

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910785039303321
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Titolo	Word-order change as a source of grammaticalisation [[electronic resource] /] / Susann Fischer
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam ; ; Philadelphia, Pa., : John Benjamins Pub. Company, 2010
ISBN	1-282-66339-9 9786612663390 90-272-8818-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (215 p.)
Collana	Linguistik aktuell = Linguistics today, , 0166-0829 ; ; v. 157
Disciplina	415
Soggetti	Grammar, Comparative and general - Word order Languages, Modern - Word order
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Different views on grammaticalisation and its relation to word-order -- Historical overview of oblique subjects in Germanic and Romance -- Historical overview of stylistic fronting in Germanic and Romance -- Accounting for the differences and similarities between the languages under investigation -- Explaining the changes: minimalism meets von Humboldt and Meillet -- References.