

Contents

<i>List of Tables</i>	ix
<i>List of Figures and Maps</i>	xii
<i>Preface</i>	xiii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xvii
<i>Phonetic Symbols and Conventions</i>	xix
<i>Phonetic Symbols Chart</i>	xxi
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 What is Historical Linguistics About?	4
1.3 Kinds of Linguistic Changes: An English Example	6
1.4 Exercises	10
2 Sound Change	16
2.1 Introduction	16
2.2 Kinds of Sound Change	17
2.3 Non-phonemic (Allophonic) Changes	19
2.4 Phonemic Changes	20
2.5 Sporadic Changes	27
2.6 General Kinds of Sound Changes	27
2.7 Kinds of Common Sound Changes	33
2.8 Relative Chronology	46
2.9 Chain Shifts	47
2.10 Exercises	52
3 Borrowing	62
3.1 Introduction	62
3.2 What is a Loanword?	63
3.3 Why do Languages Borrow from One Another?	64
3.4 How do Words get Borrowed?	65

Contents

3.5	How do we Identify Loanwords and Determine the Direction of Borrowing?	69
3.6	Loans as Clues to Linguistic Changes in the Past	74
3.7	What Can Be Borrowed?	77
3.8	Cultural Inferences	82
3.9	Exercises	84
4	Analogical Change	103
4.1	Introduction	103
4.2	Proportional Analogy	104
4.3	Analogical Levelling	106
4.4	Analogical Extension	108
4.5	The Relationship between Analogy and Sound Change	109
4.6	Analogical Models	111
4.7	Other Kinds of Analogy	113
4.8	Exercises	120
5	The Comparative Method and Linguistic Reconstruction	122
5.1	Introduction	122
5.2	The Comparative Method Up Close and Personal	125
5.3	A Case Study	147
5.4	Indo-European and the Regularity of Sound Change	155
5.5	Basic Assumptions of the Comparative Method	164
5.6	How Realistic are Reconstructed Proto-languages?	166
5.7	Exercises	167
6	Linguistic Classification	184
6.1	Introduction	184
6.2	The World's Language Families	184
6.3	Terminology	186
6.4	How to Draw Family Trees: Subgrouping	188
6.5	Glottochronology (Lexicostatistics)	200
6.6	Exercises	210
7	Models of Linguistic Change	211
7.1	Introduction	211
7.2	The Family-tree Model	211
7.3	The Challenge from Dialectology and the 'Wave Theory'	212
7.4	Dialectology (Linguistic Geography, Dialect Geography)	215

Contents

7.5	A Framework for Investigating the Causes of Linguistic Change	218
7.6	Sociolinguistics and Language Change	219
7.7	The Issue of Lexical Diffusion	222
8	Internal Reconstruction	225
8.1	Introduction	225
8.2	Internal Reconstruction Illustrated	225
8.3	Relative Chronology	229
8.4	The Limitations of Internal Reconstruction	238
8.5	Internal Reconstruction and the Comparative Method	240
8.6	Exercises	242
9	Semantic Change and Lexical Change	252
9.1	Introduction	252
9.2	Traditional Considerations	254
9.3	Attempts to Explain Semantic Change	266
9.4	Other Kinds of Lexical Change – New Words	272
9.5	Exercises	280
10	Syntactic Change	283
10.1	Introduction	283
10.2	Mechanisms of Syntactic Change	283
10.3	Generative Approaches	289
10.4	Grammaticalization	292
10.5	Syntactic Reconstruction	297
10.6	Exercises	306
11	Explaining Linguistic Change	312
11.1	Introduction	312
11.2	Early Theories	313
11.3	Internal and External Causes	316
11.4	Interaction of Causal Factors	317
11.5	Explanation and Prediction	326
12	Areal Linguistics	330
12.1	Introduction	330
12.2	Defining the Concept	330
12.3	Examples of Linguistic Areas	331
12.4	How to Determine Linguistic Areas	338
12.5	Implications of Areal Linguistics for Linguistic Reconstruction and Subgrouping	340

12.6	Areal Linguistics and Proposals of Distant Genetic Relationship	342
13	Distant Genetic Relationship	344
13.1	Introduction	344
13.2	Lexical Comparison	347
13.3	Sound Correspondences	348
13.4	<i>Grammatical Evidence</i>	350
13.5	Borrowing	352
13.6	Semantic Constraints	353
13.7	Onomatopoeia	353
13.8	Nursery Forms	354
13.9	Short Forms and Unmatched Segments	355
13.10	Chance Similarities	355
13.11	Sound–Meaning Isomorphism	356
13.12	Only Linguistic Evidence	356
13.13	Erroneous Morphological Analysis	357
13.14	Non-cognates	357
13.15	Spurious Forms	359
13.16	Methodological Wrap-up	359
14	Philology: The Role of Written Records	361
14.1	Introduction	361
14.2	Philology	361
14.3	Examples of What Philology Can Contribute	362
14.4	The Role of Writing	367
14.5	Getting Historical Linguistic Information for Written Sources	369
14.6	Exercises	373
15	Linguistic Prehistory	378
15.1	Introduction	378
15.2	Indo-European Linguistic Prehistory	379
15.3	The Methods of Linguistic Prehistory	393
15.4	Limitations and Cautions	418
	<i>Bibliography</i>	421
	<i>Language Index</i>	436
	<i>Name Index</i>	442
	<i>Subject Index</i>	444