

CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Foreword | 17 |
| Chapter 0: Introduction | 19 |
| Chapter 1: Phonology | 22 |
| I Consonants | 22 |
| Phonetic realization | 23 |
| Orthographic representation | 24 |
| Consonant alternations | 24 |
| Clusters | 26 |
| 1. Assimilation | 26 |
| A. Voicing | 26 |
| B. Devoicing | 26 |
| C. Other assimilations | 26 |
| 2. Dissimilation | 27 |
| II Vowels | 27 |
| Short Vowels | 28 |
| Orthographic representation | 28 |
| Long Vowels | 28 |
| Orthographic representation | 29 |
| Notes on pronunciation of long and short vowels | 29 |
| Excursus: Distribution of close vs. open <i>e/ē</i> | 29 |
| Compensatory vowel lengthening | 32 |
| Diphthongs | 33 |
| Vocalization | 35 |
| Vowel alternations (ablaut) | 35 |
| Word final position | 35 |
| 1. Consonants | 35 |
| 2. Vowels | 35 |
| III Suprasegmentals | 36 |
| 1. Stress | 36 |
| 2. Quantity | 37 |
| A. Vowels | 37 |
| B. Consonants | 38 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| 3. Tone | 39 |
| Chapter 2: The noun | 40 |
| Grammatical categories | 40 |
| 1. Gender | 40 |
| 2. Number | 41 |
| 3. Case | 41 |
| Declensional types | 42 |
| First declension | 43 |
| Comments on the paradigm | 44 |
| The form of the vocative | 44 |
| Second declension | 44 |
| Consonant alternations | 45 |
| The form of the vocative | 45 |
| Irregularities in the 2nd declension | 45 |
| Third declension | 45 |
| Fourth declension | 46 |
| The form of the vocative | 46 |
| Fifth declension | 47 |
| The form of the vocative | 48 |
| Sixth declension | 48 |
| Vacillations between declensions | 48 |
| Summing up of the endings | 49 |
| Reflexive nouns | 49 |
| Indeclinable nouns | 50 |
| Singular and plural nouns | 51 |
| Word formation of nouns | 52 |
| 1. Suffixal derivatives | 52 |
| A. Persons | 52 |
| B. Abstracts | 53 |
| C. Collective nouns | 54 |
| D. Instrument | 54 |
| E. Location (place) | 54 |
| F. Diminutives and hypocorisms | 54 |
| 2. Prefixal derivatives | 55 |
| 3. Non-prefixal compositions | 55 |
| Chapter 3: The adjective | 57 |
| General characteristics | 57 |
| The short (indefinite) form | 57 |
| The long (definite) form | 58 |
| Degrees of comparison | 59 |
| 1. The comparative | 59 |

| | |
|--|----|
| 2. The superlative | 60 |
| Syntax of the adjectives | 60 |
| 1. The short (indefinite) form | 60 |
| Equivalents of English <i>than</i> | 60 |
| Equivalents of English <i>too</i> | 61 |
| Equivalents of English <i>much, considerably + the comparative</i> | 61 |
| 2. The long (definite) form | 61 |
| Substantivization | 62 |
| Word formation | 63 |
| 1. Suffixal derivatives | 63 |
| 2. Prefixal derivatives | 64 |
| 3. Non-prefixal compound adjectives | 64 |
| Reduplication | 64 |
| Chapter 4: The pronoun | 65 |
| 1. Personal pronouns | 65 |
| 2. Possessive pronouns | 66 |
| A. Non-reflexives | 66 |
| B. Reflexives | 67 |
| 3. Reciprocal pronouns | 67 |
| 4. Demonstrative pronouns | 68 |
| 5. The anaphoric pronoun of the 3rd Person | 68 |
| 6. Interrogative and relative pronouns | 69 |
| Interrogative function | 69 |
| Relative function | 70 |
| 7. Indefinite pronouns | 70 |
| 8. Negative pronouns | 72 |
| 9. Other pronouns | 73 |
| Chapter 5: Numerals | 74 |
| 1. Cardinal numbers | 75 |
| A. Declension | 75 |
| a) Declinable | 75 |
| b) Indeclinable | 76 |
| B. Syntax | 76 |
| 2. Ordinal numbers | 78 |
| A. Declension | 78 |
| B. Syntax | 79 |
| 3. Fractions | 79 |
| A. Non-decimal fractions | 79 |
| B. Decimal fractions | 80 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Chapter 6: The verb | 81 |
| Grammatical categories | 81 |
| Finite and non-finite forms | 82 |
| Verb stems | 82 |
| Morphophonemic rules | 83 |
| The finite verb | 83 |
| Introduction | 83 |
| Principal forms | 83 |
| Conjugational types | 84 |
| Predictability of conjugational type on the basis of the infinitive | 84 |
| The formation of the tenses of the indicative active | 85 |
| Formation of the simple tenses | 85 |
| Formation of the present and the preterite | 85 |
| The first (short) conjugation | 86 |
| Subclasses 1-6 | 87 |
| The irregular verbs <i>būt</i> , <i>dot</i> and <i>iet</i> | 103 |
| The second (long) conjugation | 104 |
| The third (mixed) conjugation | 105 |
| Conjugations I-III: The ending of the 2. p. sg. | 107 |
| Formation of the future tense | 109 |
| 1. Vocalic stems | 109 |
| 2. Consonantal stems | 110 |
| A. Stems ending in labials and velars | 110 |
| B. Sibilant stems | 110 |
| Examples of reflexive paradigms | 112 |
| Formation of the compound tenses | 112 |
| The present perfect | 112 |
| The past perfect | 113 |
| The future perfect | 113 |
| | |
| Aspect and tense | 115 |
| Introduction | 115 |
| I Aspect | 115 |
| Perfectivization | 117 |
| Imperfectivization | 118 |
| Aktionsarten | 118 |
| II Tense | 118 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Simple tenses | 119 |
| 1. The present tense | 119 |
| 2. The past tense | 120 |
| 3. The future tense | 120 |
| Modal uses of the simple future | 120 |
| Compound tenses | 120 |
| 1. The present perfect | 121 |
| 2. The past perfect | 121 |
| 3. The future perfect | 122 |
| Modal uses of the perfect future | 122 |
| Limitations | 122 |
| Mood | 123 |
| 1. The indicative | 123 |
| 2. The imperative | 123 |
| 3. The subjunctive | 125 |
| A. Formation | 125 |
| B. Some major functions | 126 |
| a) The subjunctive in main clauses | 126 |
| b) The subjunctive both in the main and the subordinate clauses | 127 |
| c) The subjunctive in subordinate Clauses | 127 |
| 4. The debitive | 129 |
| A. Formation | 129 |
| B. Syntax | 130 |
| C. Alternative constructions | 131 |
| 5. The relative mood | 131 |
| A. Formation | 131 |
| B. Use | 132 |
| Voice | 135 |
| Definitions | 135 |
| Morphology of the active voice | 135 |
| Use of the active voice | 135 |
| Morphology of the passive voice | 136 |
| 1. Expression of the passive voice in Latvian | 136 |
| A. The indicative | 136 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Sample of a passive paradigm in the indicative mood | 137 |
| B. Other moods than the indicative | 137 |
| Examples of paradigms of the subjunctive and relative passive | 138 |
| 2. Expression of the passive voice in English | 139 |
| Motivations for choosing passive constructions. General considerations | 139 |
| 1. Functional sentence perspective (FSP) | 139 |
| 2. Agent deletion | 140 |
| The equivalents of English passives in Latvian | 140 |
| Constructions with an agent | 140 |
| Constructions without an agent | 141 |
| Verb in the 3rd person active without an explicitly expressed subject | 141 |
| Constructions of the type ‘it is/was confirmed that [...]’ | 141 |
| Reflexive passives | 141 |
| Formal passives with intransitive verbs | 142 |
| Reflexive and non-reflexive verbs | 143 |
| The Non-finite forms of the verb | 145 |
| I The infinitive | 145 |
| Formal characteristics | 145 |
| A. Active | 145 |
| B. Passive | 145 |
| Syntax | 145 |
| II Gerunds and participles | 146 |
| 1. The gerunds | 147 |
| Formation | 147 |
| A. Indeclinable gerunds | 147 |
| B. Partly declinable gerunds | 148 |
| a) the <i>dam</i> -gerund | 148 |
| b) the <i>us/uš</i> -gerund | 149 |
| Syntax and semantics of the gerunds | 149 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| A. Indeclinable gerunds | 150 |
| B. Partly declinable gerunds | 151 |
| 2. The participles | 152 |
| Formation | 152 |
| A. Active participles | 152 |
| a) The present participle | 152 |
| b) The past participle | 153 |
| B. Passive participles | 155 |
| a) The present participle | 155 |
| b) The past participle | 155 |
| Syntax | 156 |
| A. Active participles | 156 |
| a) Attributive function | 156 |
| b) Appositive function | 156 |
| B. Passive participles | 157 |
| a) Attributive function | 157 |
| b) Appositive function | 157 |
| Concluding remarks on participles | 157 |
| Participles in the function of other word classes | 158 |
| III The verbal noun | 158 |
| The Verb: Word formation | 159 |
| Suffixation | 159 |
| Prefixation. Verb prefixes | 159 |
| Chapter 7: The adverb | 162 |
| Degrees of comparison | 162 |
| Syntax and semantics | 163 |
| The negation | 164 |
| Chapter 8: Case | 165 |
| Introduction | 165 |
| The genitive | 166 |
| I Adnominal function | 166 |
| 1. Non-partitive genitive | 166 |
| A. The governing word is a noun | 166 |
| a) The possessive genitive | 166 |
| b) The subjective and c) the objective genitive | 166 |
| d) The descriptive genitive | 167 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| e) <i>genitivus definitivus</i> (<i>explicativus</i>) | 167 |
| f) The genitive of material | 168 |
| g) The genitive of purpose | 168 |
| h) The genitive of reinforce- ment (Emphasis) | 168 |
| B. The governing word is an adjective | 168 |
| C. The agentive | 168 |
| 2. Partitive genitive | 169 |
| A. The governing word is a noun | 169 |
| B. The governing word is an adjective | 169 |
| C. The governing word is a numeral | 170 |
| D. The governing word is a quantifier other than a numeral | 170 |
| II Adverbial function | 170 |
| 1. Non-partitive | 170 |
| A. Genitive-governing verbs | 170 |
| B. Negative constructions | 171 |
| 2. Partitive | 172 |
| III Adverbial function | 172 |
| The genitive in exclamations | 173 |
| The accusative | 173 |
| I Adverbial accusative | 173 |
| II Adverbial accusative | 174 |
| The accusative in exclamations | 175 |
| A contrastive view of the genitive and accusative | 175 |
| The instrumental | 176 |
| The dative | 176 |
| I Adnominal dative | 176 |
| 1. The governing word is a noun | 176 |
| 2. The governing word is an adjective | 176 |
| 3. The dative of age | 177 |
| II Adverbial dative | 177 |
| 1. Dative + nominative | 177 |
| 2. Dative + accusative | 177 |
| 3. Dative as the only object | 177 |
| A. Verba commodi | 177 |
| B. Verba incommodi | 178 |
| 4. Dative + <i>ir/bija/būs</i> etc. as equivalents to <i>have</i> -constructions in English | 178 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| 5. Dative in impersonal constructions | 179 |
| A. Verbal | 179 |
| B. Nominal | 179 |
| 6. Dative in the debitive construction | 179 |
| 7. Dative with the infinitive passive | 179 |
| 8. Dative + infinitive constructions | 179 |
| Dative with gerunds (The absolute dative) | 179 |
| III Adverbial function | 180 |
| The locative | 180 |
| The nominative | 181 |
| The vocative | 182 |
| Chapter 9: Prepositions | 183 |
| Preposition vs. prefix | 183 |
| Preposition vs. adverb. Semi-prepositions | 183 |
| Preposition vs. noun | 184 |
| Preposition vs. postposition | 184 |
| Case government | 184 |
| Subsequent disposition | 185 |
| 1. Prepositions of place | 186 |
| A. Accusative governing pre- positions | 186 |
| B. Genitive governing prepositions | 187 |
| C. Dative governing prepositions | 188 |
| D. Prepositions governing more than one case | 188 |
| 2. Prepositions of time | 188 |
| A. Accusative governing | 188 |
| B. Dative governing | 188 |
| C. Genitive governing | 188 |
| 3. Prepositions designating the instru- ment | 189 |
| 4. Prepositions of purpose | 189 |
| 5. Prepositions of comparison | 189 |
| 6. Prepositions of cause | 189 |
| 7. Prepositions of other meanings | 189 |
| Chapter 10: Time expressions | 191 |
| 1. The 24 hours cycle | 191 |
| 2. Hours | 191 |
| 3. The days of the week | 192 |
| 4. The months | 192 |
| 5. The seasons of the year | 192 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| 6. The year | 192 |
| 7. The century | 192 |
| 8. Dates | 192 |
| 9. Undetermined time expressions | 193 |
| 10. How long? How often? | 193 |
| 11. For how long? | 193 |
| 12. Before/after | 193 |
| 13. From-to (till) | 193 |
| 14. During | 193 |
| 15. In (after) | 193 |
| 16. Towards | 193 |
| 17. Ago | 193 |
| | |
| Chapter 11: Conjunctions | 194 |
| 1. Coordinate | 194 |
| A. Copulative | 194 |
| B. Adversative | 194 |
| C. Disjunctive | 194 |
| 2. Subordinate | 194 |
| A. Explicative | 195 |
| B. Adverbial | 195 |
| a) Conjunctions of time | 195 |
| b) Conjunctions of purpose | 195 |
| c) Conjunctions of result | 195 |
| d) Conjunctions of reason | 195 |
| e) Conditional | 195 |
| f) Concessive | 195 |
| g) Comparative | 195 |
| | |
| Chapter 12: The sentence | 196 |
| Definition | 196 |
| The members of the sentence | 196 |
| The principal members | 197 |
| The subject | 197 |
| Omission of subject pronoun | 197 |
| The only principal member | 197 |
| The predicate | 198 |
| Omission of copulative verb | 198 |
| The syntactic relationship between subject and predicate | 199 |
| The dependent members | 199 |
| The object | 199 |
| The adverbial | 200 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Difficulties in distinguishing objects from adverbials | 201 |
| The attribute | 201 |
| The apposition | 202 |
| Classification of the sentence | 202 |
| Subsequent disposition | 203 |
| The simple sentence | 203 |
| Two-part sentences | 205 |
| One-part sentences | 205 |
| Verbal one-part sentences | 206 |
| Infinitive sentences | 207 |
| Nominal one-part sentences | 207 |
| The compound sentence | 208 |
| Coordination | 208 |
| Subordination | 209 |
| 1. Explicative clauses | 209 |
| A. Non-interrogative | 210 |
| B. Interrogative | 210 |
| 2. Determinative clauses | 210 |
| 3. Adverbial Clauses | 211 |
| A. Clauses of time | 211 |
| B. Clauses of purpose | 212 |
| C. Clauses of result | 212 |
| D. Clauses of reason | 212 |
| E. Clauses of condition | 213 |
| F. Clauses of concession | 213 |
| G. Clauses of comparison | 213 |
| Equivalents of English <i>than</i> and <i>the – the</i> | 213 |
| H. Clauses of manner | 214 |
| Final remarks | 214 |
| Asyndetism | 214 |
| Chapter 13: Agreement | 215 |
| 1. Special cases of agreement in gender | 216 |
| A. Common gender nouns in <i>-a</i> and <i>-e</i> | 216 |
| B. Personal pronouns of the 1st and 2nd person | 217 |
| C. Indeclinable nouns | 217 |
| D. Abbreviations | 217 |
| E. Noun combinations | 217 |
| F. Interjections | 217 |
| 2. Special cases of agreement in number | 218 |
| A. Plural nouns | 218 |

| | |
|--|---------|
| B. Collective nouns | 218 |
| C. Indeclinable nouns | 218 |
| D. Abbreviations | 218 |
| E. Two (or more) coordinate nouns qualified by one and the same adjective | 218 |
| F. The polite form of the 2nd p. pl. pronoun | 218 |
| G. The interrogative pronoun <i>kas?</i> | 219 |
| H. Group subjects | 219 |
| 3. Special cases of agreement in person | 219 |
| 4. Special cases of agreement in case | 219 |
| Constructions with <i>kā</i> ‘as’ and similar | 220 |
| Chapter 14: Word order | 221 |
| Introductory remarks | 221 |
| I The Position of the members of the sentence | 223 |
| 1. Declarative sentences | 223 |
| A. Non-extended sentences | 223 |
| B. Extended sentences | 224 |
| a) Adverbial extensions | 224 |
| b) Object extensions | 224 |
| One object | 224 |
| Two objects | 224 |
| 2. Interrogative sentences | 225 |
| II The position of the members of the noun phrase | 226 |
| Non-participle attributes | 226 |
| Participle attributes | 227 |
| Reference literature | 228 |
| Indexes | 231 |