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Grammaticalization as anti-neogrammarian (or: a-historical linguistics as well as a-historical)"; "3. Grammaticalization as ahistorical"; "4. Unidirectionality and traditional historical linguistics"; "5.

Grammaticalization as asynchronous"; "6. Conclusion - being fair to grammaticalization but at the same time (and overridingly) being fair to language history"; "Notes"; "References"; "The English s-genitive"; "1. Introduction"

"2. The English s-genitive as a case of degrammaticalization" "2.1.

The grammatical status of possessive 's (POSS 's)"; "2.2. Why a case of degrammaticalization (if at all)? - Or: `Anything goes'"; "3. The development of POSS 's - a historical scenario"; "3.1. Stages towards POSS 's as a phrase marker"; "3.2. Phrasal lexicalization and (phrasal) N+N constructions"; "3.3. The new function of the s-genitive as a (definite) determiner"; "4. A case of degrammaticalization?"; "Notes"; "References"

"An investigation into the marginal modals dare and need in British present-day English" "1. Introduction"; "2. Aim"; "3. The

classification of dare and need: Formal features"; "4. Material"; "5. The status of need and dare in British PDE"; "5.1. The status of need in the BNC"; "5.2. The status of dare in the BNC"; "6. Conclusion"; "Abbreviations"; "Notes"; "Text sources"; "References";

"Redefining unidirectionality"; "1. Introduction"; "2. Defining unidirectionality"; "2.1. The semantic underpinning of unidirectionality"

"2.2. Examples of degrammaticalisation"

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## Sommario/riassunto

The basic idea behind this volume is to probe the nature of grammaticalization. Its contributions focus on the following questions: (i) In how far can grammaticalization be considered a universal diachronic process or mechanism of change and in how far is it conditioned by synchronic factors? (ii) What is the role of the speaker in grammaticalization? (iii) Does grammaticalization itself provide a cause for change or is it an epiphenomenon, i.e. a conglomeration of causal factors/mechanisms which elsewhere occur independently? (iv) If it is epiphenominal, how do we explain that similar pathway

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