1. Record Nr. UNINA9910779196803321

Titolo Dynamics of contact-induced language change [[electronic resource] /]

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Pubbl/distr/stampa Berlin; ; Boston, : De Gruyter Mouton, 2012

ISBN 9786613600585

1-280-57098-9

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (402 p.)

Collana Language contact and bilingualism;; 2

Classificazione ES 555

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Disciplina 417/.7

Soggetti Languages in contact

Grammar, Comparative and general - Morphosyntax

Language and languages - Variation

Multilingualism Sociolinguistics

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 indexes.

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Sommario/riassunto

Open publication The volume deals with previously undescribed morphosyntactic variations and changes appearing in settings involving language contact. Contact-induced changes are defined as dynamic and multiple, involving internal change as well as historical and sociolinguistic factors. A variety of explanations are identified and their relationships are analyzed. Only a multifaceted methodology enables this fine-grained approach to contact-induced change. A range of methodologies are proposed, but the chapters generally have their roots in a typological perspective. The contributors recognize the precautionary principle: for example, they emphasize the difficulty of studying languages that have not been described adequately and for which diachronic data are not extensive or reliable. Three main perspectives on contact-induced language change are presented. The first explores the role of multilingual speakers in contact-induced language change, especially their spontaneous innovations in discourse. The second explores the differences between ordinary contact-induced change and change in endangered languages. The third discusses various aspects of the relationship between contactinduced change and internal change.