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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	<p>Part I: Writing systems: 1. The Decipherment of Ancient Near Eastern Languages / Peter T. Daniels -- 2. The Emergence of Cuneiform Writing / Christopher Woods -- 3. The Development of Egyptian Writing in the fourth and early third millennium BCE / Ludwig Morenz -- 4. The Emergence of Alphabetic Scripts / Christopher Rollston -- Part II: Ancient Near Eastern Languages: 5. Sumerian / Piotr Michalowski -- 6. Egyptian / Matthias Muller -- 7. Akkadian / Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee -- 8. Eblaite / Amalia Catagnoti -- 9. Elamite / Jan Tavernier -- 10. Amorite / Viktor Golinets -- 11. Hurrian / Dennis R.M. Campbell -- 12. Hittite / Ilya Yakubovich -- 13. Luwian / Craig Melchert -- 14. Ugaritic / Robert Hawley -- 15. Pre- and Post-Exilic Hebrew / Seth Sanders -- 16. Phoenician / Françoise Briquel Chatonnet -- 17. Old and Imperial Aramaic / Christian Stadel -- 18. Ancient South Arabian / Peter Stein -- Part III: Ancient Near Eastern Languages used as administrative languages or <i>linguae francae</i>: 19. Akkadian as a <i>Lingua Franca</i> / Juan-Pablo Vita -- 20. Aramaic as <i>Lingua Franca</i> / Margaretha Folmer -- Part IV: Language Contact in the Ancient Near East: 21. Sumerian and Akkadian Language Contact / C. Jay Crisostomo -- 22. Language contact of Ancient Egyptian with Semitic and other Near Eastern Languages / Thomas Schneider -- 23. Hebrew and Aramaic in Contact / Aaron Koller -- 24. Multilingualism and Diglossia in the Ancient Near East / Rebecca Hasselbach-Andee -- Part V: The development of literary languages and literary contact: 25. Standard Babylonian / Christian W. Hess -- 26. Standardization in Egyptian / Antonio Loprieno -- 27. The "Influence" of Sumerian on Hittite Literature / Mark Weeden -- 28. Ancient Near Eastern Literary Influences on Hebrew Literature and the Hebrew Bible / Michael Wingert</p>
Sommario/riassunto	<p>"The current volume serves as an introduction to a representative sample of Ancient Near Eastern languages and language families attested during the time period of roughly 3200 BCE to the second century CE. This time-frame reflects the time from the beginning of writing (around 3200 BCE) to the end of cuneiform writing in the second century CE. The geographical scope selected reaches from Egypt through the Levant, Anatolia, northern Syria, Mesopotamia, all the way to southern Arabia and thus reflects all major cultures attested in the Ancient Near East during this time period. Although it was impossible to include a description of all languages attested in this wide geographical area throughout more than three millennia due to limitations in space, at least most language families are represented, such as Egyptian, Sumerian, Semitic, Indo-European, Elamite, and Hurrian"--</p>