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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Table of contents -- Acknowledgements -- List of abbreviations -- 0. Introduction: The present perfect – a re-assessment -- 1. From possessive-resultative to perfect? Re-assessing the meaning of [hæbb- + past participle] constructions in Old English prose -- 2. The to-infinitival perfect: A study of decline -- 3. Expression of the perfect in two contact varieties of English -- 4. Narrative-embedded variation and change: The sociolinguistics of the Australian English narrative present perfect -- 5. Present perfect and past tense in Black South African English -- 6. The present perfect in New Englishes: Common patterns in situations of language contact -- 7. The perfect space in creole-related varieties of English: The case of Jamaican English -- 8. The frequency of the present perfect in varieties of English around the world -- 9. Rise of the undead? be-perfects in World Englishes -- 10. The present perfect in learner Englishes: A corpus-based case study on L1 German intermediate and advanced speech and writing -- 11. Afterthought: Some brief remarks on autonomous and speaker-centered linguistic approaches to the present perfect -- Subject index
Sommario/riassunto	It is a well-known fact that the area of the present perfect has always been a hotly contested ground, but recent corpus analyses have shown

that grammatical variation in this realm in English is far more pervasive than previously assumed. This volume is the first ever book-length treatment dedicated to corpus-based work on the present perfect. It offers fresh theoretical insights resting on a solid empirical footing and investigates central aspects of language contact and change, grammaticalization, typology, and dialect formation. It sheds light on this morphosyntactic area from different angles, as it comprises both diachronic and synchronic viewpoints. Contributions explore variation in the expression of perfect meaning and the multifunctionality of perfect forms in a number of native and non-native varieties, thus going beyond the traditional British/American English paradigm, while a second focus lies on cross-variety comparisons. Bringing together the knowledge of leading experts in the field, this book represents the state of the art in data-driven research on the present perfect and will be of interest for those working in the fields of language variation and change, corpus linguistics, sociolinguistics, and typology.
