

Contents

Preface	VII
Acknowledgements	XI
Abbreviations and symbols	XII
Section 1. The Present	
1 What is Dutch	3
2 Dialects and Standard Dutch	9
3 The linguistic situation in Belgium	20
4 Spelling	36
5 The sounds of Dutch (phonology)	45
6 The grammar of Dutch (morphology)	58
7 Word order	70
8 Vocabulary and word formation	74
Section 2. The Past	
<i>A. External history of the language</i>	
9 The effect of the Great Migrations on the Netherlands	85
10 Sources of written Dutch prior to 1100	91
11 The Middle Dutch period: 1100-1500	93
12 The sixteenth century	99
13 The seventeenth century	106
14 The eighteenth century	112
15 The nineteenth century	114
<i>B. Historical grammar</i>	
16 Dutch as a Germanic language	119
1. The First German Sound Shift or Grimm's Law	121
2. The Second or High German Sound Shift	123
3. The importance of Gothic to the study of Germanic languages	124
4. Periodisation of Dutch	126
5. Ingwaeonisms	128
17 Historical phonology	130
1. Short vowels	133
2. Long vowels	136

3. Diphthongs	142
4. Double vowels	148
5. Consonants	150
18 Historical morphology	161
Glossary	185
Bibliography	188
Index	193
List of maps, charts and illustrations	200