Contents

	Fore	word	ix
1	Introduction		1
	1.1	Progress or Degeneration?	3
	1.2	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	8
	1.3	Lack of Change and Historical Explanation	12
	1.4		17
2	The Nineteenth: Century of History		21
	2.1	Historical Relationships	21
	2.2		29
	2.3	Historical Explanations	34
	2.4	Determinist Views of History	41
3	Grammars and Language Acquisition		
	3.1	We Know More than we Learn	49
	3.2	The Nature of Grammars	53
	3.3	The Acquisition Problem: The Poverty of the Stimulus	60
	3.4	The Analytical Triplet	66
	3.5	Real-Time Acquisition of Grammars	68
4	Gradualism and Catastrophes		77
	4.1	Grammars and Change	77
	4.2	Social Grammars	79
	4.3	Gradualism, Imagined and Real	82
	4.4	Catastrophes	87
	4.5	Competing Grammars	92
	4.6	The Spread of New Grammars	101
	4.7	Parametric Change	105

vi Contents

5	The Loss of Case and its Syntactic Effects		111
	5.1	Case	112
	5.2	Middle English Split Genitives	117
	5.3		125
	5.4	The Loss and Origin of Case Systems	136
6	Cue-Based Acquisition and Change in Grammars		
	6.1	Models of Learnability	144
	6.2	Cue-Based Acquisition and Loss of Verb-Second	151
	6.3	V-to-I Raising and its Cue	158
	6.4	Creolization and Signed Languages	167
7	Equilibrium and Small Punctuations		178
	7.1	Equilibrium	178
	7.2	English Auxiliary Verbs in the Eighteenth Century	180
	7.3	French chez	197
8	Historicism: The Use and Abuse of Clio		206
	8.1	Principles of History	206
	8.2	Clio Working through Biology	212
	8.3	Diachronic Reanalyses	215
	8.4	Trajectories	220
9	The Evolution of the Language Faculty		227
	9.1	Bumpiness	228
	9.2	Explaining Evolution	232
	9.3	A UG Condition on Movement Traces	239
	9.4	The Condition is Maladaptive	243
	9.5	Conclusion	249
0	A Science of History		253
	10.1	Classical and Chaotic Views of Science	253
	10.2	History as an Epiphenomenon	261
	References		269
	Index		202