

## Book Reviews

Birkelund, M., Boysen, G. and Kjaersgaard, P.S. (eds.), *Aspects de la Modalité* (*Linguistische Arbeiten* 469). Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2003, ix + 248 pp. 3 484 30469 3. DOI: 10.1017/S0959269503211194

This volume contains eighteen papers from a colloquium on modality held at South Denmark University, Odense in November 2000. It covers four main thematic areas: the notion of modality; temporal, modal and lexical representations of modality. The papers, presented alphabetically rather than thematically, include ones by leading European researchers, and together they constitute a useful overview of current research.

Birkelund studies legal and contractual texts, as prime examples of performative texts, with a prominent illocutionary force of obligation or necessity. Within the discourse representation theory framework, it is shown how *présent* and *futur* have a range of temporal and modal functions, whereas *devoir* + *infinitif* is ambiguous, and its interpretation depends on indications of modality in the specific context. Blanche-Benveniste is concerned with positive and negative modality in spoken French, and in particular the contrast between the two types within the same utterance. Such frequent expressions usually take the form of detached elements, which are difficult to integrate into syntactic models. Blumenthal discusses modal expressions relating to value judgements and volition, with respect to the concentration of meanings within a form. The forms are analysed from the point of view of syntactic restrictions and effects of meaning, drawing on a newspaper corpus and FRANTEXT for examples and collocation frequencies. Boysen stresses the importance of grammatical person and syntactic function for mood choice, paying particular attention to approaches by Danish linguists. Desclés examines the interaction between the different semantic values of *pouvoir*, *vouloir* and *devoir*, using combinatory logic to establish a network of semantic primitives covering the range of meanings. Herslund studies the development of the OF full verb *faillir* into two modern verbal operators: *faillir* with an aspectual meaning, and *falloir* with a modal meaning. This change is explained by a modal reinterpretation of the original verb, which had both an inaccusative meaning (to stop), and an inergative one (to miss). Kampers-Mahne presents an overview of the subjunctive in complement phrases. With respect to obligatory uses, it is shown that mood selection operates at the level of the lexicon. However, in cases of subjunctive/indicative alternation, phrasal operators trigger the difference. Kjaersgaard proposes a contrastive analysis of constructions of the type *elle a dû/pu parler français* and its two Danish equivalents. Selection of the appropriate translation depends on factors such as temporal indicators, epistemic indicators, the presence of negation and discursive status. Korzen presents

arguments to support the status of the subjunctive, rather than the indicative, as the unmarked mood. The indicative is triggered by assertive contexts, whereas there is no common semantic trait for subjunctive contexts. Kronning explores the relationship between modality and evidentiality in a discussion of the *conditionnel journalistique* and epistemic *devoir*, both of which have attained a high degree of grammaticalisation. He proposes a typology of epistemic markers which fits in with diachronic and semiotic facts. Lagerqvist uses a newspaper corpus to examine the status of the subjunctive, the essence of which is its ability to virtualise action. The form maintains a strong position in modern French, but faces fierce competition from the *futur simple*. Larreya distinguishes between types of modality and types of modalisation, and proposes a subcategorisation for each, noting a certain amount of fluidity. Nølke's interest in modality is linked to the category of adverbials. Using ScaPoLine (Scandinavian polyphonic linguistic theory), he shows that expressions can introduce a hierarchy of points of view associated with the speaker. Sand studies the use of the subjunctive among adult speakers from the Orléans corpus. The form is surviving well in complement phrases of willingness and feeling, after *être* + attributive adjective, and after *pour que*. Stage analyses two modal values: epistemic future, and deontic present or future. Context is vital for establishing the meaning of these forms. Furthermore, French epistemic and deontic futures have a narrower range than their Italian and Spanish equivalents, and French epistemic future is almost always found as a compound rather than simple form. Sundell is also interested in modal futures. The most frequent usage in the corpus is deontic, and, like Stage, he notes that the epistemic simple future is very rare. Vet discusses the *futur simple*, and finds it has fewer modal values than suggested in grammar manuals. Those modal uses it does have are a result of grammaticalisation, with a temporal value becoming epistemic and then illocutionary. Finally, Wilmet uses a verse from a La Fontaine fable as a starting point for a discussion of circumstantial complements which can express modality by limiting the field of application of specific phrases.

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Chauveau, Jean-Paul (ed.), *Französisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch*, fascs. 161–162, tome XXV (refonte du tome 1<sup>er</sup>): **autós – azymus**; ‘Corrigenda des tomes 24 et 25’, pp. 1153–1380 (2002). Bâle: Zbinden. Jean-Pierre Chambon, ‘Préface’ to 23. Band: *Materialien unbekanntem oder unsicheren Ursprungs*, vi pp. (2002). Basel: Zbinden.  
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With the appearance of this double fascicle, the revision of ‘A’ is complete. In a fascinating historical preface, Jean-Pierre Chambon states (p. iv) that volume XXV marks a fifteen-fold increase in size over the corresponding part of volume I. The section which occupies 157 pages here was contained in just 5 in the first version (FEW 1, 186–191) so the quantitative explosion in these two fascicles is even more dramatic than the overall figure for the volume suggests. So, too, is the qualitative advance, which is of course (in a dictionary of this sort) unavoidably linked to how much evidence is

accumulated and above all, painstakingly analysed. Of evidence and its analysis there is no shortage here. Particularly striking is the expanded treatment of locutions (historical, dialectal, and modern) sub (e.g.) **avaritia** (1190b–1191a) or **avēna** (1208b–1210b), the latter also exemplary for the vast range of historical and regional forms cited (1203b–1207b). Something of a *locus classicus* because of the phonetic problem of how (or from where) the modern form emerged, the humble *avoine* receives here what must surely be the definitive treatment. Cornflakes will never be the same again.

Where of course the early volumes of the FEW are particularly frustrating is in the absence of sources (references) for the data. Here, vol. XXV (and the whole revision to date) has more than rectified the problem. To take one tiny example: sub **\*aviōla; \*aviōlus** is the unusual word *avelet*, ‘grandson’, 25,1232b. In FEW 1,189b the provenance is apparently although not explicitly Metz, and the sources quoted are fairly obviously those in Gdf 1,513a (i.e., Arch. mun. Metz *Rôle des Bans*, 1227 = BanMetzW); BN[F] Coll. Lorr. 971, 1315; Philippe de Vigneulles, 1519). FEW 1 also cites an Ardennes form (which scrambles somewhat the geolinguistic map) and notes that the form is also ‘rum. it. sard. rät’. It adds an erroneous reference to Breton *ahil* which allegedly (one does wonder how) comes from a lorr. *avelet* (cf. RCelt 3,50). (Since the Breton (Vannetais) word means ‘axle’, it is presumably a derivative of \*AXILIS, cf. RLiR 1,451.) Vol. XXV puts all this right: the phantasmagorical peregrination of *avelet* to the Morbihan is suppressed, copious references indicate that the word is indeed resident in Metz, dates are provided for the data, the supposed Ardennes attestation is excavated and promptly reburied with the help of Bruneau (n. 33, 1235a), and a cross-reference to the article **avus 2** (1271a), together with the discussion in the commentary after the main **\*aviōla; \*aviōlus** article (25,1234a) seems to resolve the matter in favour of a distinction between the mainly Italo-Romance (*avo*, etc.) forms (LEI 3,2674; rum.: 2678 n.9) and Metz *avelet*, the latter plausibly linked (n. 43, 1236) to Germanic influence in Metz and in Lorraine more generally. The example may be a minor one, but it is not isolated, and it shows just the type of major advance which FEW XXV marks over its antecedent. The erudition and the sheer hard work which go into such a thorough examination and re-working are little short of miraculous. Here, as elsewhere, the ‘refonte’ is not just a melting-down: it is a complete new quarrying, extraction, smelting, and refining exercise. This, of course, is why the FEW has been and continues to be so successful as ‘un centre de formation et de perfectionnement pour jeunes linguistes romanistes’ (Chambon, ‘Préface’, p. v), many of whom have contributed to these fascicles. The substantive entries for this closing section of ‘A’ are followed by nearly 80 pages (1311–1380) of *Corrigenda*, drawn from reviews of the various fascicles making up volumes XXIV and XXV. The hope must be that both the French CNRS and the Fonds National Suisse de la Recherche Scientifique will see that a work of this calibre – necessarily and indeed beneficially an *œuvre de longue haleine* – simply must be continued, for as long as it takes. This is a genuine re-vision, generating work of enormous and lasting value.

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Hansen, Anita Berit and Hansen, Maj-Brit Mosegaard (eds.), *Structures linguistiques et interactionnelles dans le français parlé. Actes du Colloque international, Université de Copenhague du 22 au 23 juin 2001*. (Etudes Romanes 54). Copenhagen: Museum Tusulanum Press, 2003, 200 pp. 87 7289 819 4 (pbk). DOI 10.1017/S0959269503231197

This volume contains seven chapters, representing a selection of papers presented at the colloquium mentioned in the title. The linguistic sub-disciplines grouped here are variationist sociolinguistics, language learning, conversation analysis and intonation.

Chapters are as follows; affiliations of contributors are given in brackets. In chapter 1, Véronique Traverso (Lyon 2) discusses '*Aspects de la négociation dans un polylogue*'. A polylogue is a dialogue but not a duologue; that is, it involves more than two speakers. The author discusses the difficulty of analysing interactions of this type in view of determining the exact focus of a conversational turn (as opposed to a duologue where the focus is clear). The solution proposed is to set up a 'macro-local' level of analysis that can analyse negotiation currently in train in a conversation while accounting for higher-level background interaction.

The second chapter, by Lorenza Mondada (Basle and Lyon 2) analyses '*La construction du savoir dans les pratiques scientifiques d'équipes de recherche: analyse de trajectoires d'objets de discours et de savoir*'. The ingenious idea here was to look at interactions in meetings of academics, with a view, as implied by the title, to using a conversation analytic framework to examine how '*objets de discours et de savoir*' are constructed in a dynamic way, as implied by the term '*trajectoire*'. This approach stems from the assumption that in the scientific enterprise, 'objects of knowledge' are contingent and constructed rather than pre-existing, and hence susceptible to negotiation in discourse.

The title of chapter 3, by Paul Touati (Lund), is '*Approche à une modélisation de la prosodie transphrasique du français parlé*' and indicates quite clearly, in outline at least, the problem addressed. Adopting a functional perspective to examine two stretches of speech, an interview and a political speech, the author looks at French intonation at the level of the 'oral paragraph', defined as preamble plus rheme. The problems considered in this framework are the stability or autonomy of this unit (a rheme can also be analysed as a pre-theme, leading to the following oral paragraph) and the different functions of a given intonation pattern, whether demarcative or interactive.

In the fourth chapter, the editors Hansen and Hansen (Copenhagen) look at 'schwa-tagging' – the *bonjour-euh* phenomenon – in their chapter entitled '*Le [ə] prépausal et l'interaction*'. The authors trace the development of the phenomenon from being at the outset a naturally motivated post-consonantal 'release phenomenon' to acquiring a sociolinguistic distribution, younger urban female speakers, as so often, being in the lead. The authors suggest here, supporting their argument by analysing several stretches of conversation in a corpus of Parisian speech, that realisation of the vowel has generally a pragmatic function, that of highlighting an important element in the discourse.

The title of the fifth chapter, by Aidan Coveney (Exeter), is '*Le redoublement du sujet en français parlé: une approche variationniste*' and reports the use of subject-doubling (SD) – *mon frère il chante* – in his Picardy corpus. The treatment includes a report on other scholars' findings, a historical overview and a report on the figures from Coveney's own data. Use of SD in the Picardy corpus is fairly low overall (24%), reflecting perhaps the censure that the construction attracts, although characteristic patterns of age and class (but little sex) differentiation are shown. From his own and others' results, Coveney concludes that SD is a stable variable. The chapter clears away a good deal of the

clutter previously surrounding the subject, in particular the false distinction often made between dislocation and doubling.

The last two chapters are concerned with language learning. Christine Bozier (Lund) examines '*la stratégie de sollicitation chez des apprenants suédophones de français*'. Solicitation here means a direct or indirect appeal for help to a native speaker from a non-native speaker, to fill a gap caused by the non-native speaker's failure to recall accurately a linguistic element, whether lexical, phonetic or morphological. Bozier presents a very thorough taxonomy of the various solicitation strategies she observed, and concludes by presenting some pedagogical applications: teachers studying solicitations will have a heightened awareness of their student's stage of development, and of the fact that oral language learning takes place in interactional contexts.

The final chapter, by Eva Westin (Lund), is entitled '*Textualité en conversation exolingue – le cas du récit oral*' and is again concerned with comparing narratives in conversations between native and non-native speakers (exolingual conversations) with those that involve native speakers (endolingual). A further axis distinguishes between narratives functioning as self-presentation and those that contribute to the conversational dynamic, in the author's phrase. The principal cross-linguistic difference is that narratives in exolingual conversations tend to be discontinuous and echoic, in contrast to the less interrupted character of endolingual conversations.

Readers expecting a tightly thematic volume looking at linguistics in interaction will find that not all chapters have this focus. It is true that the title of the book cunningly avoids an explicit claim to be thematic, simply placing 'linguistic' and 'interactional' side by side, but in their foreword the editors imply that a thematic approach is intended. The looser syzygy indicated in the title is a surer guide. This is by no means to decry the merits of a valuable book that will be of interest to any linguist of French working in the disciplines concerned.

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Harrap's, *Business dictionary/dictionnaire*. Edinburgh: Harrap, 2003, xii + 296 + (62) E-F + 266 + (52) F-E + (xvi) pp. 0 245 60714 5.

Harrap's, *Mini dictionary/dictionnaire*. Edinburgh: Harrap, 2003, xvi + 374 E-F + (24) + 322 F-E pp. 0 245 60716 1. DOI 10.1017/S0959269503241193

How better to test a business dictionary than on the *Financial Times*? The new Harrap's coped well until we reached the more exuberant stock market reports, although I only found *private equity* by chance in the quotation under *fructifier*. I would have expected to find *ferroustige*, but was pleased to find *sustainable*, and *ethical investment*. *LETS* is explained, but no translation is given (the editorial of *Cahiers* 3.3 (Autumn, 1997) noted *RER*, for *réseau d'échanges réciproques*). *Lira*, like the other currencies replaced by the euro, ought to be labelled 'formerly'. Some of the equivalents are open to question. 'Labour Day' might be ambiguous (North American *Labor Day* is the second Monday in September), but the *Fête du Travail* is always 1 May. A *plan épargne-logement* is something

more structured than a 'building society account', nor is an *ISA* (at least not a cash *ISA*) quite the same as a 'PEA'. Though less pleasing to purists, 'prix sacrifié' for *knockdown price* would have been more accurate. Management, sales, marketing, *informatique*, all are covered. Alongside the technical, less formal terms are included too (*dog, matraquer, piston*), and the columns are studded with boxed quotations that give the flavour of items in their context. The sources (though not exact references) for these quotations are listed in the end-papers. This dictionary supposes users who are already competent: pronunciation is not indicated, for example, and there are no verb tables. What there is are flow charts of French and anglophone business organisations, handy reference lists in the blue edged pages (with bracketed numbers) of countries, currencies, and official languages, administrative divisions of major French- and English-speaking countries (I shall be using it to look up the two-letter codes for states of the US, or if ever puzzled by a reference to the *Flickertail State*), as well as guides to communication in French and English-speaking contexts. This includes CVs, letters, phone calls and e-mails, as well as business etiquette, balance sheets, working with an interpreter, and how to behave in meetings. The French are warned about English jokes, and the English are advised that Latins are not slaves to the clock. One would not necessarily agree with all the advice: 'e-mails are not subject to the formal code of letter writing that is prevalent in French' (page (22) of E-F) is misleading. French *mél* or *courriel* (not included) still tends to err on the side of formality. This second edition of the dictionary could prove useful even to the experienced, and at £14.99, *stagiaires* would find it worthwhile. What is more, it is a sturdy stiff-covered volume, built to resist the rigours of an office environment. The new *Mini*, with semi-stiff cover and flexible spine, wears similar livery and seems similarly conceived for practical use. Measuring 10 centimetres by 14, and only 3 centimetres thick, it would fit in the back pocket of a pair of jeans, and no doubt often will. The print is small, but reasonably legible. Whether its 45 000 entries do, as claimed, cover the essentials, is a matter of circumstance and definition. Tested against recent books pulled from my shelves at random, items not found included *chant, emmerdement*, which seemed to me fairly basic, *manila*, which admittedly is not, and under *partnership*, only 'association' was given, though French *partenariat* is listed. I wonder why students might need *banjo, castagnettes*, or *isthme*, and whether they are likely to meet *mongolien*, rather than *trisomique*, which is not given. Under *miss*, it might have been advisable to add something like *I miss you* 'tu me manques'. If *condom* is listed, why is *préservatif* omitted, and *capote* only given for cars? Still, for its size and price of £4.99, this did seem a reasonable dictionary for beginners and travelling.

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Harrap's, *Pardon my French! pocket French slang dictionary. French-English/English-French*. Edinburgh: Harrap, 2003, xvi + 143 + 154 pp. 0 245 60720 X.  
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Most French people will perceive 'pardon my French' as xenophobic. Frogs on front and back cover compound the insensitivity; though to be fair, *PmF* comes with a

health warning (*nuigrave* is included): 'not for the easily shocked'. But who is it for? A 'fun dictionary', says the back cover, 'for decoding the language used in French films and novels'. So, other dictionaries and other sources of language learning are not fun? But a pocket dictionary proposing ready-made solutions (no *soluce*) panders to the painting-by-numbers culture that takes the fun out. Slang and argot are broadly, even strangely, conceived. Technical jargons and underworld argot are not included *per se* (I can't complain at not finding *ruine-babine*, but *axe*, *gratte*, *matos* are there). What we should expect is rather *non-conventionnel* French and English. Even so, why include *pute/putain*, whose recorded history goes back to Old French (and not *tournante*)? *Gay plague* is surely offensive, but hardly unconventional (*Pmf*'s definition leads to pleonasm). Wisely, *céfran* is labelled 'Cités', but where is the explanation of the label? In what sense is *quès aco* an adverb? On the other hand, every page recalls that the shaded square (appropriately: 'ringard') indicates non-slang or neutral items; cultural equivalents or explanations given instead of translations are signalled; the shaded notes and boxed overviews are generally informative. For its small bulk and modest (£6.99) price, *Pmf* gives good coverage. It would help with the most recent and tasteless jokes I have heard (*quéquette*, *foufoune*, *raide*, but the translation for *avoir les boules* is feeble, and there is nothing about bungee-jumping).

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Larrivée, Pierre (ed.), *Linguistic Conflict and Language Laws: Understanding the Quebec Question*. Basingstoke and New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003, xi + 204 pp. 0 333 96899 9. DOI 10.1017/S0959269503261196

Within specialist circles, Québec is considered to be one of the most successful cases of status language planning. Amongst the general public, however, especially in the Anglo-Saxon world, state intervention in matters of language is often viewed with great scepticism, if not total hostility. This book makes an important contribution to countering common misunderstandings about status language planning in general, and the motivation behind language legislation in Québec in particular. Moreover, as a Quebecer living and working in the UK, Larrivée is well placed to edit a book on language planning in Québec aimed in the first instance at an English-speaking audience.

The volume is divided into six chapters. The first of these, by Colin H. Williams, presents the theoretical considerations behind status language planning. The chapter begins with a discussion of the new challenge facing liberal democracies: how to reconcile individual rights with increasing demands for group rights? On this topic, the work of Kymlicka, Taylor and Ignatieff is considered, but curiously not that of any of the French-speaking specialists in the field (Bouchard, Seymour, Bariteau, Beauchemin, etc.). In the discussion of different varieties of language planning and policies and the principles of personality and territoriality upon which they can be based, the reader is confronted with a plethora of theories and typologies, with often only minimal explanation in table format. Moreover, the relevance these have for Québec is left to

the reader to infer. Williams is right to claim that language planning in Québec ‘can only be properly understood when set alongside other examples of language planning’ (p. 1), but this is true only if a genuinely comparative approach is used. While this chapter constitutes a somewhat disproportionate quarter of the whole volume, Williams nonetheless devotes half of it to a discussion of language planning in Africa, Asia, Europe and the linguistic hegemony of English, all without once mentioning Canada, let alone Québec.

In the second chapter, Jean-Philippe Warren looks at the motivation behind language legislation in Québec, by offering an insightful, insider’s retelling of the history of ‘a nation in the making’ (p. 57). He covers an immense amount of ground, from the establishment of New France (1534–1760), through pivotal periods such as British rule and Union (1760–1867), Confederation and industrialisation (1867–1918), the interwar years (1918–1945), and the socio-economic rise of Francophones from the second half of the twentieth century up to the present day (1945–2000). The discussion underscores how the Catholic Church gave way to language as the main vector of identity; it also highlights the progressive identity shifts amongst the settlers and their descendants first from *Français* to *Canadien*, then to *Canadien français* and finally to *Québécois*, the latter term now referring to all those residing in Québec, irrespective of ethnic background.

Chapters 3 and 4 present and examine status language planning at the federal and provincial levels respectively. C. Michael MacMillan traces the situation from the time when any status accorded to French was largely unofficial to the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism in the 1960s, some of whose recommendations were embodied in the Official Languages Act (1969). MacMillan also considers the subsequent reforms of the Act and other enhancements of federal language policy, ‘conceived and justified primarily in terms of its political necessity for national unity’ (p. 93). Focusing predominantly on the provincial level, Marc Chevrier wades through the complex sea of Québec language legislation, from early milestones such as Bill 63 (1969) and Bill 22 (1974), to the most important Bill 101 (1977), otherwise known as the *Charte de la langue française*. Chevrier examines the scope and effectiveness of the Charter as well as the rights granted to the Anglophone community. The chapter ends with a useful discussion on whether languages should be viewed as rights.

In the fifth chapter, Pierre Larrivée traces the history of the Anglophone community in Québec, and outlines aspects of provincial language legislation which affect both the Anglophone and Allophone communities. He explains that while most Anglo-Quebecers have accepted that English is now the language of a minority in Québec, a small group has become increasingly radical in its opposition to the Charter. A final section analyses the results of a small survey of articles in the Montréal-based, English-language newspaper *The Gazette* that contain the name Brent Tyler, the notorious Montréal lawyer and a leading figure in the anti-Charter campaign.

Considering the amount of space devoted to language policy in Africa in chapter 1, the overview of the situation of Québec’s eleven officially recognised First Nations and their languages presented in the final chapter is somewhat brief. Without going into detail, Larrivée explains how the treatment of Aboriginal and Inuit groups in Québec has been slowly improving, in particular with the negotiation of agreements (usually over the exploitation of territory), such as the momentous *Paix des Braves* signed with the Cree in November 2001. In the conclusion, the example of Québec’s indigenous populations is used to justify the use of language legislation to ensure language maintenance.



As always, edited volumes have their advantages and disadvantages. While the five contributors of this volume offer a diverse range of opinions and perspectives on status language planning in Québec, the individual authors have tended to write free-standing articles (complete with different referencing systems). This results sometimes in redundant overlap, sometimes in discussions which would have benefited from building on theoretical and factual material presented in previous chapters. Considering its stated aim, to provide a 'recent, accessible, self-contained work' (p. ix), the book is also somewhat short (cf. the monumental Plourde *et al.*, 2000). A larger volume would have allowed for more discussion for example of the Allophones, upon whom the survival of French in Québec largely depends; it could also have included some treatment of corpus planning, which is often inextricably linked to status planning. One cannot help but think that this is due to the attitude of publishers who, when not completely shying away from works on Québec for economic reasons, impose page limitations that do not do the topic justice. Nonetheless, this is an informed and extremely useful introduction which deserves the attention of all those interested in status language planning in Québec and elsewhere.

REFERENCE

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Un des rares et précieux livres en français sur le bilinguisme était la première édition de *Etre bilingue* de Lüdi et Py datant de 1986. Les sceptiques pourraient se demander pourquoi il est aussi important d'avoir des livres traitant du bilinguisme en français et sur le français. N'y a-t-il donc pas une abondance de livres en anglais sur ce phénomène? La réponse est qu'il est absolument nécessaire pour notre discipline d'avoir une multitude d'approches considérant une grande variété de langues. Les livres en anglais, écrits dans le cadre du paradigme anglo-saxon, traitent généralement de situations de bilinguisme incluant l'anglais. Il nous faut des chercheurs multilingues pouvant combiner les acquis théoriques et méthodologiques des études anglo-saxonnes sur le bilinguisme avec des approches et des combinaisons de langues différentes. Ce n'est qu'ainsi que la communauté scientifique entendra parler de recherches rarement citées dans la littérature anglophone. Lüdi et Py sont magnifiquement placés pour le faire. Tous les deux sont des vétérans de la discipline. Ils travaillent sur la problématique de l'immigration, sur le contact de langues, sur le bilinguisme en Suisse et ils sont présents sur la scène internationale. 'Depuis la parution de la première édition beaucoup de choses ont évolué', remarquent-ils: 'les migrations (...) existent toujours, mais l'origine de nos

hôtes s'est fortement diversifiée' (p. 1), en outre, les recherches sur le bilinguisme 'ont connu d'importants développements' (p. 1). On ne peut donc qu'applaudir la nouvelle édition de ce livre. Il compte sept chapitres et une bibliographie.

Dans le premier chapitre, *Fréquence – définition – intérêt*, les auteurs expliquent et définissent les concepts et les termes-clés. Ils combattent le vieux préjugé selon lequel l'unilinguisme est la norme et le plurilinguisme l'exception. Dans le chapitre 2, *Analyse de cas particuliers et présentation des concepts de base*, ils développent et approfondissent le premier chapitre en expliquant les concepts à travers des exemples concrets de migrants à Neuchâtel et à Bâle. Ils présentent également des chiffres sur l'origine de la migration externe en Suisse. Ils arguent, à l'aide d'illustrations concrètes, que des notions comme celle de 'langue maternelle' devraient être abandonnées dans la recherche sur le bilinguisme à cause de ses connotations idéologiques. Ils proposent les distinctions suivantes: 'langue première – langue seconde'; 'langue source – langue cible'; 'langue d'origine et langue d'accueil' (pp. 45–46). Ces termes sont plus neutres et permettent de mieux décrire le caractère dynamique du bilinguisme. Ils développent leur défense du bilinguisme dans le chapitre 3 *Deux langues, deux cultures, deux schématisations de la réalité*. Leur but est de démentir le vieux stéréotype selon lequel le bilinguisme porterait atteinte aux facultés du bilingue. Ils considèrent le lien entre langue et pensée, traitent du biculturalisme et de la nature de la compétence bilingue. Le bilinguisme, spécifient-ils, 'est une activité plutôt qu'un état, mais il est aussi un résultat; chaque individu bilingue a une histoire qui conditionne en partie les modalités de son bilinguisme' (p. 79). Le chapitre 4 est consacré aux *Attitudes et représentations sociales*. La problématique du bilinguisme social est introduite avec le témoignage de deux immigrées espagnoles à Neuchâtel qui parlent avec difficulté le français mais qui déclarent parler français entre elles en public 'pour ne pas être reconnues comme étrangères' (p. 86).

Le chapitre 5, *La dynamique de la compétence linguistique bilingue des migrants*, creuse davantage le thème de la variabilité du système linguistique des bilingues. L'introduction de quelques concepts clés des Recherches en Acquisition des Langues Etrangères (interlangue, interférence, fossilisation, perte de la première langue, contextes d'acquisition) permet au lecteur de mieux comprendre le fonctionnement des systèmes linguistiques de l'individu bilingue, apprenant ou simple utilisateur, fonctionnant dans des situations endolingues ou exolingues.

Le chapitre 6, *Manifestations discursives du bilinguisme*, se concentre sur le terrain de prédilection des auteurs, notamment le code-switching (sic). Les auteurs réussissent dans l'espace d'un chapitre à traiter des aspects sociaux, interactionnels, typologiques et cognitifs du code-switching. D'amples extraits illustrent cette pratique fascinante des bilingues.

Le dernier chapitre, *Incidences didactiques et éducatives*, situe les réflexions des auteurs 'dans le cadre de la politique linguistique suisse et européenne' (p. 173).

Traiter d'un phénomène aussi complexe que le bilinguisme, et de multiples domaines de recherches sur divers aspects du bilinguisme en pleine effervescence en l'espace de 200 pages est un défi considérable. Baetens Beardsmore (1982) pouvait encore faire le tour de la discipline en 200 pages. Cette époque est révolue. La discipline, comme la rivière Colorado en Arizona, s'est creusé un canyon qu'aucun appareil de photo ne peut saisir en entier. Ainsi les auteurs désirant présenter une vue panoramique des recherches sur le bilinguisme sont forcés de faire des compromis. Hamers et Blanc (2000) ont omis la littérature sur l'acquisition, d'autres, comme Baker et Prys-Jones (1998) ont carrément fait une encyclopédie, et même ce volume de quatre kilos ne suffit pas vraiment pour

tout dire sur le bilinguisme. Chaque auteur privilégie donc inévitablement ses domaines de recherche favoris. Une façon de contourner ce problème est l'édition de volumes collectifs comme ceux de Cook (2002, 2003) ou encore de Li Wei *et al.* (2002) et Dewaele *et al.* (2003), livre auquel Lüdi a contribué un chapitre, mais la diversité des approches risque parfois de nuire à la cohérence du volume.

Il serait donc injuste de reprocher à Lüdi et Py d'avoir dit peu de choses sur le bilinguisme et l'idéologie, la féminité et le bilinguisme (Pavlenko *et al.*, 2001) ou sur le bilinguisme précoce (Cenoz et Genesee, 2001).

Cet excellent livre est à recommander à tous les étudiants et les professeurs de linguistique, ainsi qu'à tous ceux qui désirent une bonne introduction à la problématique des langues et des migrants dans un contexte francophone.

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Majumdar, Margaret A. (ed.), *Francophone Studies. The Essential Glossary*. London: Arnold, 2002, xxiii + 280 pp. 0 340 80697 4. DOI 10.1017/S0959269503281199

La préface de cet ouvrage annonce à juste titre sa fonction d'introduction pédagogique au monde et à la culture de la francophonie contemporaine, et donne à son champ d'étude une définition originale dont la souplesse n'est pas le moindre intérêt. S'éloignant de tendances à penser la francophonie soit en termes de communauté linguistique – ce qui peut dissimuler la grande diversité de ses manifestations culturelles

et langagières, soit en termes universitaires de production culturelle non-hexagonale de langue française, soit sous l'angle plus strictement institutionnel (auquel un schéma d'une page est d'ailleurs réservé en appendice), le glossaire adopte une approche plus large selon laquelle les études francophones s'intéressent aux pays marqués d'une façon ou d'une autre par l'influence française dans leur culture et leur société, à l'exception – pour raison de place tout autant, des pays francophones d'Europe. Est incluse cependant, et c'est indispensable dans ce cadre, la diaspora francophone en France.

A signaler: l'index thématique qui précède la section 'Glossary' et offre d'emblée sur cinq pages un tour d'horizon de ce vaste domaine. On y trouvera une liste de concepts généraux, puis de sujets historiques et de thèmes propres aux études francophones, suivie d'une série de régions géographiques – Maghreb et Moyen-Orient, Afrique sub-saharienne, Canada, etc., chacune envisagée sous trois rubriques: 'économie et politique', 'géographie, histoire, peuple et société' et 'langue, culture et religion'. Ainsi, pour ce qui concerne les questions linguistiques, sont annoncés des articles sur la diglossie, la langue française et la politique linguistique, repris sous une forme plus spécifique selon les régions et pays – arabisation pour le Maghreb; cajun, joyal, Charte de la langue française (uniquement répertoriée sous la forme anglaise de *Charter of the French Language* . . .) pour le Canada; créoles pour les Antilles et l'Océan indien; Beurs, verlan pour la France . . . Mais il ne faudrait pas négliger de consulter d'autres articles, qu'ils concernent l'histoire, la politique ou la culture, tant il est vrai que les questions de langue y sont indissolublement liées. Ainsi dans l'article 'Cultural identity' il est par exemple fait mention du concept d'*oraliture* en Haïti, issu du débat autour des valeurs culturelles de la négritude. De même les entrées sur les écrivains, chanteurs et comédiens, souvent associés à une dimension spécifiquement linguistique – Michel Tremblay et Jacques Renaud pour l'emploi du joyal en littérature, par exemple, ou encore MC Solaar pour le rap français. Ou bien encore, plusieurs institutions francophones et sigles peu évocateurs au premier abord, mais qui renvoient d'une manière ou d'une autre à une question linguistique. Ainsi le CODOFIL (Conseil pour le développement du français en Louisiane), la FIPF (Fédération internationale des professeurs de français), et d'autres encore.

Un riche éventail de cinquante-cinq collaborateurs reflète les dimensions multi-nationales et interdisciplinaires de l'entreprise autant que du champ d'étude. Chaque contribution apporte son ton propre, ajoutant ainsi une heureuse note pluriculturelle, ceci grâce également aux références bibliographiques suggérées à la fin de nombreux articles pour approfondir le sujet, et rassemblées en fin d'ouvrage.

Certains articles font une large place à un aspect particulier d'un phénomène. C'est le cas de 'Diglossia', envisagée essentiellement sous l'angle de l'arabe (dont on nous rappelle qu'il fut à l'origine de la création de ce terme en linguistique). L'auteur y conteste, comme beaucoup aujourd'hui, la distinction de C. F. Ferguson (1959: 'Diglossia', *Word*, 15, pp. 325–40) entre langue haute et langue basse. Les auteurs des articles sur les créoles n'emploient d'ailleurs pas ce terme ici.

Le découpage par pays met en relief les contrastes liés aux différentes situations historiques, socioculturelles et politiques de chaque région: bilinguisme officiel au Nouveau-Brunswick contre résistance du français en Ontario, rapports créole-français dans les îles de l'Océan Indien ou aux Antilles-Guyane, la politique d'arabisation en Algérie et la production littéraire berbère . . . A noter également plusieurs articles – comme on l'a déjà évoqué plus haut, tels que 'Anticolonialism', 'Cultural identity', 'Orality in Morocco' . . . abordant plus en profondeur des concepts et phénomènes

intimement liés aux questions de langue et créant tout un réseau de renvois à d'autres articles du glossaire. Pour reprendre l'image de la feuille de route introduite dans la préface du livre, les auteurs ont ainsi accompli à la fois une entreprise cartographique et un aménagement de voies de communication pour ce terrain pluridisciplinaire relativement jeune encore.

Un ouvrage ambitieux, novateur et utile, à consulter souvent, et à commander pour la bibliothèque universitaire.

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Morton, Jacqueline, *English Grammar for Students of French*. London: Arnold, 2002, v + 194 pp. 0 3408 0913 2. (Fifth edition. Originally published in the United States of America by The Olivia and Hill Press.) DOI 10.1017/S0959269503291195

I reviewed the fourth edition of this book (the first to be aimed at the English market) in *JFLS* 10 (2000) pp. 328–30. For readers unfamiliar with this series of guides, which now exist for Spanish, German, Italian, Russian and Latin, they aim to introduce and exemplify traditional grammatical notions first in English and then, contrastively, in the target language. They are thus useful for students who have difficulty in grasping basic metalinguistic terms, from *noun* and *verb* to *object pronouns* and *possessive adjectives*; they also highlight the pitfalls students might stray into if they assume equivalence between English and target language structure. They do not, however, aim to provide comprehensive coverage of how such grammatical structures function in the target language: instead, users are encouraged to consult their 'French textbook' for further information. The new edition has some changes in presentation, a few minor additional points (see below) and a new section entitled *Study Tips* at the end of many of the chapters. However, the text is much the same as the earlier edition and it therefore has the same strengths and weaknesses.

The explanations are clear and well illustrated through short examples in English and French. There is a strong North American flavour to the English examples with references to *dollars* and *The President of the United States*. One of the few additions to the text draws attention to the frequent use in colloquial English of adjectives instead of adverbs, illustrated by the phrase *He speaks real slow*. This particular feature strikes me as far more prevalent in US English and unlikely to cause problems for UK students (even if it was an English football manager who uttered the immortal line, *The boy done good!*). Meanwhile, the linguistic style of the examples in both French and English is the sometimes stilted 'grammar-speak' of traditional grammar texts: for example, *Qu'est-ce que l'étudiante lave?* (p. 155) struck me as particularly awkward. In fact, one of the limitations of the book may be that grammar comes across as very much about formal learning and very little about real language usage.

This is evident in the *Study Tips* sections which are mainly based around the idea of 'flashcards' (what I would call 'index cards') on which students are advised to note key

structures and their various forms in French on one side, and their English equivalents on the other. These cards can then serve for revision and new examples of the structure can be noted. This strikes me as good basic advice, but, like much advice of this type, it is unlikely to be followed by students because of the tedious nature of the work involved. It is a pity that the *Study Tips* nowhere suggest any interaction with authentic text, for example, looking out for particular structures in newspaper articles or other authentic documents, or even better, in parallel texts in French and English, which are now readily available on the Internet.

Nevertheless, some good tips are offered. This is the first time I have seen recommended the strategy of scanning verb conjugation tables for similarities in patterning (p. 43) rather than blindly memorising by rote. Students are often intimidated by the idea of 'irregularities' in morphology when often the supposed irregularities themselves follow a pattern. But sadly, some opportunities to highlight such patterns are missed in the text itself, e.g. there is no mention (p. 61) that even the majority of irregular past participle forms end in *-é*, *-i* (or the slight variations *-it* and *-is*) and *-u*, or (p. 11) that noun endings can help identify gender.

There are further occasional infelicities such as the statement (p. 108) that the adverb *slowly* in the sentence 'He speaks really slowly' modifies *really*, rather than the other way around, but all in all, these do not detract from the usefulness of the book for the specific purpose it sets itself. Swan (1994: 48) proposes that an effective pedagogic grammar answers the questions the student is likely to ask. Jacqueline Morton's guide certainly does this. I suspect I am not alone in facing blank looks when I refer to subjects and objects, adjectives and adverbs, auxiliaries and main verbs. As I noted in my earlier review, knowledge of grammatical concepts may not correlate with linguistic proficiency, but such concepts provide vital tools to support the skills of translation and text revision and are thus important to those who choose to pursue the high level study of languages. As a support to language study, this guide certainly has its place.

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Pöckl, W., Rainer, F. and Pöll, B. *Einführung in die romanische Sprachwissenschaft* (3rd edition) (Romanistische Arbeitshefte 33). Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag, 2003, 197 pp. 3 484 54033 8. DOI 10.1017/S095926950330119X

This book consists of thirteen chapters, or lessons. Each deals with a different linguistic topic, and 11 lessons end with a linguistic 'sketch', giving for each language a brief

external history, a discussion of key issues, a translation and phonetic transcription of a biblical extract (fittingly, the Tower of Babel story), followed by exercises. Preceding the linguistic sketch, the general pattern is a preliminary section dealing with practical matters, and a second section focusing on a linguistic topic, with recommended reading and exercises following each section. The first two chapters differ from the pattern: their first sections provide an introduction and background to Romance linguistics, and their final sections set out the development of the Romance languages from Latin.

This organisation makes for a coherent programme of study, allowing a parallel development of study skills, linguistic knowledge, and knowledge about individual languages. Those covered include Latin, lesser-used languages such as Sardinian and Rhaeto-Roman, and a creole (Papiamentu). An audio-cassette of the language samples is available from the authors. Given the organisation into sections, in what follows I will focus on the main points of note in the practical sections, then the linguistic topic sections, and finally, two of the language sketches of particular interest to readers of this journal. We should note that in all three cases, the sections are relatively short: usually between two and five pages long. Students will need more detail from lectures, background reading, and practical experience via the suggested exercises. The practical sections are a refreshing feature of the book, covering aspects rarely seen in linguistics textbooks. These include a discussion of types of academic publications, appropriate bibliographical conventions, tips on Internet publications and on carrying out a literature survey (including Internet searches and electronic catalogues). There are also sections on note-taking and essay writing, citation and plagiarism. The focus then becomes more subject-specific with a discussion of linguistic terminology and linguistic dictionaries, theories and hypotheses, using monolingual and bilingual dictionaries, grammar books, and finally linguistic corpora, including concordancing and techniques of discourse analysis. Where appropriate, web addresses are provided.

The linguistic topics covered are standard, and at a fairly basic level. The explanations would need filling out by the lecturer: what follows are a selection of features covered in the sections. In phonetics, we find a contrastive analysis between German and Romanian; etymology includes a range of recommended dictionaries; dialectology discusses the interpretation of dialect maps; semiotics gives examples of Latin American non-verbal communication, and the European distribution of the 'chin flick'. Phonology refers to Optimality theory; orthography focuses on the relationship between sounds and writing; morphology includes inflectional categories such as tense and aspect; syntax covers dependency grammar, valency and word order. Semantics includes a look at idioms and lexicalisation; pragmatics considers conversational maxims; text linguistics includes stylistics and conversation analysis; finally second language acquisition looks at universal grammar, transfer and fossilisation.

With respect to the linguistic sketches, for French we are given an overview of the rise of the *francien* dialect, a discussion of linguistic norms, purity and planning, and a consideration of French as a world language. The Occitan sketch focuses very much on the question of diglossia, which is the reality for most Occitan speakers today.

To sum up, if I were teaching first year Romance linguistics to German-speaking students, I would certainly use this textbook. In the meantime, and in an English-speaking environment, this volume is a useful source book with language samples and exercises which could easily be adapted. My one reservation is that many of the exercises

refer to specific reference books, so alternatives would have to be found should these not be readily available.

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Price, Glanville, *A Comprehensive French Grammar*, Fifth edition. Oxford: Blackwell, 2003, xix + 584 pp. 0 631 23563 9. DOI 10.1017/S0959269503311196

Glanville Price revised L. S. R. Byrne and E. L. Churchill's *Comprehensive French Grammar* so extensively in the third and fourth editions (1986 and 1993 respectively), that hardly anything of the original text remained. Yet, though he was credited as sole author of the fourth edition, the cumbersome title, *L. S. R. Byrne and E. L. Churchill's A Comprehensive Grammar*, perpetuated the notion that the work was derivative, rather than original. At last, the names of Byrne and Churchill have been removed, not so much because this fifth edition represents a further extensive revision, but rather because more than half a century has now passed since the first publication of their work in 1950, and it no longer seems necessary to preserve the link with earlier editions.

In fact, very little is changed in the fifth edition. The paragraph numbering and pagination of the fourth edition have been retained unaltered, thus enabling teachers and their classes to use copies of both in parallel without problem, and also giving extended life to the companion *A French Grammar Workbook* (Engel, Evans and Howells, 1998). What is new, up-to-date, and very useful, is a selective bibliography (xiii–xv) of grammars, dictionaries and general books, all dated 1993 or later, which are likely to be of interest to advanced students of French.

Otherwise, the modifications are restricted to points of detail. The fourth edition had already given separate treatment, where appropriate, to the grammar of spoken French and that of the written language. In this new edition there are additional remarks, supported by references to Ball (2000), about the idiosyncrasies of colloquial French. Thus, for example, brief mention is made of: *ça* in place of *il/elle* (§ 242); *que* in place of other relatives such as *dont*, *à qui* (§ 264); *que* in place of other conjunctions (§ 703); non-standard conjunctions such as *à cause que*, *même que* (§ 695); non-standard constructions with *de*, e.g. *j'ai ma mère de malade* (§ 667); failure to observe participial agreement (§ 460). Somewhat surprisingly, there is still no reflection of the debate over the feminisation of the names of the professions, or any amplification of the section on usage of *tu/vous* (§ 196). Yet, regrettable though these omissions might be, it has to be recognised that any further additions would inevitably have made it impossible to retain the same pagination as in the previous edition. The very few questionable usages in the examples, to which Hare (1994: 264) drew attention, have all, except *bancal* (p. 99), been corrected here. So too have the two misprints, though a new misprint has appeared, most unfortunately, in the first line of the new Preface (xi): aad for and.

In conclusion, this grammar is to be admired not only for its completeness, reliability and clarity, but also for the usefulness of its ancillary material – the list of technical



terms and abbreviations, the introduction which covers, *inter alia*, punctuation, syllable division, accents and elision, the appendix with a particularly useful section on time (§§ 706–11) which brings together material more usually found dispersed in a unhelpful way in different sections, and last, but not least, the excellent index.

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Treffers-Daller, Jeanine and Willemyns, Ronald (eds.), *Language Contact at the Romance-Germanic Language Border*. Clevedon/Buffalo/Toronto/Sydney: Multilingual Matters, 2002, 149 pp. 1 85359 627 2. (Also available as Volume 23, Nos 1&2 of the *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*.) DOI 10.1017/S0959269503321192

This volume traces the Romance-Germanic border in Europe from French Flanders to South Tyrol. It brings together for the first time articles by some of the leading researchers on each of the different sections of that border. Authors were given a general brief, but there was no attempt at standardisation, and the approach is hence not uniform, ranging from surveys which might well figure on undergraduate reading lists to more theoretical discussion of the notion of linguistic border research. All the articles give a summary of the current state of work on the relevant sector, suggestions for further research, and an extensive bibliography.

After a general introduction by the editors, Luc van Durme outlines European language border research of the last century or so, traces the evolution of the Romance-Germanic border in Europe back to Roman-Germanic (rather than a Celtic-Germanic) language contact, and suggests that the 'microtoponymical' method used in his own work may offer a way forward in future investigations. Hugo Ryckeboer discusses 'Dutch/Flemish in the North of France', noting the gradual decline of Dutch and the internal effects of its isolation from developments in Belgium and the Netherlands. It seems that its almost inevitable death is likely to lead to the coincidence of the political and linguistic borders.

The linguistic situation in Belgium is the subject of three studies. In 'The Dutch-French Language Border in Belgium', Roland Willemyns gives a very clear general exposition of the 'language question' and the status of shifting language borders, including a useful typology of language border change. Jeanine Treffers-Daller's more

specific discussion of 'Language Use and Language Contact in Brussels' elaborates points made in the previous article in relation to the bilingual capital, and looks particularly at educational issues and at the language varieties used. Peter Nelde and Jeroen Darqueness's 'German in Belgium: Linguistic Variation from a Contact Linguistic Point of View' considers external and internal factors affecting German in Belgium, which is examined in comparison with the standard on the other side of the political frontier, giving rise to the curious notion of 'mistakes', to be found in Belgian German newspapers for example.

Fernand Fehlen gives a comprehensive overview of the evolving situation in Luxembourg, where trilingualism appears to be on the increase, Lëtzebuergesch is gaining in status while French is both holding its own as the prestige language and increasingly used in the world of work, cross-border media bolster knowledge of German, and English is making inroads.

Helga Bister-Broosen's account of the relationship between French, German and Alsatian in Alsace since 1648 shows a steady decline in the active use of Alsatian in recent years, to the point where linguistic and national borders will coincide before too long. It is standard German, rather than the Alemannic dialect, which currently appears to be reaping the benefits of the *enseignement bilingue paritaire* in many elementary schools.

Felicity Rash describes the relatively stable borders between (Swiss) German on the one hand, French, Italian and Romansh on the other. Whereas she qualifies the situation as one of 'passive coexistence', she also investigates mutual linguistic influences. The volume closes with Ludwig Eichinger's study of the growing bilingualism in South Tyrol, after periods of linguistic segregation and clashes.

In several of the articles, the border is viewed mainly from a Germanic perspective: for example there is no mention of the existence of a Romance dialect in Alsace, little is said about the fate and form of Italian in South Tyrol, and the bibliographies do not always take account of work done on the Romance side. The collection should nevertheless be of interest to readers of *JFLS*, not only because in most of the cases discussed, French is the Romance language in question, but, more importantly, because of the theoretical issues raised (language planning, bi- (or multi-) as against monolingualism, contact phenomena, and the relationship between standard and dialect in border areas) and the diversity of models of linguistic borders (geographical, social, political etc.) illustrated.

The book is materially well produced but would have benefited from more rigorous proofreading and copyediting. While the occasional typo is merely an irritant, lapses of grammar, vocabulary and style (all the articles are written in English although only one of the authors appears to be a native speaker) not only make it laborious to read but sometimes actually obscure the intended meaning. These shortcomings apart, the collection should prove a good starting point for linguistic border research in Europe and elsewhere.

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