Record Nr. UNINA9910817798503321 Autore Backhaus Peter <1975-, > Titolo Linguistic landscapes: a comparative study of urban multilingualism in Tokyo / / Peter Backhaus Clevedon:,: Multilingual Matters,, 2007 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 9781853599484 1-84769-952-9 1-280-82857-9 9786610828579 1-85359-948-4 9781853599460 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (168 pages) Collana Multilingual matters ES 132 Classificazione 306.4460952135 Disciplina Soggetti Multilingualism - Japan - Tokyo Signs and symbols Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references. Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgements -- Foreword by Nota di contenuto Bernard Spolsky -- 1. Introduction -- 2. Semiotic Background and Terminology -- 3. Previous Approaches to the Linguistic Landscape: An Overview -- 4. Summary -- 5. Case Study: Signs of Multilingualism in Tokyo -- 6. Conclusions -- Appendix: The 28 Survey Areas --References -- Index Sommario/riassunto Linguistic Landscapes is the first comprehensive approach to a largely under-explored sociolinguistic phenomenon: language on signs. Based on an up-to-date review of previous research from various places around the world, the book develops an analytical framework for the

Linguistic Landscapes is the first comprehensive approach to a largely under-explored sociolinguistic phenomenon: language on signs. Based on an up-to-date review of previous research from various places around the world, the book develops an analytical framework for the systematic analysis of linguistic landscape data. This framework is applied to a sample of 2,444 signs collected in 28 survey areas in central Tokyo. Analytical categories include the languages contained and their combinations, differences between official and nonofficial signs, geographic distribution, availability of translation or transliteration, linguistic idiosyncrasies, and the comparison of older and newer signs, among others. Combining qualitative and quantitative

methods, the analysis yields some unique insights about the writers of multilingual signs, their readers, and the languages and scripts in contact. Linguistic Landscapes thus demonstrates that the study of language on signs has much to contribute to research into urban multilingualism, as well as the study of language and society as a whole.