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| Autore | Takahashi Hidemitsu |
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| Nota di contenuto | A Cognitive Linguistic Analysis of the English Imperative; Editorial page; Title page; LCC data; Table of contents; List of figures; List of tables; Abbreviations; Acknowledgments; Chapter 1. Introduction; 1.1 Aim and scope of the book; 1.2 Theoretical framework; 1.3 Data; 1.4 The structure of the book; 1.5 Key concepts; 1.5.1 Schema of the English imperative; 1.5.2 Prototype of the English imperative; 1.5.3 Force Exertion (outline); 1.5.4 Force Exertion (specific applications); 1.5.5 Second Person Subject; 1.5.6 Compatibility between constructions Chapter 2. Observing English imperatives in action 2.1 Introduction; 2.2 What are the most frequent verbs in English imperatives?; 2.3 Four most frequent verbs and their usage patterns; 2.3.2 tell; 2.3.3 let; 2.3.4 look; 2.4 Four other frequent verbs; 2.4.1 come and go; 2.4.2 give and take; 2.5 Overt negation; 2.6 Common accompaniments of the English imperative; 2.7 Summary; Notes; Chapter 3. The meaning of the English imperative; 3.1 Introduction; 3.2 Previous research; 3.2.1 Anti-force account; 3.2.2 Illocutionary force account |

3.2.3 Cognitive Grammar accounts of indirect directive speech acts 3.3 Inadequacies of previous analyses; 3.4 Schema of the English imperative; 3.5 Prototype of the English imperative; 3.5.1 Force Exertion; 3.5.2 Specific applications; 3.5.3 Second Person Subject; 3.6 Summary; Notes; Chapter 4. Accounting for some of the findings in Chapter 2 and the choice between imperatives and i; 4.1 Introduction; 4.2 Accounting for some of the findings in Chapter 2; 4.2.1 Preference for first person objects; 4.2.2 The systematic appearance of overt negation with a specific class of verbs and adjectives 4.3 Choosing between plain imperatives and indirect directives 4.3.1 Previous claims; 4.3.2 Indirect directives in *The Sky is Falling*; 4.3.3 Plain imperatives in *The Sky is Falling*; 4.4 Summary; Notes; Chapter 5. Mixed imperative constructions: Passive, progressive, and perfective imperatives in English; 5.1 Introduction; 5.2 Constructions and compatibility between constructions; 5.3 Imperatives with passive verbs; 5.4 Imperatives with perfect verbs; 5.5 Imperatives with progressive verbs; 5.6 Summary; Notes; Chapter 6. Conditional imperatives in English; 6.1 Introduction 6.2 Previous findings and proposals 6.2.1 Non-Relevance Theoretic accounts; 6.2.2 Relevance Theoretic account; 6.3 Problems with Relevance Theoretic and non-RT analyses; 6.4 And conditional imperatives: A Construction Grammar account; 6.4.1 The and conditional imperative as a distinct construction; 6.4.2 Left-subordinating and; 6.4.3 The imperative in the and conditional imperative is not allowed to exert maximally strong force; 6.5 Or conditional imperatives: A Construction Grammar account; 6.5.1 Asymmetric or 6.5.2 The imperative in the or conditional imperative is not only prototypical but maximally strong

Sommario/riassunto

This volume offers the first comprehensive description of English imperatives made from a Cognitive Linguistic perspective. It proposes a new way of explaining the meaning and function of the imperative independently of illocutionary act classifications, which allows for quantifying the strength of imperative force in terms of parameters and numerical values. Furthermore, the book applies the theory of Construction Grammar to account for the felicity of imperatives in complex sentences. The model of description explains explicitly a wide range of phenomena, including frequency of use, prototype
