

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910814802503321
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Titolo	Tense and aspect : from semantics to morphosyntax / / Alessandra Giorgi and Fabio Pianesi
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : Oxford University Press, 1997
ISBN	0-19-772260-1 1-280-52762-5 0-19-535788-4 1-4294-1549-5
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (336 p.)
Collana	Oxford studies in comparative syntax
Altri autori (Persone)	PianesiFabio
Disciplina	415
Soggetti	Germanic languages - Grammar, Comparative - Romance Grammar, Comparative and general - Aspect Grammar, Comparative and general - Syntax Grammar, Comparative and general - Tense Romance languages - Grammar, Comparative - Germanic Semantics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Previously issued in print: 1997.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 293-303) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Symbols; Introduction; 1. The Syntactic and Semantic Background; 2. On the Italian, Latin, and Portuguese Temporal Systems; 3. The Present Perfect in Germanic and Romance; 4. The Present and Imperfect in Germanic and Romance; 5. On the Semantics and Morphosyntax of the Italian Subjunctive; 6. The Double Accessibility Reading in Italian and English; References; Author Index; Subject Index
Sommario/riassunto	The authors bridge the gap between the semantic and syntactic properties of verb tense and aspect, suggest a unified account of tense and aspect using Chomsky's Principles and Parameters Framework and compare tense and aspect systems in Romance languages with Germanic ones. In the OXFORD STUDIES IN COMPARATIVE SYNTAX series.