Historical Linguistics

**Introduction to Historical Linguistics**

By Lyle Campbell

This accessible, hands-on introduction to the important subfield of historical linguistics is unique in its hands-on approach to the study of language change. The book surveys the field chronologically, starting in the late 19th century and following historical linguistics into the 21st century. The focus is on the major conceptual and methodological ideas of this field, and on the methods and tools used by historical linguists. The author presents his ideas in the context of concrete examples from various languages and specific cases. The book is designed to be accessible to students with little or no background in linguistics, and it includes exercises and problems that are designed to help students apply the methods and ideas presented in the book to real-world data.

The book is divided into five parts:

1. **Language Change**
   - Introduces the basic concepts of historical linguistics and explains how languages change over time.
   - Discusses the role of time in language change and the different types of changes that languages undergo (e.g., sound changes, lexical changes).
   - Reviews the different approaches to the study of language change.

2. **Comparative Methodology**
   - Introduces the comparative method used in historical linguistics to study language change.
   - Discusses the use of comparative method in the study of language change across different languages.
   - Provides examples of how the comparative method is used in the study of language change.

3. **Historical Syntax**
   - Explores the development of historical syntax in various languages.
   - Reviews the different approaches to the study of historical syntax.
   - Provides examples of how historical syntax can be used to study language change.

4. **Historical Phonology**
   - Introduces the historical phonology and the study of sound changes in languages.
   - Discusses the different approaches to the study of historical phonology.
   - Provides examples of how historical phonology is used to study language change.

5. **Conclusion**
   - Summarizes the main points of the book and provides a brief discussion of the future of historical linguistics.
   - Reviews the different approaches to the study of language change.
   - Provides examples of how historical linguistics can be used to study language change.

The book is designed to be accessible to students with little or no background in linguistics, and it includes exercises and problems that are designed to help students apply the methods and ideas presented in the book to real-world data. The book is also useful for anyone interested in the study of language change and its application to the understanding of human history and culture.
more generally, of the concept of analogy and its role in language and in human cognition.

Australian Languages: Claire Bowern 2004 This book addresses controversial issues in the application of the comparative method to the languages of Australia which have recently come to international prominence. Are these languages 'different' in ways that challenge the fundamental assumptions of historical linguistics? Can subgrouping be successfully undertaken using the Comparative Method? Is the genetic construct of a far-flying ‘Pama-Nyungan’ language family supportable by classic methods of reconstruction? This book makes a major contribution to the demonstration that traditional methods can indeed be applied to these languages.

These studies, introduced by chapters on subgrouping methodology and the history of Australian linguistic classification, rigorously apply the comparative method to establishing subgroups among Australian languages and justifying the phonology of Proto-Pama-Nyungan. Individual chapters can profitably be read either for their contributions to Australian linguistic prehistory or as case studies in the application of the comparative method. Contributions by: B. Alpher; B. Baker; C. Bowern; C. Bowern & H. Koch; G. Breen; L. Campbell; I. Green & R. Nordlinger; L. Hercus & P. Austin; H. Koch; P. McConvell & M. Laughren; L. Miceli; G. O'Grady & K. L. Hale; J. Simpson & L. Hercus....

A Historical Greek Reader (Stephen Colvin 2007) Designed to be used as a textbook in university courses (either upper level undergraduate or postgraduate). A Historical Greek Reader will also serve as a reference text for researches in the history of the ancient Greek language, and to Indo-European and historical linguistics in general.