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structure of lexical categories; 3.2 The structure of lexical fields; 3.3 Lexical versus constructional semantics; 3.4 Conclusions to Part I
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5.2 Lexical blueprints for agentivity: the MURDER verbs 5.2.1 Overview of the MURDER verbs; 5.2.2 Murder; 5.2.3 Assassinate; 5.2.4 Execute; 5.2.5 Lynch; 5.2.6 Slay; 5.2.7 Massacre; 5.2.8 Butcher and slaughter; 5.2.10 Causes and Agents; 5.3 Morphological blueprints for agentivity: agentive nominals; 5.3.1 The semantic network for -er; 5.3.2 A lexical-paradigmatic view on -er; 5.3.3 Summary; 5.4 Constructional blueprints for agentivity: the objectless transitive; 5.4.1 A lexical view on the objectless transitive; 5.4.2 A lexical-paradigmatic view on the objectless transitive; 5.5 Conclusions
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Sommario/riassunto

Fusing insights from cognitive grammar, systemic-functional grammar and Government & Binding, the present work elaborates and refines Davidse's view that the English grammar of lexical causatives is governed by the transitive and ergative paradigms, two distinct models of causation (Davidse 1991, 1992). However, on the basis of extensive synchronic and diachronic data on verbs of killing (e.g. kill, execute, choke or drown), it is shown that 'transitivity' and 'ergativity' are not absolute but prototypical characteristics of verbs which may be overruled by the semantics of the co
