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Autore	Lennon Paul <1951->
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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [274]-297).
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Table of contents -- 1. Introduction -- 2. Theories of indirect language comprehension -- 3. Previous work on allusion -- 4. A newspaper corpus of allusions: Initial analysis -- 5. The alluding and target units -- 6. The comprehension of allusions -- 7. The functions of allusion -- Backmatter
Sommario/riassunto	This corpus-based study of allusions in the British press shows the range of targets journalists allude to - from Shakespeare to TV soaps, from Jane Austen to Hillary Clinton, from hymns to nursery rhymes, proverbs and riddles. It analyzes the linguistic forms allusions take and demonstrates how allusions function meaningfully in discourse. It explores the nature of the background cultural and intertextual knowledge allusions demand of readers and sets out the processing stages involved in understanding an allusion. Allusion is integrated into existing theories of indirect language and linked to idioms, word-play and metaphor.

