

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910457082103321
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Titolo	Constituent structure [[electronic resource] /] / Andrew Carnie
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford ; ; New York, : Oxford University Press, 2010
ISBN	1-282-46572-4 9786612465727 0-19-157395-7
Edizione	[2nd ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (323 p.)
Collana	Oxford surveys in syntax and morphology ; ; 5
Disciplina	415
Soggetti	Grammar, Comparative and general Philology 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	Contents; Acknowledgements; Preface to the Revised Edition; General Preface; Abbreviations; Symbols Used; Part 1. Preliminaries; Part 2. Phrase Structure Grammars and X-bar Theory; Part 3. Controversies; References; Index
Sommario/riassunto	This book explores the empirical and theoretical aspects of constituent structure in natural language syntax. It surveys a wide variety of functionalist and formalist theoretical approaches, from dependency grammars and Relational Grammar to Lexical Functional Grammar, Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar, and Minimalism. It describes the traditional tests for constituency and the formal means for representing them in phrase structure grammars, extended phrase structure grammars, X-bar theory, and set theoretic bare phrase structure. In doing so it provides a clear, thorough, and rigorous axiom