.3 Statistical methods; 5.4 Summary

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### Sommario/riassunto

Although usage-based linguistics emphasises the need for studies of language change to take frequency effects into account, there is a lack of research that tries to systematically model frequency effects and their relation to diffusion processes in language change. This monograph offers a diachronic study of the change in Spanish perfect auxiliary selection between Old and Early Modern Spanish that led to the gradual replacement of the auxiliary ser 'be' with the auxiliary haber 'have'. It analyses this process in terms of the interaction between gradience, gradualness,

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