

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910456361403321
Titolo	Language usage and language structure [[electronic resource] /] / edited by Kasper Boye, Elisabeth Engberg-Pedersen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, NY, : Mouton de Gruyter, 2010
ISBN	1-282-71481-3 9786612714818 3-11-021918-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (368 p.)
Collana	Trends in linguistics. Studies and monographs ; ; 213
Classificazione	ER 765
Altri autori (Persone)	BoyeKasper <1972-> Engberg-PedersenElisabeth <1952->
Disciplina	410.1/8
Soggetti	Structural linguistics Language and languages - Usage 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	Frontmatter -- Table of Contents -- Introduction -- Usage and structure: The case of clausal complementation -- What conversational English tells us about the nature of grammar:A critique of Thompson's analysis of object complements -- Usage, structure, scientific explanation, and the role of abstraction, by linguists and by language users -- Raising verbs and auxiliaries in a functional theory of grammatical status -- The rise of structure -- How not to disagree: The emergence of structure from usage -- Paradigmatic structure in a usage-based theory of grammaticalisation -- Where do simple clauses come from? -- Structure, usage and variation -- Alternative agreement controllers in Danish: Usage or structure? -- Schmidt redux: How systematic is the linguistic system if variation is rampant? -- More tiles on the roof: Further thoughts on incremental language production -- Reconciling structure and usage: On the advantages of a dynamic, dialogic conception of the linguistic sign -- Methodology -- Ten unwarranted assumptions in syntactic argumentation -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	During most of the 20th century, the classical Saussurean distinction between language usage and language structure remained

untranscendable in much linguistic theory. The dominant view, propagated in particular by generative grammar, was that there are structural facts and usage facts, and that in principle the former are independent of, and can be described in complete isolation from, the latter. With the appearance of functional-cognitive approaches on the scene, this view has been challenged. The view of structure as usage-based has had two consequences that make time ripe for a focused study of the interaction between usage and structure. Within the generative camp it has inspired a more explicit and precise description of the status of usage. Within the functional-cognitive camp it has blurred the status of structure. Perhaps because functionalists and cognitivists have had to position themselves in relation to generative grammar, some have emphasized the role of usage facts to the extent that structure is largely ignored. Accounts of language usage, language acquisition and language change are impossible without an assumption about what it is that is being used, acquired, or subjected to change. And more moderate functionalists and cognitive functionalists recognize both structural facts and usage facts as genuine facts central to the understanding of language. Still, the linguistic literature that shares this position does not abound with explicit, precise characterizations of the relationship between usage and structure. The present volume brings together scholars from different theoretical positions to address theoretical and methodological aspects of the relation between language usage and structure. The contributors differ with respect to how they conceive of this relation and, more basically, with respect to how they conceive of linguistic structure. What they have in common, however, is that they recognize structure and usage as non-reducible linguistic phenomena and take seriously the challenge to describe the relation between them.
