Understanding Linguistic Diversity

JOHN EDWARDS



# <u>Multilingualism Understanding Linguistic Diversity John</u> <u>Edwards</u>

Jeroen Darquennes, Joseph C.
Salmons, Wim Vandenbussche

### Multilingualism Understanding Linguistic Diversity John Edwards:

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concept of LA remains problematic a generally accepted evidence based conceptualisation is missing This confronts both research and education with a challenge in order to develop LA activities implement them successfully in educational contexts and achieve the expected outcomes we should know what the concept stands for how it works and why we would choose to implement it in classrooms or not This volume focuses on three apparent simple questions what how and why The first question what refers to the concept ual mess of LA The second question how refers to the implementation of LA activities in several educational contexts The third question why is a recurrent theme running through all the chapters and deals with a reflection on the way we deal un consciously with LA activities in education **Sociolinguistics: A Very Short Introduction** John Edwards, 2013-07-11 Sociolinguistics deals with the social life of language language in its sociocultural context It is a branch of linguistics that looks less at the shape or sound of words morphology or phonology and more at how our words and sentences are influenced by the society around us for instance how the accent or the dialect we use has been shaped by where we come from or which social class we belong to In this Very Short Introduction John Edwards offers the most up to date brief overview available of sociolinguistics with side trips into the sociology of language and psycholinguistics He considers such topics as the different social evaluations of languages and dialects the loaded significance of names and the importance of politically driven language planning and policy The relationship between language and gender sexist language the language of poverty and the intertwining of language and religion are also dealt with here Edwards stresses that while linguists see all dialects as equally valid in the wider world powerful attitudes have always placed language varieties in social hierarchies. The author also looks at language more broadly examining the ways in which languages rise or fall the attempts to revive flagging or endangered varieties the reasons why some languages came to dominate others and the special dynamics that affect contact between big and small languages In both its role as our most powerful tool of communication and as the most immediate symbolic marker of human affiliation language is pre eminently a social phenomenon This compact volume offers an invaluable introduction to this vital aspect of language About the Series Oxford s Very Short Introductions series offers concise and original introductions to a wide range of subjects from Islam to Sociology Politics to Classics Literary Theory to History and Archaeology to the Bible Not simply a textbook of definitions each volume in this series provides trenchant and provocative yet always balanced and complete discussions of the central issues in a given discipline or field Every Very Short Introduction gives a readable evolution of the subject in question demonstrating how the subject has developed and how it has influenced society Eventually the series will encompass every major academic discipline offering all students an accessible and abundant reference library Whatever the area of study that one deems important or appealing whatever the topic that fascinates the general reader the Very Short Introductions series has a handy and affordable guide that will likely prove indispensable Language Contact. Volume 1 Jeroen Darguennes, Joseph C. Salmons, Wim Vandenbussche, 2019-08-19 Language Contact An International Handbook offers a

comprehensive overview of current topics in research on language contact Broadly conceived it stands out for its international approach to language contact complementing the theoretical state of the art with examples from traditionally eclipsed areas and languages Next to a thorough introductory overview of the ground breaking methodological and theoretical approaches that shaped the discipline ample attention goes to the new and innovative insights on language contact in the 21st century Combining concise introductory contributions with in depth treatment of the most relevant case studies in the field the handbook speaks to both junior and established scholars Crosslinguistic Influence and Crosslinguistic Interaction in Multilingual Language Learning Gessica De Angelis, Ulrike Jessner, Marijana Kresic, 2015-11-05 Which strategies do multilingual learners use when confronted with languages they don't yet know Which factors are involved in activating prior linguistic knowledge in multilingual learning This volume offers valuable insights into recent research in multilingualism crosslinguistic influence and crosslinguistic interaction Experts in the field examine the role of background languages in multilingual learning All the chapters point to the heart of the question of what the multilingual mind is Does learning one language actually help you learn another and if so why This volume looks at languages and scenarios beyond English as a second language Italian Gaelic Dutch and German amongst others are covered as well as instances of third and additional language learning Research into crosslinguistic influence and crosslinguistic interaction essentially contributes to our understanding of how language learning works when there are three or more languages in contact

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