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Nota di contenuto	Contents; List of tables and figures; How to read this book; Preface; Abbreviations and conventions; 10. Grammatical Word and Phonological Word; 10.1. Types of word; 10.2. What is a word?; 10.3. Phonological word; 10.4. Grammatical word; 10.5. Clitics; 10.6. Relationship between grammatical and phonological words; 10.7. Interjections; 10.8. The social and mental status of words; 10.9. Summary; 10.10. What to investigate; Sources and notes; 11. Distinguishing Noun and Verb; 11.1. Preliminaries; 11.2. Major functions; 11.3. Multiple functions or zero derivation? 11.4. Structures of noun phrases with different heads 11.5. Properties of predicates with different heads; 11.6. Grammatical categories associated with verbs; 11.7. Grammatical categories associated with nouns; 11.8. Further criteria; 11.9. Summary; 11.10. What to investigate; Sources and notes; 12. The Adjective Class; 12.1. Parameters of variation; 12.2. Why recognize an adjective class?; 12.3. Criteria for recognition; 12.4. The semantic content of adjective classes; 12.5. Distinguishing types of adjective class; 12.5.1. Distinguishing between adjective and verb classes 12.5.2. Distinguishing between adjective and noun classes 12.5.3.

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## Sommario/riassunto

In Basic Linguistic Theory R. M. W. Dixon provides a new and fundamental characterization of the nature of human languages and a comprehensive guide to their description and analysis. In three clearly written and accessible volumes, he describes how best to go about doing linguistics, the most satisfactory and profitable ways to work, and the pitfalls to avoid. In the first volume he addresses the methodology for recording, analysing, and comparing languages. He argues that grammatical structures and rules should be worked out inductively on the basis of evidence, explaining in detail the steps

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