

Acces PDF Variation And  
Change In Language By William  
Bright

# Variation And Change In Language By William Bright

This book presents an overview of sociolinguistic research in England. Showcasing developments in sociolinguistic theory, method and application, the chapters examine sociolinguistic topics on different linguistic levels and in different geographical areas across the country. Allowing the reader to engage with contemporary research in the field, each chapter is unique in the topic or geographical area explored. Topics include historical sociolinguistics, British Sign Language, lexical variation, life-span change, and variation and innovation in urban and peripheral areas; while the

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regions covered range from Cornwall to West Cumbria. Edited and authored by a range of international scholars, this is sure to be a key research resource for students and scholars interested in language use in England.

This collected volume brings together a wide array of international linguists working on diachronic language change with a specific focus on the history of English, who work within usage-based frameworks and investigate processes of grammatical change in context. Although usage-based linguistics emphasizes the centrality of the discourse context for language usage and cognition, this insight has not been fully integrated into the investigation of processes of grammatical variation and change. The structuralist heritage as well as corpus linguistic methodologies have favoured de-contextualized analytical perspectives on

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contemporary and historical language data and on the mechanisms and processes guiding grammatical variation and change. From a range of different perspectives, the contributions to this volume take up the challenge of contextualization in the investigation of grammatical variation and change in different stages of English language history and discuss central theoretical notions such as gradable grammaticality, motivation in hypervariation, and hypercharacterization. The book will be relevant to students and linguists working in the field of diachronic and variational linguistics and English language history.

The new edition of this classic text chronicles recent breakthrough developments in the field of American English, covering regional, ethnic, and gender-based differences. Now accompanied by a companion website

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with an extensive array of sound files, video clips, and other online materials to enhance and illustrate discussions in the text Features brand new chapters that cover the very latest topics, such as Levels of Dialect, Regional Varieties of English, Gender and Language Variation, The Application of Dialect Study, and Dialect Awareness: Extending Application, as well as new exercises with online answers Updated to contain dialect samples from a wider array of US regions Written for students taking courses in dialect studies, variationist sociolinguistics, and linguistic anthropology, and requires no pre-knowledge of linguistics Includes a glossary and extensive appendix of the pronunciation, grammatical, and lexical features of American English dialects This is a two-volume collection of original research papers designed to reflect the breadth and depth of the impact that

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William Labov has had an impact on linguistic science. Four areas of 'Labovian' linguistics are addressed: First is the study of variation and change; the papers in sections I and II of the first volume take this as their central theme, with a focus on either the social context and uses of language (I) or on the internal linguistic dynamics of variation and change (II). The study of African American English, and other language varieties in the Americas spoken by people of African descent and influenced by their linguistic heritage, is the subject of the papers in section III of the first volume. The third theme is the study of discourse; the papers in section I of the second volume develop themes in Labovian linguistics that go back to Labov's work on narrative, descriptive, and therapeutic discourse. Fourth is the emphasis on language use, the search for discursive,

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interactive, and meaningful determinants of the complexity in human communication. Papers with these themes appear in section II of the second volume.

## SPANISH LANGUAGE VARIATION AND CHANGE.

A Transversal Study of Three Traditional  
Dialect Areas

Evidence from Contact Varieties of  
French

Language Change and Variation in  
Gibraltar

Language Variation and Sociocognitive  
Dimensions

American English

Diese Arbeit beschäftigt sich mit den Strukturen fiktionaler, imitierender Sprache. Am Beispiel detaillierter Analysen der sprachlichen Charakterisierung jüdischer

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Figuren der deutschsprachigen Literatur des 18., 19. und frühen 20. Jahrhunderts legt die Arbeit offen, welche Strukturen die jiddische Sprachrealität widerspiegeln und welche als Reflexe der (zumeist autoreigenen) Mündlichkeit gelten können. Zugleich stellt die Untersuchung eine umfangreiche grammatische Darstellung des im deutschsprachigen Raum bis ins frühe 20. Jahrhundert hinein verbreiteten Westjiddischen dar, dessen Strukturen sie mit denen deutscher und ostjiddischer Varietäten vergleicht. How and why do language changes begin; how and why

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do they spread; and how can they ultimately be explained? This new textbook sets out to answer these questions in a clear and helpful way that will be accessible to all students with only an elementary knowledge of linguistics. In the first half of the book Dr. McMahon analyzes changes from every area of grammar. In the second she looks at such topics as language contact, linguistic variation, pidgins and Creoles, and language death. Throughout, the discussion is illustrated by a wealth of examples from English and other languages. This volume seeks to extend



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and expand our current understanding of the processes of language standardization, drawing on both quantitative and qualitative approaches to examine how linguistic variation plays out in various ways in everyday life in Denmark. The book compares linguistic variation across three different rural speech communities, underpinned by a transversal framework, which draws upon different methodological and analytical approaches, as well as data from different contexts across different generations, and results in a nuanced and dynamic

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portrait of language change in one region over time. Examining communities with varying degrees of linguistic variation with this multi-layered framework demonstrates a broader need to re-examine perceptions of language standardization as a unidirectional process, but rather as one shaped by a range of factors at the local level, including language ideologies and mediatization. A concluding chapter by eminent sociolinguist David Britain brings together the conclusions drawn from the preceding chapters and reinforces their wider implications within the

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field of sociolinguistics. Offering new insights into language standardization and language change, this book will be of particular interest to students and scholars in sociolinguistics, dialectology, and linguistic anthropology.

First published in 1987.

Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

Grammaticalization and  
Parametric Variation  
Jiddisch in der  
deutschsprachigen Literatur  
(18.-20. Jahrhundert)  
Variation and Change  
Corpus Linguistics and  
Sociolinguistics

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Papers in Honor of William  
Labov

A Case Study of Shaba  
Swahili

This book combines theoretical work in linguistic pragmatics and sociolinguistics with empirical work based on a corpus of London adolescent conversation. It makes a general contribution to the study of pragmatic markers, as it proposes an analytical model that involves notions such as subjectivity, interactional and textual capacity, and the distinction between contextual alignment/divergence. These notions are defined according to how information contained in an utterance interacts with the

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cognitive environment of the hearer. Moreover, the model captures the diachronic development of markers from lexical items via processes of grammaticalisation, arguing that markerhood may be viewed as a gradient phenomenon. The empirical work concerns the use of *like* as a marker, as well as a characteristic use of two originally interrogative forms, *innit* and *is it*, which are used as attitudinal markers throughout the inflectional paradigm, despite the fact that they contain a third person singular neuter pronoun. The author provides an in-depth analysis of these features in terms of pragmatic functions, diachronic

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development and sociolinguistic variation, thus adding support to the hypothesis that adolescents play an important role in language variation and change.

"Students---undergraduate and graduate---love this book. As a teacher, I do too It fills a huge gap in the field, Walker explains with clarity how to undertake a study of linguistic variation and provides the only serious guide showing readers how their descriptive results inform and advance our understanding of variation as part of a linguistic system. Drawing on a refreshing range of languages for its data sets, this book enthuses readers with the small triumphs of discovery and the satisfaction of making a

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contribution to the social science of language."---Miriam Meyerhoff, University of Auckland "A new and exciting contribution to the field."---Sall Tagllamonte, University of Toronto Tying together work on a number of languages and linguistic varieties in different locales, this book provides students and researchers with a convenient, unified overview of variationist analysis in linguistics. Variation in Linguistic Systems takes a theoretical and quantitative approach to the study of variation in language, focusing on the role of language-internal constraints on variation and the relation of linguistic variation to linguistic theory. It introduces the basic

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concepts of variationist linguistics and includes key discussions on language change, language contact, the different types of variation, multivariate analysis with GoldVarb, and variation in sound and grammatical systems. Here is an ideal textbook for an introductory course on variation, as well as a useful resource for scholars with some background in linguistics who are interested in the study of language variation and its relation to the wider field of linguistics.

The ten volumes of the Handbook of Pragmatics Highlights focus on the most salient topics in the field of pragmatics, thus dividing its wide interdisciplinary spectrum in a transparent and manageable way.



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While the other volumes select specific philosophical, cognitive, grammatical, cultural, interactional, or discursive angles, this sixth volume focuses on the dynamic aspects of language and reviews the relevant developments in variationist and diachronic scholarship. The areas explored in the volume concern several general themes: specific methodological approaches, from comparative reconstruction to evolutionary pragmatics; issues in intra-lingual variation in terms of standard and non-standard varieties; cross-linguistic variation, including its cross-cultural dimension; and the study of diachronic relations across linguistic patterns, including

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changes in all areas of pragmatic patterns and categories. The contributions document two prominent and interrelated trends that shape contemporary variationist and diachronic research. One, it has moved from situating change within context-independent systems toward incorporating patterns of language use and the speaker's role in language change. And two, it has reoriented its focus away from cataloguing instances of variation and toward seeking theoretically informed accounts that aim at explaining variation and change. On the whole, the volume argues for accepting and developing actively a systematic connection

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between research in diachrony, synchronic variation, and typology, while also incorporating the socio-cognitive perspective in linguistic analysis as a particularly promising source of useful methodology and explanatory models.

Seminar paper from the year 2004 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Linguistics, grade: 2,1, University of Sunderland (English Department), course: English Past and Present, 11 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: "English is changing today and [...] you can watch the changes happening around you" (Bauer 1). Languages have never been and will never be invariable facts.

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Instead, they are subject to natural changes. People are normally unconscious of the linguistic factors that lead to a change and have no control over them. These changes never happen suddenly or randomly without the possibility of tracing their origin, or, at least assessing what might have been their trigger. The leading question in this essay is how the linguistic phenomena of hypercorrection, social networks and lexical diffusion fit into the broader context of linguistic change in progress.

Essays

The Case of Bahrain

Pragmatic Markers and  
Sociolinguistic Variation

Pragmatic perspectives

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Studies in Linguistic Variation and  
Change

Spanish across space and time

*Methodological know-how has become one of the key qualifications in contemporary linguistics, which has a strong empirical focus. Containing 23 chapters, each devoted to a different research method, this volume brings together the expertise and insight of a range of established practitioners. The chapters are arranged in three parts, devoted to three different stages of empirical research: data collection, analysis and evaluation. In addition to detailed step-by-step introductions and*

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*illustrative case studies focusing on variation and change in English, each chapter addresses the strengths and weaknesses of the methodology and concludes with suggestions for further reading. This systematic, state-of-the-art survey is ideal for both novice researchers and professionals interested in extending their methodological repertoires. The book also has a companion website which provides readers with further information, links, resources, demonstrations, exercises and case studies related to each chapter. This book is concerned with*

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*the explanation of linguistic change. Focusing on variation in the English language, it explores the extent to which language change is a social phenomenon. Language, James Milroy holds, cannot adequately be observed or described independently of society. In analyzing patterns of language use, we must be aware of social and situational contexts and of the norms of usage in the speech community. He discusses these methodological issues in relation to his own sociolinguistic research in Belfast, and argues that in explaining language*

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variation we need first to understand these factors which maintain language and resist change. In contrast to the intra-linguistic approach of traditional historical work, this book presents a social model of change derived from the study of social networks and the links between networks and social class. Language change, Professor Milroy suggests, is made possible to the extent that it is passed from person to person in conversational encounters. -- Back cover. This volume offers several empirical, methodological, and theoretical approaches to the study of observable



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*variation within individuals on various linguistic levels. With a focus on German varieties, the chapters provide answers on the following questions (inter alia): Which linguistic and extra-linguistic factors explain intra-individual variation? Is there observable intra-individual variation that cannot be explained by linguistic and extra-linguistic factors? Can group-level results be generalised to individual language usage and vice versa? Is intra-individual variation indicative of actual patterns of language change? How can intra-*

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*individual variation be examined in historical data? Consequently, the various theoretical, methodological and empirical approaches in this volume offer a better understanding of the meaning of intra-individual variation for patterns of language development, language variation and change. The inter- and transdisciplinary nature of the volume is an exciting new frontier, and the results of the studies in this book provide a wealth of new findings as well as challenges to some of the existing findings and assumptions regarding the nature of intra-individual*

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variation.

*This book comprises a series of studies by a number of scholars working on what might broadly be termed the "medieval" period of the history of English, focusing on Old English, Middle English, and the relatively less well-documented period of transition from the former to the latter. The volume brings together contributions not only from a variety of fields, ranging from semantics and syntax to prosody and phonology, but also from different theoretical standpoints, in order to improve the reader's understanding of the rapid changes that*

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*affect the language at this time. The collection of papers here should be of interest to all scholars and students working on Old or Middle English, as well as to students of historical linguistics in general, given that many of the processes and methodological parameters described here will prove to be directly applicable to the study of other periods and of other languages.*

*Towards a Social Science of Language: Variation and change in language and society*

*Theoretical and Empirical Perspectives from Panel Studies*

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***Sociolinguistics in England  
Studies in the History of  
the English Language:  
Variation and change in  
english grammar and lexicon:  
contemporary approaches  
Intra-individual Variation  
in Language  
Language Regard***

*Investigates when and how  
preschool children acquire  
the vernacular norms of the  
community they come from.  
This volume provides a  
systematic comparative  
treatment of urban contact  
dialects in the global North  
and South, examining the  
emergence and development of  
these dialects in major  
cities in sub-Saharan Africa  
and North-Western Europe.*

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*The book's focus on contemporary urban settings sheds light on the new language practices and mixed ways of speaking formed due to large-scale migration and the resulting intense contact that occurs between new and existing languages and dialects in these contexts. In comparing these new patterns of language variation and change between cities in both Africa and Europe, the volume allows for the unique opportunity to examine commonalities in linguistic phenomena, but also nuanced sociolinguistic differences in societally multilingual settings and those dominated by a strong*

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*monolingual habitus. These comparisons are reinforced by a consistent chapter structure, with each chapter presenting the linguistic and social context of the region, information on available data (including corpora), sociolinguistic and structural findings, a discussion of the status of the urban contact dialect, and its stability over time. The discussion in the book is further enriched by short commentaries from researchers contributing different theoretical and geographical perspectives. Taken as a whole, the book offers new insights into migration-based linguistic*

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*diversity and patterns of language variation and change, making this ideal reading for students and scholars in general linguistics and language structure, sociolinguistics, creole studies, diachronic linguistics, language acquisition, anthropological linguistics, language education, and discourse analysis.*

*Principien der Sprachgeschichte (1880) is Hermann Paul's best-known work. In this book, the German literary scholar and linguist argues that although language is a product of human culture and the study of language is*



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therefore best categorised as history, language can most effectively be analysed with methods taken from the natural sciences. Paul develops a system of principles that draws heavily on cognitive and psychological elements in order to account for how language has developed. In 14 chapters he sets out a detailed account of the history of language that includes general observations on the development of language, the consequences of sound change, semantic shift and the divergence of etymologically connected words, and aspects of

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*He also compares written and spoken language varieties, and the origins of dialects and standard languages.*

*In Corpus Linguistics and Sociolinguistics, Beke Hansen provides an in-depth analysis of variation and change in the expression of modality in second-language varieties of English by adopting an integrated sociolinguistic and corpus-based approach.*

*Pluricentricity*

*Variation in Linguistic Systems*

*Understanding Language Change*

*On the Historical*

*Sociolinguistics of English*

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*Acquiring Community Norms  
Towards a Social Science of  
Language*

This collection of original contributions dealing with Hispanic contact linguistics covers an array of Spanish dialects distributed across North, South, and Central America, the Caribbean, the Iberian Peninsula, and the Bosphorus. It deals with both native and non-native varieties of the language, and includes both synchronic and diachronic studies. The volume addresses, and challenges,

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current theoretical assumptions on the nature of language variation and contact-induced change through empirically-based linguistic research. The sustained contact between Spanish and other languages in different parts of the world has given rise to a wide number of changes in the language, which are driven by a concomitance of different linguistic and social processes. This collection of articles provides new insight into such phenomena across the Spanish-speaking world.

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The issue of permanence and change of word-order patterns has long been debated in both historical linguistics and structural theories. The interest in this theme has been revamped by contemporary research in typology with its emphasis on correlation or 'harmonies' of structures of word-order as explicative principles of both synchronic and diachronic processes. The aim of this book is to stimulate a critical reconsideration of perspectives and methods in the study of

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continuities and discontinuities of word-order patterns. Bringing together contributions by specialists of various theoretical backgrounds and with expertise in different language families or groups (Caucasian, Hamito-Semitic, and among Indo-European Hittite, Greek, Celtic, Germanic, Slavonic, Romance), the book addresses issues like the notions of stability, variation and change of word-order and their interrelations, the interplay of syntactic and

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pragmatic factors, and the role of internal and external factors in synchronic and diachronic dynamics of word-order.

The book contains a selection of papers presented at a workshop held at the XIII International Conference on Historical Linguistics (Dusseldorf, August 1997) and additional invited contributions.

The first book of its kind to provide historical and state-of-the-art perspectives on language regard.

Swahili has generally been

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perceived as a homogenous entity whose norms are reflected in the variety spoken on the coast of East Africa. Any deviations from these norms are perceived as trademark of colloquialism, corruption, deterioration and/or sub-standardness. In the Zairian province of Shaba, the variety of Swahili used is characterized by a multiplicity of deviations at all grammatical levels. This variety, commonly known as Shaba Swahili (ShS), has been considered by many as a colloquial,



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corrupt, deteriorated, and sub-standard or pidgin variety of East African Swahili (EAS). This dissertation provides an analysis of ShS, one of the very few non-western languages classified as pidgin/creole (P/C). It shows that although ShS fulfills some of the criteria used for the classification of P/C, it is not a P/C. Structural simplification is not a property of P/C only. Rather it is the property of all languages found in contact situations. All the processes of language

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contact will be evaluated to sort out a new set of criteria for language categorization in contact situations. This study attempts to demonstrate that ShS is a "meaning system" that reflects the linguistic and socio-cultural context proper to new context of use. The multilingual context of Shaba has created new norms, which are nativized according to the linguistic, social, and cultural context of Shaba. Thus, what has generally been regarded as an idiosyncratic variety of

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Swahili is a real language with its own rules and norms that are distinct from those of EAS. While linguistic variation is used to show the extent to which people adhere to the norms of their vernacular culture, this adherence is not automatic given the presence of members of one's close-knit social network. Though social variables can determine a speaker's linguistic behavior, they are each subconsciously assigned hierarchical index markings of vitality. The social variables with the

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highest indexation marking can over-rule the constraints of linguistic behavior dictated by formalaty or informality during speech. Members of any community are aware of this indexation marking and are cognizant of the fact that this indexation varies with the context of situation. (Abstract shortened with permission of author.)

Language Variation and  
Change in a Modernising  
Arab State

Spanish Language and  
Sociolinguistic Analysis  
Standardization as

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Sociolinguistic Change  
Explanations in  
Sociosyntactic Variation  
Research Methods in  
Language Variation and  
Change  
Insights from the Global  
North and South

Zum Buch Auf der Grundlage der  
neuesten Forschung vermittelt dieses  
Buch einen Überblick über die  
Geschichte der Aborigines von der  
Urzeit bis heute. Im Mittelpunkt stehen  
zwei Bereiche: zum einen die  
materielle, geistige, künstlerische und  
religiöse Kultur vor und seit der  
Kolonisation, zum anderen politische  
Themen, die sich durch die  
Kolonisation und besonders in den  
letzten Jahrzehnten ergeben haben.  
Das Buch ist kein Archiv der

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Vergangenheit, sondern schlägt die  
Brücke zum Heute und bemüht sich,  
einen Beitrag zum Verständnis der  
Aborigines zu leisten. Es ist  
zwangsläufig aus europäischer  
Perspektive geschrieben, vermeidet  
aber weitgehend Werturteile und lässt  
Aborigines authentisch zu Wort  
kommen, wo immer das möglich ist.  
This volume brings together research  
on panel studies with the aim of  
providing a coherent empirical and  
theoretical knowledge-base for  
examining the impact of maturation  
and lifespan-specific effects on  
linguistic malleability in the post-  
adolescent speaker. Building on the  
work of Wagner and Buchstaller  
(2018), the present collection offers a  
critical examination of the theoretical  
implications of panel research across  
a range of geographic regions and

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time periods. The volume seeks to offer a way forward in the debates circling about the phenomenon of later-life language change, drawing on contributions from a variety of linguistic disciplines to examine critical topics such as the effect of linguistic architecture, the roles of mobility and identity construction, and the impact of frequency effects. Taken together, this edited collection both informs and pushes forward key questions on the nature of lifespan change, making this key reading for students and researchers in cognitive linguistics, historical linguistics, dialectology, and variationist sociolinguistics.

This book explores the current state of Spanish sociolinguistics and its contribution to theories of language variation and change, from both synchronic and diachronic

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perspectives. It offers original analyses on a variety of topics across a wide spectrum of linguistic subfields from different formal, experimental, and corpus-based standpoints. The volume is organized around six thematic sections: (i) Cutting-edge Methodologies in Sociolinguistics; (ii) Bilingualism; (iii) Language Acquisition; (iv) Phonological Variation; (v) Morpho-Syntactic Variation; and (vi) Lexical Variation. As a whole, this collection reflects an array of approaches and analyses that show how in its variation across speakers, speech communities, linguistic contexts, communicative situations, dialects, and time, the Spanish language provides an immense wealth of data to challenge accepted linguistic views and shape new theoretical proposals in the field



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of language variation and change.

Spanish Language and Sociolinguistic Analysis represents a significant contribution to the growing field of Spanish sociolinguistics.

In this outstanding collection of new work the methods and theories of formal syntax are focussed on grammatical variation and change.

The editors open the volume with an extensive and accessible introduction to the ideas and techniques deployed in the book and the phenomena and issues on which they are brought to bear. Seventeen chapters follow, divided into two parts, the first concerned with grammaticalization and the second with parametric variation. These show what the application of contemporary theories of syntax and language variation can reveal about syntactic

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change and variation and the processes of parametric change which lie behind them. They also demonstrate the value of testing and constructing synchronic theories on the basis of historical data. The analyses range over many languages and language families, including Germanic, Romance, Greek, and Chinese. This book will interest scholars and students of grammatical change and theory at graduate level and above.

Language Variation and Change

From Old to Middle English

Principien der Sprachgeschichte

Die Aborigines Australiens

Dialects and Variation

Grammar – Discourse – Context

**The studies collected in this**

**volume explore the**

**sociocultural, conceptual and**

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**structural dimensions of variation and change within pluricentric languages, with specific emphasis on the relationship between national varieties. The volume describes patterns of phonetic, lexical and morphosyntactic variation, and language attitudes. It brings together Cognitive Linguistics and sociolinguistics and makes use of advanced empirical methods. The volume addresses a wider audience of scholars including linguists, sociologists, anthropologists, and language planners and teachers.**

**New perspectives on how and**

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**why syntax varies between and within speakers, focusing on explaining theoretical backgrounds and methods. While much has been written about Gibraltar from historical and political perspectives, sociolinguistic aspects have been largely overlooked. This book describes the influences which have shaped the colony s linguistic development since the British occupation in 1704, and the relationship between the three principal means of communication: English, Spanish and the code-switching variant Yanito. The study then focuses its attentions on the**

**communicative forms and functions of Gibraltarian English. The closing of the border between Gibraltar and Spain (1969-1982), which effectively isolated the colony, had important social and linguistic repercussions. This volume presents the first full account of the language attitudes and identity of a new generation of Gibraltarians, all of whom were born after the border was re-opened. Adopting a variationist approach, this study analyses the extent to which the language use and phonetic realisations of young Gibraltarians differ from those**

**of previous generations and  
the factors conditioning  
language variation and  
change.**

**The Role of Transfer in  
Language Variation and  
Change**

**Hypercorrection, social  
networks and lexical diffusion.  
Indicators of linguistic change  
in progress**

**Language Contact, Variation,  
and Change**

**Linguistic Variation and  
Change**

**Language Variation and  
Language Change Across the  
Lifespan**

**Sociolinguistic Variation in  
Children's Language**