Record Nr. UNINA9910462449303321 Modality and theory of mind elements across languages [[electronic **Titolo** resource] /] / edited by Werner Abraham, Elisabeth Leiss Pubbl/distr/stampa Berlin; ; Boston, : De Gruyter Mouton, c2012 **ISBN** 1-283-85771-5 3-11-027107-9 3-11-027108-7 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (470 p.) Collana Trends in linguistics. Studies and monographs, , 1861-4302; ; 243 Classificazione ET 660 **AbrahamWerner** Altri autori (Persone) LeissElisabeth Disciplina 415/.6 Modality (Linguistics) Soggetti Cognitive grammar Grammar, Comparative and general - Aspect Grammar, Comparative and general - Mood Grammar, Comparative and general - Tense Language and languages - Philosophy Typology (Linguistics) 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 pt. 1. The foundation: speaker and hearer deixis, shifter, and double displacement -- pt. 2. Instances of deixis and origo in sundry languages. Sommario/riassunto Modality is the way a speaker modifies her declaratives and other speech acts to optimally assess the common ground of knowledge and belief of the addressee with the aim to optimally achieve understanding and an assessment of relevant information exchange. In languages such as German (and other Germanic languages outside of English), this may happen in covert terms. Main categories used for this purpose are modal adverbials ("modal particles") and modal verbs. Epistemic

uses of modal verbs (like German sollen) cover evidential (reportative) information simultaneously providing the source of the information.

Methodologically, description and explanation rest on Karl Bühler's concept of Origo as well as Roman Jakobson's concept of shifter. Typologically, East Asian languages such as Japanese pursue these semasiological fundaments far more closely than the European languages. In particular, Japanese has to mark the source of a statement in the declarative mode such that the reliability may be assessed by the hearer. The contributions in this collection provide insight into these modal techniques.