

Contents

List of Illustrations vi

Preface, or What This Book Is and Who It's for x

1 Textualization of Language: Writing 1

First Interlude: How Writing Doesn't Affect Language 27

2 Mechanization of Language: The Printing Press and the Typewriter 31

3 Abstraction of Language: The Telegraph and Telephone 71

4 Digitization of Language: The Computer 119

Second Interlude: Comparing Linguists' and Nonlinguists' Takes on CMC's Effect on Language 167

5 Mobilization of Language: The Cell Phone 175

6 Regeneration of Language: The Cochlear Implant 207

Conclusions, or: What We've Learned through Exploring the Relationship between Language and Technology 245

Notes 251

Bibliography 279

Index 289