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Sommario/riassunto

This book revisits the theoretical and psycholinguistic controversies centred around the intriguing nature of idioms and proposes a more systematic cognitive-linguistic model of their grammatical status and use. Whenever speakers vary idioms in actual discourse, they open a linguistic window into idiomatic creativity - the complex cognitive processing and representation of these heterogeneous linguistic constructions. Idiomatic creativity therefore raises two challenging questions: What are the cognitive mechanisms that underlie and shape idiom-representation? How do these mechanisms define the scope and limits of systematic idiom-variation in actual discourse? The book approaches these problems by means of a comprehensive cognitive-linguistic architecture of meaning and language and analyses them on the basis of corpus-data from the British National Corpus (BNC). Therefore, Idiomatic Creativity should be of great interest to cognitive linguists, phraseologists, corpus linguists, advanced students of linguistics, and all readers who are interested in the fascinating interplay of language and cognitive processing. This book has a companion website: www.idiomatic-creativity.ch.

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Nota di contenuto	Preface -- Introduction -- ; pt. 1. The golden age of laissez-faire? : the 50s -- ; 1. The 1950s : limited government, limited affluence -- ; pt. 2. Wars on poverty : the 60s -- ; 2. Planning the war on poverty : fixing the poor or fixing the economy? -- ; 3. Evaluating the war on poverty : the conservatism of liberalism -- ; 4. Moynihan, the dissenters, and the racialization of poverty : a liberal turning point that did not turn -- ; 5. Statistics and theory of unemployment and poverty : lessons from the 60s and the postwar era -- ; pt. 3. Toward a war on the poor : the 70s and 80s -- ; 6. The politics of poverty and welfare in the 70s : from Nixon to Carter -- ; 7. Too much work ethic : one reason poverty rates stopped falling in the 70s, and the stories that were told about it -- ; 8. Cutting poverty or cutting welfare : conservatives attack liberalism -- ; 9. Reagan, Reaganomics, and the American poor, 1980-1992 -- ; pt. 4. The poor you will always have with you - if you don't do the right thing : 1993-present -- ; 10. Staying poor in the Clinton boom : welfare reform, the nearby labor force, and the limits of the work ethic -- ; 11. Bush and beyond : on solving and not solving poverty -- Appendix 1 : Unemployment, poverty, earnings, and household structure -- Appendix 2 : Groups often left out of antipoverty

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Sommario/riassunto

In a provocative assessment of American poverty and policy from 1950 to the present, Frank Stricker examines an era that has seen serious discussion about the causes of poverty and unemployment. Analyzing the War on Poverty, theories of the culture of poverty and the underclass, the effects of Reaganomics, and the 1996 welfare reform, Stricker demonstrates that most antipoverty approaches are futile without the presence (or creation) of good jobs. Stricker notes that since the 1970's, U.S. poverty levels have remained at or above 11%, despite training programs and periods of economic growth.
