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"referential expressions"; 8.4 Some implications; 8.5 Binding and wh-movement; 8.6 Non-structural factors in interpretation; 8.7 Exercises; 9 Ergativity; 9.1 Preliminaries  
 9.2 A nominative-accusative system 9.3 An ergative-absolutive system; 9.4 A tense-split system; 9.5 A nominal-verbal mismatch; 9.6 A NP-split system; 9.7 Language, thought and culture; 9.8 Exercises; PART III: Universal Grammar; 10 Approaches to UG: Empirical evidence; 10.1 On the plausibility of innate knowledge; 10.2 More negative thoughts; 10.3 Exercises; 11 Approaches to UG: Logic; 11.1 Let's play cards; 11.2 Where does this leave us?; 11.3 Building blocks in other domains; 11.4 Exercises; PART IV: Implications and Conclusions; 12 Social implications 12.1 Prescriptive vs. descriptive grammar 12.2 Negation; 12.3 Change is constant; 12.4 Exercises; 13 Some philosophy; 13.1 Rationalism and empiricism; 13.2 Competence and performance; 13.3 Reference; 13.4 Essentialism; 13.5 Mind and body; 13.6 A view from neuroscience; 13.7 Exercises; 14 Open questions and closing remarks; 14.1 You and your grammar; 14.2 Retracing the links among key -isms; 14.3 Bearing on philosophical questions; References; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W

## Sommario/riassunto

The book introduces the major branches of theoretical linguistics - phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics - in the context of cognitive science, with reference to fields such as vision, auditory perception and philosophy of mind. - ;I-Language introduces the uninitiated to linguistics as cognitive science. In an engaging, down-to-earth style Daniela Isac and Charles Reiss give a crystal-clear demonstration of the application of the scientific method in linguistic theory. Their presentation of the research programme inspired and led by Noam Chomsky shows how the focus of theory and research