The Moods of Homeric Greek

Homeric Greek has a particularly rich system of moods which are analysed afresh in this book in the light of recent theoretical interest in the semantic domain of modality. The domain is one of the most complex and interesting, since modal forms are used for the most ‘subjective’ of messages, expressing our beliefs, intentions, desires, abilities and wishes. Incorporating findings from the theory of grammaticalisation, this study considers the Homeric Greek modal system from a diachronic perspective and offers a radical revision of traditional accounts. Providing insights into both individual constructions as well as the overall system of modality in Greek, it will be of interest to general linguists, linguists studying ancient Greek, and also scholars interested in fundamental questions of meaning in Greek. The indices, where all the instances of the moods in the Homeric poems are categorised into types, also make it useful as a research tool.

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THE MOODS OF HOMERIC GREEK

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For M
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ABBREVIATIONS

In most cases, bibliographical references in the text are made in the author–date format. However, in the case of grammars and books that were frequently quoted, the author’s name alone was felt to be sufficient. These are listed below:


Chantraine, P. 1948. Grammaire homérique, 2 vols. (Paris: Klincksieck) (2nd edn) (Unless indicated, all references are to volume II.)


Hahn, E. A. 1953. Subjunctive and Optative: Their Origin as Futures (New York: American Philological Association)

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS


The only other abbreviations used are BPP, which refers to works written by Bybee, Pagliuca and Perkins (unless otherwise indicated all references to BPP are to the work dated 1994), and LSJ, which refers to the Liddell, Scott and Jones Greek-English Lexicon.