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2.3.2.2 Aspect; Grammatical constructions; 1. Passive construction; 2. Causative construction; 2.1 Lexical causatives; 2.2 Morphological causatives; 2.3 Periphrastic causatives; 2.3.1 Causative benefactive construction; 2.3.2 Simple benefactive construction; 2.3.3 Indirect causative construction; Expanded sentences; 1. Compound sentences; 2. Complex sentences; 2.1 Nominal clauses; 2.2 Adnominal clauses; 2.3 Adverbial clauses; 3. Mixed sentences; Sentence and information structure; 1. The topic-comment organization; 2. The focus structure; Discourse and grammar  
1. Deictic system of demonstratives; 2. The deictic parameter; 3. Functions of deictic expressions; 3.1 Identifying function; 3.2 Acknowledging function; 3.3 Informing function; 3.4 Expressive function; 4. Locative expressions; 5. Demonstratives as discourse deictic; 5.1. Anaphoric use; 5.2 Other uses of discourse deixis; 5.3 Cataphoric use; 6. Encoding discourse units; 7. Tracking the thematic flow of discourse; Pragmatics and grammar; 1. Modality; 1.1 Imperative mood; 1.2 Permissive mood; 1.3 Offer; 1.4 Optative mood; 1.5 Epistemic modality; 2. Interrogation; 3. Negation; 4. Social deixis and honorifics

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#### Sommario/riassunto

Sinhala is one of the official languages of Sri Lanka and the mother tongue of over 70% of the population. Outside Sri Lanka it is used among immigrant populations in the U.K., North America, Australia and some European and Middle Eastern countries. As for the genetic relation, it belongs to the Indo-Aryan branch of the Indo-European languages. Although the earliest surviving literature in Sinhala dates from the 8th century A.D. its written tradition has traced a longer path of more than 2000 years.

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