

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910815483403321
Autore	Gelderen Elly van
Titolo	A history of English reflexive pronouns : person, self, and interpretability // Elly van Gelderen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam ; ; Philadelphia, : John Benjamins Pub. Co., c2000
ISBN	1-282-16337-X 9786612163371 90-272-9917-X
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	xiv, 277 p
Collana	Linguistik aktuell = Linguistics today ; ; v. 39
Disciplina	425
Soggetti	English language - Pronoun English language - Reflexives English language - Grammar, Historical
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [257]-268) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	A HISTORY OF ENGLISH REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS -- Editorial page -- Title page -- LCC page -- Table of contents -- Preface -- List of tables -- Notes for the user and list of abbreviations -- Introduction -- Chapter 1. Old English reflexives -- Chapter 2. Reflexives in Middle and later English -- Chapter 3. Pro-drop and feature strength -- Chapter 4. The loss of verbal agreement and verb-movement -- Chapter 5. The loss of inherent case -- Chapter 6. Ergativity and the person split -- Chapter 7. Conclusion -- Appendix -- Main Old English Works used -- Main Early Middle English used -- Middle English Works used -- Main Early Modern Works used -- References -- Name Index -- Subject Index -- The Series LINGUISTIK AKTUELL/LINGUISTICS TODAY.
Sommario/riassunto	This book brings together a number of seemingly distinct phenomena in the history of English: the introduction of special reflexive pronouns (e.g. myself), the loss of verbal agreement and pro-drop, and the disappearance of morphological Case. It provides vast numbers of examples from Old and Middle English texts showing a person split between first, second, and third person pronouns. Extending an analysis by Reinhart & Reuland, the author argues that the 'strength' of certain pronominal features (Case, person, number) differs cross-

linguistically and that parametric variation accounts for the changes in English. The framework used is Minimalist, and Interpretable and Uninterpretable features are seen as the key to explaining the change from a synthetic to an analytic language.
