

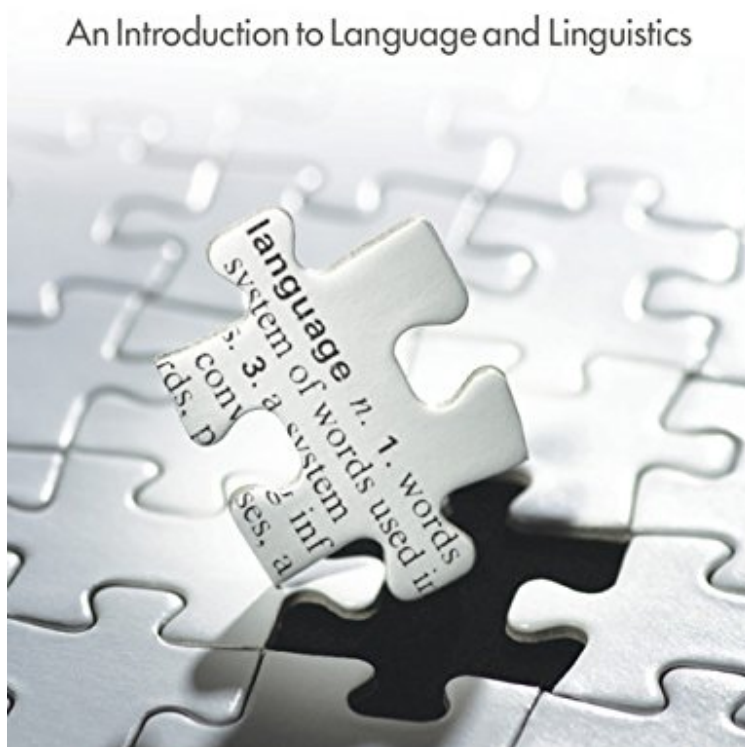
How Languages Work: An Introduction to Language and Linguistics

From Genetti Carol
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Edited by Carol Genetti

HOW LANGUAGES WORK

An Introduction to Language and Linguistics



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From Genetti Carol : How Languages Work: An Introduction to Language and Linguistics before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How Languages Work: An Introduction to Language and Linguistics:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent textbook!By EmilsonI have been looking for a textbook to be used in an introductory linguistics course and was quite excited when I first got hold of How language work by Carol Genetti. It is always difficult for a introductory textbook of linguistics to find a balance of what topics to include and what to leave out. I appreciate the choices that have been made in this volume, the depth with which the individual topics are covered, and the order in which they are presented. I also appreciate the supplemental material that is

available on the website. There are not many other introductory textbooks of linguistics out there that promote a functional perspective of grammar. The collection of language profiles in the second part of the book not only illustrates a bit of the variety of languages that are out there but also introduces the student to samples of the kind of work that linguists produce. As the book probably contains more material than can be covered in one 3 credit course, part of the book, especially the language profiles could easily be used in subsequent courses on morphology, syntax, language typology etc. One reviewer complained that the language of this text is too technical. However, I find it a lot easier to read than the textbook we used before (*Linguistics - An Introduction* by William McGregor). 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great content, poor physical quality. By LP The content of this book is good but the binding job is terrible. I've been using this book for my linguistics class for less than 4 weeks now and groups of pages are falling out at the front and back already. I've only had this kind of wear happen on books that I've read several times over a number of years so I think the binding work is just very poor. Also, there are chapter tools on a corresponding website but they are only available for the first 5 chapters (out of 15). These tools have been really helpful but it's very disappointing to be without them as the content becomes harder in Chapter 6. This mainly frustrates me because the text refers to exercises on the website that are simply not there. Some positive points: The lines in the chapters that are most helpful are in boldface which is quite helpful when doing a quick skim of a chapter for review before an exam. And there are language profiles in the back of the book that really help to apply the terms you learn throughout to diverse languages from around the world. Overall, I would say the value of this book is not worth the discontinuity with the website and the substandard condition. If you have a choice, go for a different Linguistics book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I would not recommend it. By kristina bennion I got this book for a linguistics college class and found it to be really dry and hard to read. I would not recommend it.

A new and exciting introduction to linguistics, this textbook presents language in all its amazing complexity, while guiding students gently through the basics. Students emerge with an appreciation of the diversity of the world's languages, as well as a deeper understanding of the structure of human language, the ways it is used, and its broader social and cultural context. Chapters introducing the nuts and bolts of language study (phonology, syntax, meaning) are combined with those on the 'functions' of language (discourse, prosody, pragmatics, and language contact), helping students gain a better grasp of how language works in the real world. A rich set of language 'profiles' help students explore the world's linguistic diversity, identify similarities and differences between languages, and encourages them to apply concepts from earlier chapter material. A range of carefully designed pedagogical features encourage student engagement, adopting a step-by-step approach and using study questions and case studies.

Advance Praise: 'truly a textbook of the 21st century' --Keren Rice, Department of Linguistics, University of Toronto 'How Languages Work is the perfect introductory textbook on language and linguistics ... an invigorating combination of a straightforward, introductory tone and high-level scholarship. The chapter authors effectively communicate their own enthusiasm for language and linguistics in a way that promises to engender similar enthusiasm in undergraduate readers.' --Thomas Payne, University of Oregon and SIL International "Here at last is a textbook that isn't locked into theoretical dogmas but that instead introduces students to the analytical methods and skills needed for successful research! Each method and concept is carefully explained, hands-on and step-by-step." --Balthasar Bickel, University of Zurich About the Author Carol Genetti is a Professor of Linguistics at the University of California, Santa Barbara and Dean of the UC Santa Barbara Graduate Division.