## **CONTENTS**

	List of maps	ix
	Preface	x
	Abbreviations used in glosses	xii
1	Introduction	1
1.1	Papuan languages: what are they?	1
1.2	New Guinea: the land, its people and its history	3
1.3	The nature of Papuan languages	8
1.4	Sketch history of research in Papuan languages	12
2	Language in its social context	15
2.1	The nature of traditional New Guinea society	15
2.2	Languages and social groupings	22
2.3	Multilingualism in vernacular languages	29
2.4	Indigenous lingue franche	30
2.5	Intrusive lingue franche: Tok Pisin, English, Malay	36
2.6	Specialized speech styles	42
3	Phonology	48
3.1	Vocalic systems	48
3.2	Consonantal systems	55
3.3	Suprasegmentals	63
4	Nominals	65
4.1	Nominals: nouns versus pronouns	65
4.2	Pronominal systems	66
4.3	Demonstratives	75
4.4	Gender and nominal classification systems	77
4.5	Case systems	92

	Contents	viii
5	Verbs	111
5.1	Properties of verbs	111
5.2	Verbal semantics in Papuan languages	113
5.3	Verb-stems and person/number marking	128
5.4	Inner operators: aspect, directionals, modality	142
5.5	Outer operators: tense, status, illocutionary force, evidentials	158
6	Syntax	167
6.1	The role of syntax	167
6.2	Clause structure	168
6.3	Clause chaining	175
6.4	Subordination	198
7	Problems of comparative linguistics in Papuan languages	206
7.1	The comparative method and Papuan languages	206
7.2	The Lower Sepik family: a comparative study	214
7.3	Survey of major Papuan language families	229
7.4	An exploration of deeper genetic relationships	245
7.5	Areal features and diffusion	263
8	Papuan languages and New Guinea prehistory	269
8.1	Introduction	269
8.2	Is there a link between Australian and Papuan languages?	269
8.3	Papuan languages and New Guinea prehistory	275
8.4	Papuan and Austronesian contact	281
	References	284
	Language Index	295
	Subject Index	303

## MAPS

- 1 Locations of major languages discussed in text
- 2 Location of Papuan languages in the Pacific
- 3 Physical map of New Guinea
- 4 Political map of New Guinea
- 5 Locations of languages of the Lower Sepik family
- 6 Locations of major Papuan language families