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The noted linguist Henriette Walter is a well known media figure in France, who has used her extensive range of scholarly work to take a stance in the current debate on the French language and to debunk the idea that the language is under threat. She shows that French has always been an accommodating language - une langue d'accueil - taking in words from many different sources. This bilingual volume makes Mme Walter's approach accessible to English speakers and provides reactions to it from a number of scholars working in British universities.