

Contents

PAGE

PART ONE: LANGUAGE IN GENERAL

1	Signals in the Dark	13
2	The Instruments of Speech	29
3	Bangs, Hisses, and Buzzes	37
4	Flutes and Lutes	50
5	Sounds in Action	63
6	Sounds in Space	70
7	Adventures of an Alphabet	86
8	Words	98
9	Sentences	110
10	The Science of Linguistics	123

PART TWO: LANGUAGES IN PARTICULAR

1	Learning Foreign Languages	135
2	Language Families	148
3	The Tongue of the British	157
4	Learning Teutonic Languages	162
5	Daughters of Latin	169
6	Piercing the Iron Curtain	177
7	Malay	182
8	The Breaking of Babel	189
9	The Future of English	194

Bibliography	199
Appendix One - The International Phonetic Alphabet - 'Narrow' and 'Broad' Forms	201
Appendix Two - How English Has Changed	202
Index	203