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Nota di contenuto	Connectives as Discourse Landmarks -- Editorial page -- Title page -- LCC data -- Table of contents -- List of contributors -- Connectives as discourse landmarks -- Background -- Terminology -- Invariance -- An integrative approach -- Connectives and modality -- From syntax to pragmatics -- Discourse strategies -- In search of operations -- References -- Connectives and modality -- Connectives, modals and prototypes -- 1. Similarities between connectives and modals -- 2. Uses of rather -- 2.1. Rather as a connective -- 2.2. Rather as a degree modifier -- 2.3. Rather as a part of a modal -- 2.4. Would sooner -- 3. What links the different uses of rather? -- 3.1. Bolinger on degree words -- 3.2. Denial of assumption rather -- 3.3. Rather as an underlying comparative -- 4. Using prototypes -- 5. The future of rather -- Conclusion -- References -- The interface between discourse and grammar* -- 1. Introduction -- 2. The formulaic 'the fact is that' -- 3. Collocational frameworks -- 4. The fact is and emergent grammar -- 5. 'The fact is that' and grammaticalization -- 6. Fixed phrases and meaning -- 7. Thing is and the trouble is -- 8. Conclusion --

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Sommario/riassunto

This set of eleven articles, by linguists from four different European countries and a variety of theoretical backgrounds, takes a new look at the discourse functions of a number of English connectives, from simple coordinators (and, but) to phrases of varying complexity (after all, the fact is that). Using authentic spoken and written data from varied sources, the authors explore the ways in which current uses of connectives result from the interaction of syntax, semantics and prosody, both over time and through diversity of discourse situations. Most adopt an integrative approach in which speaker-listener or writer-reader relationships are viewed as part and parcel of the linguistic properties of each marker. Because it combines functional, generative and enunciative approaches into a coherent whole with a common explanatory aim, this book will be of interest to linguists, corpus-linguists and all those who investigate the semantics-pragmatics interface.
