Particle verbs (two separate words constituting a single lexical unit) are a notorious problem in linguistics. Is a particle verb like look up one word or two? It has its own entry in dictionaries, as if it is one word, but look and up can be split up in a sentence: we can say He looked the information up and He looked up the information. But why can we say He looked it up but not He looked up it? In English look and up can only be separated by a direct object, but in Dutch the two parts can be separated over a much longer distance. How did such hybrid verbs arise and how do they function? How can we make sense of them in modern theories of language structure? This book sets out to answer these and other questions, explaining how these verbs fit into the grammatical systems of English and Dutch.

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Morphosyntactic Change
MORPHOSYNTACTIC CHANGE

A comparative study of particles and prefixes

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Preface

This study is the result of a research project on *The diachrony of complex predicates in the West Germanic languages*, undertaken by the authors, with Geert Booij and Ans van Kemenade as principal investigators, and sponsored by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research NWO (project 360–70–050). During the project, Geert Booij, Corrien Blom and Bettelou Los were based at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, and Ans van Kemenade and Marion Elenbaas at the Radboud University Nijmegen. As part of the project, Corrien Blom, whose Ph.D. position was funded by the Vrije Universiteit, wrote a dissertation *Complex predicates in Dutch: Synchrony and diachrony* (Utrecht: LOT), defended on 8 September 2005 at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, and Marion Elenbaas defended her dissertation *The synchronic and diachronic syntax of the English verb–particle combination* (Utrecht: LOT) at the Radboud University Nijmegen on 8 January 2007. The present book integrates parts of these dissertations with the overall results of the project.

The principal investigators organized an international *Workshop on Preverbs* on 19 and 20 January 2001 in Nijmegen; a selection of the papers has been published as a thematic part, edited by the principal investigators, of the *Yearbook of Morphology 2003*, edited by Geert Booij and Jaap van Marle, 1–212 (Dordrecht: Kluwer).

There were stimulating contacts with other scholars working on particle verbs and complex predicates: Farrell Ackerman, Nicole Dehé, Andrew McIntyre, Jochen Zeller, Teresa Biberauer, Ian Roberts, Ray Jackendoff, Adele Goldberg and Anke Lüdeling. Corrien Blom also discussed her work with linguists at Stanford University. The project members invited Peter Svenonius (University of Tromsø), who has published extensively on particle systems in the Germanic languages, to Nijmegen on 16 June 2004 for discussions. We thank these colleagues for their input and inspiration.

This book also greatly benefited from the remarks of an anonymous reviewer in the final stages of its going to press, which we hereby gratefully acknowledge.
Abbreviations and symbols

= clitic boundary
A Adjective
ACC Accusative
AP Adjective Phrase
AdvP Adverb Phrase
BPS Bare Phrase Structure
DAT Dative
DOR Direct Object Restriction
DP Determiner Phrase
ECM Exceptional Case Marking
eME early Middle English
eModE early Modern English
GEN Genitive
I head of IP
ICE Idiomatically Combining Expression
ICV Inseparable Complex Verb
IEPS Inferable Eventual Position or State
INF Infinitive
INTERROG Interrogative Particle
IOBJ indirect object
IP Inflection Phrase
LCS Lexical Conceptual Structure
LFG Lexical Functional Grammar
LIP Lexical Integrity Principle
lME late Middle English
lOE late Old English
MD Middle Dutch
ME Middle English
MNW *Middelnederlands Woordenboek* (‘Middle Dutch Dictionary’)
Abbreviations and symbols  xiii

N   Noun
NEG  Negative element
NEUT  Neuter
NOM  Nominative
NP  Noun Phrase
OBJ  Object
OE  Old English
OED  *Oxford English Dictionary* Online
ON  Old Norse
P  Preposition
PDD  Present-Day Dutch
PDE  Present-Day English
PDG  Present-Day German
PG  Proto-Germanic
POBJ  Pre/postpositional Object
PL  Plural
PP  Prepositional Phrase
PREF  Prefix
Prt  Particle
PV  Preverb
REFL  reflexive pronoun
RES  Resultative
RHR  Right-hand Head Rule
SC  Small Clause
SCV  Separable Complex Verb
SG  Singular
(S)OV  Subject Object Verb
Spec  Specifier
SUBJ  Subject
(S)VO  Subject Verb Object
V  Verb
VP  Verb Phrase
VPC  Verb Particle Combination
V2  Verb Second (Constraint)
W  core (primary) predicate in the resultative LCS
WH  question word
XP  Phrase with X as head