1. Record Nr. UNINA9910823792103321 Autore Givon Talmy <1936-> **Titolo** English grammar . Volume I : a function-based introduction / / T. Givon Pubbl/distr/stampa Amsterdam:,: John Benjamins Pub. Co.,, 1993 **ISBN** 1-280-49728-9 9786613592514 90-272-7389-8 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (340 pages) Disciplina 428.2 Soggetti English language - Grammar Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto ENGLISH GRAMMAR A FUNCTION-BASED INTRODUCTION Volume I: Title page; Copyright page; Table of contents; FOREWORD; 1. INTRODUCTION; 1.1. GRAMMAR AND COMMUNICATION; 1.1.1. Structure vs. function; 1.1.2. Arbitrary vs. motivated rules of grammar; 1.1.3. Rules of grammar vs. communicative strategies; 1.1.4. Crosslanguage diversity of grammatical strategies; 1.2. WHOSE GRAMMAR?; 1.2.1. Prescriptive vs. descriptive grammars; 1.2.2. Historic time; 1.2.3. Age: The grammar of youth; 1.2.4. Spoken vs. written language; 1.2.5. Educated vs. uneducated grammar; 1.2.6. Formal vs. informal grammar 1.2.7. Grammar and social status; 1.2.8. Grammar and ethnic minorities; 1.2.9. Geographical dialects; 1.2.10. Grammar and foreign talk; 1.2.11. Grammar and individual style; 1.3. GRAMMAR FOR COMMUNICATION; 1.3.1. Major functions of language; 1.3.2. Words. clauses, discourse; 1.3.3. Grammar as a communicative code; 1.3.3.1. Joint coding; 1.3.3.2. Coding devices in syntax; 1.4. THEME AND VARIATION IN SYNTACTIC DESCRIPTION; 1.5. PARSING: TREE DIAGRAMS: 1.6. DEEP STRUCTURE, SURFACE STRUCTURE AND MEANING; NOTES; 2. VOCABULARY: WORDS AND MORPHEMES; 2.1. **PRELIMINARIES** 2.1.1. Recapitulation: Meaning, information and communication 2.1.2. The conceptual lexicon: Semantic features and semantic fields; 2.1.3.

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Sommario/riassunto

The approach to language and grammar that motivates this book is unabashedly functional; grammar is not just a system of empty rules, it is a means to an end, an instrument for constructing concise coherent communication. In grammar as in music, good expression rides on good form. Figuratively and literally, grammar like musical form must make sense. But for the instrument to serve its purpose, it must first exist; the rules must be real, they can be explicitly described and taught. This book is intended for both students and teachers, at college level, for both native and nonnative speakers.