

Index

Note: The index is primarily a subject index. It includes authors mentioned in the text, but not those referred to in the 'Notes and suggestions for further reading'.

- Académie Française 119, 242
- accent vs dialect 241
- adhortative 116
- Africa 206
- Alford, Henry 179
- alienable possession 35
- ambiguity 105, 215
- American English 169, 170, 198
- American-Indian languages 29
- American Northern cities shift 198
- analogy 98, 115
- Andersen, Henning 184
- anger* 130
- animal noises 22
- animate first preference 184
- arbitrariness of language 25
- 'armchair method' 19
- Arvanítika 230
- assimilation 165
- at least* 122
- auxiliary *can* 118
- auxiliary verbs 201
- babbles of babies 25
- Balkan linguistic area 148
- Belfast speech 44–52, 90
- Bickerton, Derek 87
- bilingualism 146, 229, 231, 232
- Black English *be* 187
- Black English 83–4, 88
- Bloomfield, Leonard 142, 210, 230
- body (human) 38, 130, 136
- Bombaugh, C.C. 122
- Bopp, Franz 118
- borrowing 149–53, 178, 223
- brain 175, 206
- Bréal, Michel 128
- can* (auxiliary) 105
- Cantonese 24
- Carroll, Lewis 126, 189
- Catullus 22
- causation, theories of 139, 202
- Caxton, William 241
- Celtic 157
- chain reaction changes 189–202
- chain shifts *see* chain reaction changes
- chains in grammaticalization 117, 189–98, 202
- chance resemblances 26
- chat-rooms 124
- Chaucer, Geoffrey 4, 12, 196
- Cheshire, Jenny 80
- Chinese 95, 163, 169, 194, 196, 201
- Chinook jargon 211
- Cicero 22
- 'click' languages 148
- climb* 133
- cline 117
- Cockney 178
- code-switching 163, 197, 232
- collocation 136
- comparative historical linguistics 24
- comparative philology 24

- competition between variants 99
 complementizers 118
 conscious vs unconscious changes 56
 consonant pairing 177
 conversions 155
 creoles 216–21, 223
 cropping 122
 Crystal, David 123, 124, 125
 curvilinear hypothesis 66

 Darwin, Charles 236
 daughter languages 26
 decategorialization 115
 decreolization 224–9
 demonstrative pronouns 118
 department-store survey (New York)
 44–6, 50–2
 desemanticization 115
 diachronic vs synchronic 38
 Dickens, Charles 20, 23, 112
 ding-dong theory 205
 diphthongs 197
disaster 134–6
 discourse 119
 discourse markers 120
 Dorian, Nancy 231
 double negative 12
 drag chains 192
 Dravidian language family 90
 drift 56, 117

 ease of effort theories 161
 East-side story 200
 Eckert, Penelope 83, 84
 embedding 215
 epistemic meaning 121
 ergative structures 90
 Estuary English 197
 euphemisms 129
 evidence for change 19–36
 evolution 239
 exaptation 186

fall 180
 final consonant loss 98, 162–4
 flaming 124
 Fletcher, John 232
 fluctuation, in course of change 101
 foreigner talk 210
 formulae, reconstruction of 30

 folk etymology 112
 foreigner talk 210
 French 94, 108, 109, 129, 151,
 162–4, 170, 178, 185, 242
 frequent words 88, 91
 functional change 154
 future markers 151
 fuzziness 42, 132

 Gabelentz, Georg von der 134
 Gaelic, Scottish 231, 237
 German 118, 201
 Germanic 221
 Glaswegian 163
 ‘glottalic’ theory 33
 glottal stop in English 169, 197
gonna 119
 grammar, definition 14, 16–17
 grammar, descriptive 14, 15
 grammar, prescriptive 14, 15
 grammaticalization 114, 207
 ‘Great Permitters’ 243
 Great Rift Valley 206
 Great Vowel Shift 191
 Greek, ancient 22, 153, 171, 201
 Greek, modern 116
 Grimm, Jacob 9, 190
 Grimm’s Law 190
 grooming talking 206
 Guyanan creole 151

 Hart, John 17
have to 121
 h-dropping 78, 179, 234
 Hebrew 232, 233
 High German Shift 194
 Hindi 240
 historical corpora 35
 Hockett, Charles 38, 143
 homonyms 132
 Humboldt, Wilhelm von 4
 humpback whales 235
 hypercorrection 58, 146

 iconicity 147
 immigrant adaptation 83, 84
 imperfect learning 209
 impersonal constructions 157
 impersonal verbs 185
indeed 120

296 Index

- Indian English 101
 Indo-European language family 24, 239
instead of 120
 intensifiers 133, 135
 internal reconstruction 30–2
 intrusive sounds 168
 Iroquoian language family 30
 isomorphism, principle of 184
- Jakobson, Roman 239
 Japanese 119
 Jespersen, Otto 7, 136, 205, 237
 Jocks vs Burnouts 83–4
 Johnson, Samuel 9, 10, 18
- Kasabe 232
 King, Robert 142
 Kiparsky, Paul 98
 Kru 171
 Kupwar 146
 Kwegu 229
- Labov, William 43–50, 56, 87, 146, 199, 200
 Lakoff, Robin 17, 41
 language death 222–33
 language murder 229–31
 language suicide 223
 Latin 10, 22, 26, 27, 28, 222
 layering 116, 134, 136
 laziness 5
let's, lets 116, 119
 lexical diffusion 91
 lexifier 224
 linguist 14, 15
 linguistic areas 148
 linguistic variables 46, 51
 loanwords *see* borrowing
 loss of 'dark' / 168
 loss of *t* 234
 Lowth, Robert 9
- Ma'a 147
 majority verdict 27
 Mandarin Chinese 239
 Mannyng, Robert 4
 Martha's Vineyard 60–8, 87, 90, 179
 Martinet, André 192
 meaning change 126–37
- Meillet, Antoine 115, 129
 Melanesian Pidgin *see* Tok Pisin
 Menomini 231
 men's speech vs women's 74–5, 77–9
 Meso-American languages 148
 metaphors 133, 173
 Middle English 66
 Milligan, Spike 236
 Milroy, Jim and Lesley 44–6, 50–2, 76
 minimal adjustment tendency 151
 mixed language 148
 Mohawk 15, 17
 morphology, definition of 25
 Müller, Max 7, 162
 multilingualism 233
 multiple births scenario 99, 131
 Mursell, Reverend A. 9
- naming insight 207
 need and function 153
 negative prestige 56
 negatives 155, 157
 neologisms 154
 Neo-Melanesian *see* Tok Pisin
 Netspeak 124
 New Guinea Pidgin *see* Tok Pisin
 New York 44–52, 56, 57, 59, 87, 146, 155
 Niger-Congo languages 171, 202, 239
 noble savage myth 236
 normalization of sounds 167
 Nostratic 29
 nouns in *-ity* 31
 Nukespeak 244
- object-verb closeness 171
 omission of sounds (from clusters) 165
 onomatopoeia 25
 opacity, minimization of 184
 origin of language 205
 overcorrection *see* hypercorrection
 overlapping S-curves 94
 OV languages 201
- parent language 26
 participant observer 46, 51
 pattern neatening 177–81
 Paul, Hermann 131
 Pepys, Samuel 131
 Philadelphian Black English 242

Index 297

- philology 24
- phonetic reduction 115
- phonetic tendencies 168
- phonology, definition of 17
- pidgins, origin of 207
- plurality 17
- politeness 156–8
- political correctness 154
- Polynesian 25, 28, 29
- polysemy 131, 134
- pooh-pooh theory 205
- Portuguese, Brazilian 103, 104
- Portuguese-based pidgin 210
- Postal, Paul 143
- postpositions 201
- prepositions 201
- primates 206
- primitive languages, myth of 209
- progressive 111
- pronoun usage 157
- pronunciation, reconstruction of 21
- Proto-Indo-European 24, 29, 33, 190
- proto-language 24
- Proto-Polynesian 25
- Proto-Romance 180
- prototypes 179
- proximative 118
- puns 22
- purism 8–14
- push chain 192
- Reading verb forms 80–3, 109
- reanalysis 184
- Received Pronunciation *see* RP
- reconstruction, comparative 24
- reconstruction, internal 30–2
- reconstruction, typological 32
 - of pronunciation 11–12, 13
- real time vs apparent time 43, 50
- rebus 122
- regularity of sound change 25, 87
- restriction of meaning 59
- retroflex sounds 148
- rhyme 21, 49, 55–69
- Romance languages 105
- Rosch, Eleanor 132
- RP 241
- rules generalization 97
- rules, linguistic 14–16
- Safir, William 243
- Sapir, Edward 10, 42, 86, 117
- Sauris 230
- Saussure, Ferdinand de 4, 20, 38
- save* 'know' 118
- Schlegel, Friedrich 13
- Scottish Gaelic 231
- S-curve 94, 110
- self-regulation 175
- semantics, definition of 17
- semi-speakers 230
- Semitic 29
- Serbo-Croatian 238
- Shakespeare, William 21, 73, 101, 111
- Shaw, Bernard 15, 165
- simplicity, disadvantages of 237–8
- simplification 111
- Sino-Tibetan 29
- slang 154
- sloppiness 5
- slips of the ear 200
- SMS (short text messaging) 164
- social networks 43, 50
- social triggers (of change) 161
- sociolinguistic causes of change 141–60
- sound change, American Northern
 - Cities shift 198
- sound change, Chinese 202
- sound change, Norwich 71–5
- sound change, t-dropping 71, 89
 - see also* Belfast speech; French; Grimm's Law; Welsh
- sound symbolism 25
- SOV languages 239
- Spanish 108
- spatial concepts 137
- spread of change 23, 49, 55–69, 86, 112
- standard language 243
- standardization 243
- start of a change 88
- structural linguistics 66
- Sturtevant, Edward 59
- substratum influence 145, 149
- SVO languages 239
- Swahili 118, 137, 151
- Swedish 169
- Sweet, Henry 184

298 Index

- Swift, Jonathan 9, 73
 syntactic change 184, 200
- taboo 129
 Tamil 157
 Texas 187
 text messaging 14
 text poem 123
 therapeutic change 175–88
 Thucydides 126
 Tok Pisin (New Guinea Pidgin) 105,
 108, 109, 111, 118, 211–16,
 217–21
 tone languages 148, 169
 Tooke, John Horne 114
 transparency 184, 215
 Trench, Richard Chenevix 13
 Turkish 238
 typological harmony 200
 typological reconstruction 32
- Ullmann, Stephen 129
- variation 40, 101, 110
 Vendryès, Joseph 8
 verb endings 183, 185
 verbicide 59
 verb–object closeness 171, 207
 verbs of volition 117, 118
 Victorinus 23
 vowel symmetry 179
- wanna* 119
 Wappo 239
 we inclusive vs we exclusive 34
 Welsh 91, 233
 Whitney, William Dwight 108, 115
wish, *want* verbs *see* verbs of volition
 women's speech vs men's 59
 word class differences 132
 word order 110
 word-order change 171, 185
- Yiddish 146, 149, 195
 yo-he-ho theory 205