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Nota di contenuto	UNDERSTATEMENTSAND HEDGES IN ENGLISH; Editorial page; Title page; Table of contents; PREFACE; 0. INTRODUCTION; 1. GUIDELINES TO UNDERSTATEMENTS AND HEDGES; 1.1. The sentence and its negatability; 1.1.1. Projective character of sentences; 1.1.2. Negatability of sentences; 1.2. Liability constraints of the sentence; 1.2.1. Liability constraints and argumentation basis of the sentence; 1.2.2. Liability and indetermination; 1.2.3. Specification of the concept of indetermination; 1.3. Working definition and working perspective; 2. PHRASTIC INDETERMINATION AS A DEVICE FOR FORMING UNDERSTATEMENTS 2.1. Negation of predicates2.1.1. Negation; 2.1.1.1. Kinds of negation; 2.1.1.2. Semantics of negation; 2.1.2. Predicates; 2.1.2.1. Delimitations; 2.1.2.2. Scalability of adjectives; 2.1.2.3. Scalability of verbs and nouns; 2.1.3. Negative predications; 2.1.3.1. Affixal negation

of predicates; 2.1.3.2. Free-morpheme negation of predicates; 2.1.4. Summary; 2.2. Detensification of predicates by grading adverbs; 2.2.1. Grading; 2.2.1.1. Grading and attributive modification; 2.2.1.2. Grading and modal modification; 2.2.1.3. Adverbs of degree 2.2.1.4. Classification of (detensifying) adverbs of degree 2.2.1.5. Detensification of predicates; 2.2.1.6. Detensification and indetermination; 2.2.2. Relationship of detensified and categorical predicates; 2.2.2.1. Negativity and positivity; 2.2.2.2. Speaker's perspective; 2.2.2.3. Grammaticization and idiomaticity; 2.2.2.4. Antonymicity; 2.2.3. Summary; 3. NEUSTIC INDETERMINATION AS A DEVICE FOR FORMING HEDGES; 3.1. Factivity and modality; 3.2. Questions; 3.2.1. Question forms - assertion forms; 3.2.2. Declarative questions; 3.2.3. Biased questions and rhetorical questions 3.2.4. Tag questions 3.2.5. Hedging function of questions; 3.3. Modalized assertory assertions; 3.3.1. General characterization; 3.3.2. Repertoire of modal expressions; 3.3.2.1. Parenthetical verbs; 3.3.2.2. Modal adverbs; 3.3.2.3. Modal verbs; 3.3.2.4. Synopsis of modal expressions; 3.3.3. Assertiveness of modal expressions; 3.4. Summary; 4. COMMUNICATIVE CONDITIONS FOR UNDERSTATEMENTS AND HEDGES; 4.1. Another look at negatability of sentences; 4.2. Communication as a possible threat to face; 4.3. Understatements and hedges as face saving strategies 4.4. Face threatening acts and face saving strategies exemplified by praise and criticism 4.4.1. The socially expected norm as a criterion for praise and criticism; 4.4.2. Calculating the seriousness of the threat to face; 4.4.3. Calculating the effectiveness of face saving strategies; 4.4.4. Choosing face saving strategies; 4.4.5. Stylistic differences; 4.5. Summary; FOOTNOTES; REFERENCES

Sommario/riassunto

The goal of this monograph is a comprehensive analysis of understatements and other forms of non-direct speech (hedges) in modern English. It is based on a multi-level approach, including philosophical, cultural, and socio-psychological arguments. The main part consists of an investigation of the linguistic restrictions for understatements and hedges to be formed by means of the following grammatical categories: negation of predicates, gradation of predicates, modalization of affirmative sentences by means of parenthetical verbs, modal adverbs, modal verbs, and questions.

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Nota di contenuto	1. Poverty, equality, and affirmative action in India / Sunita Parikh -- 2. The struggle for equality and justice : affirmative action in the United States of America / Ralph Premdas -- 3. Ethnicity, economy, and affirmative action in Malaysia / Hwok-Aun Lee, Edmund Terence Gomez, and Shakila Yacob -- 4. Coerced preferences : affirmative action and horizontal inequality in Fiji / Steven Ratuva -- 5. Affirmative action in South Africa : disadvantaging the many for the benefit of the few / Anthea Jeffery -- 6. Power-sharing, communal contestation, and equality : affirmative action, identity, and conflict in Northern Ireland / Colin Harvey -- 7. Appraising affirmative action in Brazil / Joaze Bernardino-Costa and Fernando Rosa.
Sommario/riassunto	In recent years a number of countries have introduced affirmative action programmes in order to put right historical injustices and economic inequalities involving ethnic communities. This book

examines affirmative action programmes in a range of countries around the world. It discusses how such programmes came about and how they have been implemented, and examines their effectiveness. Throughout it explores how far affirmative action programmes reinforce ethnic identities and thereby contribute to division and conflict. The countries covered are India, the United States, South Africa, Norther
