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| 1. Record Nr.           | UNINA9910459982203321  |
| Titolo                  | Corpus interrogation and grammatical patterns // edited by Kristin Davidse [and three others] ; in collaboaration with Tinne van Rompaey   |
| Pubbl/distr/stampa      | Amsterdam, Netherlands ; ; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania : , : John Benjamins Publishing Company, , 2014<br>©2014   |
| ISBN                    | 90-272-6974-2  |
| Descrizione fisica      | 1 online resource (368 p.)   |
| Collana                 | Studies in Corpus Linguistics, , 1388-0373 ; ; Volume 63   |
| Disciplina              | 420.1/88   |
| Soggetti                | English language - Grammar - Data processing<br>English language - Research - Data processing<br>English language - Discourse analysis - Data processing<br>Computational linguistics<br>Electronic books.   |
| Lingua di pubblicazione | Inglese  |
| Formato                 | Materiale a stampa   |
| Livello bibliografico   | Monografia   |
| Note generali           | "This volume is a selection of strictly refereed and extensively revised papers from the ICAME 33 International Conference "Corpora at the Centre and Crossroads of English Linguistics", organised in Leuven from 30 May to 3 June 2012"--Cover.  |
| Nota di bibliografia    | Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and indexes.   |
| Nota di contenuto       | Corpus Interrogation and Grammatical Patterns; Editorial page; Title page; LCC data; Table of contents; Acknowledgements ; List of contributors ; Interrogating corpora to describe grammatical patterns ; References ; Part 1. Patterns in the verb phrase; Light verb constructions in the history of English ; 1. Introduction ; 1.1 Definition of light verb constructions ; 1.2 Use of light verb constructions and their development ; 2. Studies on the development of light verb constructions in the history English ; 3. Data and method ; 4. Data from the history of English ; 4.1 Old English data<br>4.2 Middle English data 4.3 Early Modern English data ; 5. Discussion ; 6. Conclusion ; References ; What happened to the English prefix, and could it stage a comeback? ; 1. The prefix then and now ; 2. Particles and their variation in early English ; 3. The decline of the prefix: Theories ; 4. The decline of the prefix: Quantitative evidence ; 5. The |

decline of the prefix: Interpretation ; 6. Could the prefix stage a comeback? ; 7. Conclusion ; Sources ; References ; The pattern to be a-hunting from Middle to Late Modern English ; 1. Introduction ; 2. State of the art  
3. Nineteenth-century evidence 4. Retrieval problems involved ; 5. Provisional quantitative analysis ; 6. Concluding interpretation ; References ; The present perfect and the preterite in Late Modern and Contemporary English ; 1. Introduction ; 2. Variation in Modern English ; 3. Corpus evidence from Late Modern and Contemporary English ; 3.1 The Brown quartet of corpora ; 3.2 The Corpus of Late Modern English Texts (Extended Version) ; 3.3 The Corpus of Contemporary American English ; 3.4 The Corpus of Historical American English ; 4. Summary and attempted explanation ; Sources ; References  
can and be able to in nineteenth-century Irish English 1. Introduction ; 2. Theoretical background ; 2.1 Contact-induced language change ; 2.2 can and be able to in present-day Standard English ; 2.3 Participant-internal possibility in Irish ; 3. Methodology ; 3.1 Irish English data ; 3.2 English English data ; 3.3 Data analysis ; 4. be able to versus can in participant-internal possibility contexts ; 4.2 Language internal factors ; 5. Conclusion ; Sources ; References ; Part 2. Patterns in the noun phrase; Syntactic constraints on the use of dual form intensifiers in Modern English  
1. Setting the scene 2. The contrast between attributive and non-attributive adjectives ; 3. Intensified adjectives with or without complements ; 4. Discussion ; 5. Conclusions ; Sources ; References ; Ma daddy wis dead chuffed ; 1. Introduction ; 2. Sources of data ; 3. Discussion of the data ; 3.1 Preliminary remarks ; 3.2 Dead in BYU-BNC ; 3.3 Dead in COCA ; 3.4 Dead in ICE-Ireland ; 3.5 Dead in SCOTS ; 3.6 Dead across the varieties examined ; 4. Concluding remarks ; Sources ; References ; The case of focus ; 1. Introduction  
2. The distribution of pronoun case forms in English: A brief survey

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### Sommario/riassunto

This article proposes a classification of speech functions of variable tag questions in British English conversations. Based on intonational, conversational and formal criteria the analysis shows that tag questions can not only function as questions and statements, but also as responses, commands and offers. A large group of tag questions cannot be captured by any of the traditional speech functions and are classified instead as Statement-Question blends. The article investigates the impact of the LLC and COLT corpora, and features such as gender, age and social roles, on the distribution of t

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