Contents

ix

To the reader

To the teacher					
Acknowledgements Abbreviations					
				1	The fact of language change
	1.1 Boris Becker's observation				
	1.2 English then and now	2			
	1.3 Attitudes to language change	-			
	1.4 The inevitability of change	12			
	Further reading	13			
	Exercises	14			
h.	Lexical and semantic change	17			
	2.1 Borrowing	17			
	2.2 Phonological treatment of loans	24			
	2.3 Morphological treatment of loans	27			
	2.4 Formation of new words	30			
	2.5 Change in word-meaning	37			
	Further reading	47			
	Exercises	47			
3	Phonological change I: Change in pronunciation	52			
	3.1 The phonetic basis of phonological change	52			
	3.2 Assimilation and dissimilation	53			
	3.3 Lenition and fortition	55			
	3.4 Addition and removal of phonetic features	60			
	3.5 Vowels and syllable structure	63			
	3.6 Whole-segment processes	66			

	3.7 The regularity	y issue: a first look	69
	3.8 Summary Further reading		70
	Exercises	ig	70
	<u> </u>		71
4	4 Phonological ch	ange II: Change in phonological systems	76
	4.1 Conditioning	and rephonologization	76
	4.2 Phonological	space	82
	4.3 Chain shifts	-1	85
	4.5 Summary	change as rule change	90
	Further reading	α.	95
	Exercises	g	96
	Exercises		96
5	5 Morphological of	hange	102
	5.1 Reanalysis		102
	5.2 Analogy and l	evelling	105
	5.3 Universal prin	ciples of analogy	112
	5.4 Morphologizat	ion	115
	5.5 Morphologizat	ion of phonological rules	118
	5.6 Change in more Further reading	phological type	125
	Exercises	5	128
	LACICISCS		129
6	Syntactic change	2	133
	6.1 Reanalysis of	surface structure	133
	6.2 Shift of marke	dness	139
	6.3 Grammaticaliz		143
	6.4 Typological ha	rmony	147
	6.5 Case study: the	rise of ergativity	151
	Further reading	ge as restructuring of grammars	156
	Exercises	; · ·	158
	DACICISCS		159
7	Relatedness betw	een languages	1.75
	7.1 The origin of d	ialects	165
	7.2 Dialect geograp	phy	165 170
	7.3 Genetic relation	nships	176
	7.4 Tree model and	wave model	181
	7.5 The language fa	amilies of the world	187
	Further reading		194
	Exercises		194
8	The comparative	mathad	
	8.1 Systematic corr	esondences	202
	8.2 Comparative re	Construction	202
	•		208

8.3	Pitfalls and limitations	216
8.4	The Neogrammarian Hypothesis	224
	Semantic reconstruction	228
8.6	The use of typology and universals	231
	Reconstructing grammar	236
	The reality of proto-languages	239
	Further reading	240
	Exercises	241
9 Inte	rnal reconstruction	248
9.1	A first look at the internal method	248
9.2	Alternations and internal reconstruction	253
9.3	Case study: the laryngeal theory of PIE	256
9.4	Internal reconstruction of grammar and lexicon	260
	Further reading	262
	Exercises	262
10 The	origin and propagation of change	267
10.1	The Saussurean paradox	267
10.2	Variation and social stratification	268
10.3	Variation as the vehicle of change	276
10.4	Lexical diffusion	285
10.5	Near-mergers	290
10.6	A closing note	294
	Further reading	296
	Exercises	297
11 Con	tact and the birth and death of languages	308
11.1	Language contact	308
11.2	Linguistic areas	315
11.3	Language birth: pidgins and creoles	317
11.4	Language death	323
11.5	Language planning	330
	Further reading	337
	Exercises	338
12 Lang	guage and prehistory	345
12.1	Etymology	345
12.2	Place names	350
12.3	Linguistic palaeontology	354
12.4	Links with archaeology	356
	Statistical methods	361
	Further reading	370
	Exercises	370

COLLECTION

13 Very remote relations	376	
13.1 The mainstream view	376	
13.2 A brief history of remote proposals	377	
13.3 The Nostratic hypothesis	381	
13.4 Greenberg's multilateral comparisons	384	
13.5 Towards an evaluation of the macro-families	390	
13.6 Towards Proto-World?	391	
13.7 The early spread of people and languages	396	
13.8 Worldwide loan words?	402	
Further reading	403	
Exercises	404	
Appendix: The Swadesh 200-word list		
References		
Index	423	