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Sinopsis

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This anthology brings together fresh corpus-based research by international scholars. It contrasts southern and northern hemisphere usage on variable elements of morphology and syntax. The nineteen invited papers include topics such as irregular verb parts, pronouns, modal and quasimodal verbs, the perfect tense, the progressive aspect, and mandative subjunctives. Lexicogrammatical elements are discussed: light verbs (e.g. have a look), informal quantifiers (e.g. heaps of), no-collocations, concord with government and other group nouns, alternative verb complementation (as with help, prevent), zero complementizers and connective adverbs (e.g. however). Selected information-structuring devices are analyzed, e.g. there is/are, like as a discourse marker, final but as a turn-taking device, and swearwords. Australian and New Zealand use of hypocoristics and changes in gendered expressions are also analyzed. The two varieties pattern together in some cases, in others they diverge: Australian English is usually more committed to colloquial variants in speech and writing. The book demonstrates linguistic endonormativity in these two southern hemisphere Englishes.

Table of contents

List of abbreviations vii

List of contributors ix-x

Prologue

Peter Collins 1-10

Section I. Morphology

Irregular verbs: Regularization and ongoing variability

Pam Peters 13-30

Pronoun forms

Heidi Quinn 31-48

Hypocoristics in New Zealand and Australian English

Dianne Bardsley and Jane Simpson 49-70

Section II. Verbs and verb phrases

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Bonilla y Asociados
desde 1950



Modals and quasi-modals

Peter Collins 73-88

The perfect and the preterite in Australian and New Zealand English

Johan Elsness 89-114

The progressive

Peter Collins 115-124

The mandative subjunctive in spoken English

Pam Peters 125-138

Light verbs in Australian, New Zealand and British English

Adam Smith 139-154

Section III. Nouns and noun phrases

Non-numerical quantifiers

Adam Smith 159-180

From chairman to chairwoman to chairperson: Exploring the move from sexist usages to gender neutrality

Janet Holmes, Robert J. Sigley and Agnes Terraschke 181-202

Section IV. Clauses and sentences 203-290

Concord with collective nouns in Australian and New Zealand English

Marianne Hundt 205-222

No in the lexicogrammar of English

Pam Peters and Yasmin Funk 223-240

Zero complementizer, syntactic context, and regional variety

Kate Kearns 241-260

Infinitival and gerundial complements

Christian Mair 261-274

Commas and connective adverbs

Peter G. Peterson 275-290

Section V. Discourse 291-398

Information-packaging constructions

Peter Collins 293-314

Like and other discourse markers

Jim Miller 315-336

Final but in Australian English conversation

Jean Mulder, Sandra A. Thompson and Cara Penry Williams 337-358

Swearing

Keith Allan and Kate Burridge 359-384

Epilogue

Librería
Bonilla y Asociados
desde 1950



Pam Peters 385-398

Index