

Contents

<i>Text Boxes</i>	<i>page x</i>
<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>xi</i>
<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>xiii</i>
<i>“Focus on” Topics</i>	<i>xiv</i>
<i>Preface to the Second Edition</i>	<i>xv</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>xvii</i>
<i>Abbreviations Used in the Glosses</i>	<i>xviii</i>
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Languages, Dialects and Accents	4
1.2 Language Families	9
1.3 Linguistic Diversity	12
1.4 Focus on: How Do Languages Diversify?	13
2 Languages of Europe	20
2.1 Indo-European Languages	21
2.2 Discovery of the Indo-European Family and Comparative Reconstruction	25
2.3 The Indo-European Controversy	35
2.4 Non-Indo-European Languages of Europe	42
2.4.1 Basque	43
2.5 Focus on: Endangered Languages of Europe	47
3 Languages of Iran and South Asia	57
3.1 Indo-European Languages of Iran and South Asia	58
3.1.1 Iranian Languages	60
3.1.2 Indo-Aryan Languages	62
3.2 Dravidian Languages	67
3.3 Other Languages of South Asia	70
3.4 Focus on: Universals and the Parametric Theory of Language	73
4 Languages of Northern Eurasia	85
4.1 Finno-Ugric Languages	87
4.2 Other Uralic Languages	96
4.3 Other Languages of Siberia	99
4.4 Russian-Based Pidgins in Siberia	107
4.5 Focus on: Evidential Markers in Yukaghir Languages	112

5 Languages of the Caucasus	120
5.1 Northwest Caucasian Languages	124
5.2 Northeast Caucasian Languages	129
5.3 Kartvelian Languages	136
5.4 Indo-European Languages in the Caucasus	140
5.5 Focus on: Field Linguistics	144
6 Languages of the Greater Middle East	152
6.1 Turkic Languages	153
6.2 Afroasiatic Languages	159
6.2.1 Semitic Languages	163
6.3 Focus on: Language Contact	175
7 Languages of Sub-Saharan Africa	185
7.1 Nilo-Saharan Languages	187
7.2 Niger-Congo Languages	190
7.3 Khoisan Languages	201
7.4 Focus on: Official Languages, Trade Languages and Creole Languages in Sub-Saharan Africa	205
8 Languages of Eastern Asia	213
8.1 Sino-Tibetan Languages	215
8.2 Austro-Asiatic Languages	223
8.3 Tai-Kadai Languages	227
8.4 Japanese and Korean	232
8.5 Focus on: Isolating Morphology and Language Change	235
9 Languages of the South Sea Islands	243
9.1 Discovery of the Austronesian Family and the Austronesian Homeland	247
9.2 The Austronesian Realm and Internal Classification	251
9.3 The Austronesian Prototype	254
9.4 Focus on: The Mystery of Malagasy	264
10 Aboriginal Languages of New Guinea and Australia	276
10.1 Languages of New Guinea	280
10.2 Languages of Australia	289
10.3 Focus on: Is Dyirbal a Primitive Language?	295
11 Native Languages of the Americas	305
11.1 Languages of North America	307
11.2 Languages of Meso-America	323

11.3	Languages of South America	326
11.4	Focus on: The Pirahã Controversy	329
12	Macro Families	337
12.1	Dene-Yeniseian Hypothesis	338
12.2	Altaic and Ural-Altaic Macro Families	340
12.3	The Nostratic and Eurasiatic Hypotheses	345
12.4	Other Hypothesized Macro Language Families	351
	<i>Glossary</i>	358
	<i>Bibliography</i>	364
	<i>Index of languages</i>	378
	<i>Index of terms</i>	387