1. Record Nr. UNINA9910464160903321 Autore Sharpe Peter <1947-> Titolo Language: the big picture // Peter Sharpe Pubbl/distr/stampa London;; New York:,: Continuum,, [2009] ©2009 **ISBN** 1-4411-8883-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (269 p.) 883.1 Disciplina Soggetti English language Language and languages 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 (pages [229]-236) and index. Nota di contenuto Contents; Introduction; What Are the Origins of Language?; Is Language Exclusive to Humans?; Why Do Languages Change?; How Does Language Vary across Cultures?; Where Does Noam Chomsky Fit into Linguistics?; How Scientific Can Linguistic Theory Be?; What Makes Semantics Difficult?; From Whence the Power of Symbols?; How Is Language Represented in the Mind?; Further Reading; Bibliography; Index; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W We use language everyday in every aspect of our lives, whether at Sommario/riassunto school, work, or home, with friends, colleagues or family. The ability to use language is so important that it defines what makes us human. Yet what is language? And how does it work? In this introduction to language, Peter Sharpe answers a series of questions about language to show its inner workings. Drawing on expertise from many disciplines, he examines the origins of language, how language produces meaning,

the variation of language across cultures, how language is used in

society, and whether or not there is a ""correct""