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Sommario/riassunto

Basic notions in the field of creole studies, including the category of "creole languages" itself, have been questioned in recent years: Can creoles be defined on structural or on purely sociohistorical grounds? Can creolization be understood as a graded process, possibly resulting in different degrees of "radicalness" and intermediate language types ("semi-creoles")? If so, by which linguistic structures are these characterized, and by which extralinguistic conditions have they been brought about? Which are the linguistic mechanisms underlying processes of restructuring, and how did grammatic
