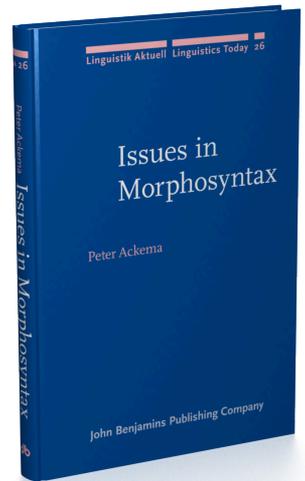


Preface

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/la.26.01pre>



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Issues in Morphosyntax

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[*Linguistik Aktuell/Linguistics Today*, 26]

1999. viii, 310 pp.

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Preface

This book is a revised version of my 1995 Utrecht Ph.D. dissertation *Syntax below Zero*. The sections on the diachrony of auxiliary selection in chapter 3 and on verbal compounds in chapter 5 are new, as is the discussion in a number of sections concerning relevant papers that appeared after the dissertation was written. More minor differences concern matters of formulation, and a change in the order of chapters (what is chapter 4 here was chapter 2).

Once again it is a pleasure to have the opportunity to thank the people that contributed to the completion of the thesis, and therefore indirectly also of this book. First and foremost there is Fred Weerman, who turned out to be the ideal supervisor for a Ph.D. project: encouraging, critical and with a sense of humor at the same time. I am also grateful to my promotor, Eric Reuland, to the members of the thesis committee, Hagit Borer, Jack Hoeksema, Henk Verkuyl and Wiecher Zwanenburg, and to the numerous other colleagues with which I could discuss this material, of which I would like to single out Jan Don, Ad Neeleman, Eddy Ruys and Maaïke Schoorlemmer. Thanks as well to Werner Abraham, for his assistance in his capacity as editor of the *Linguistik Aktuell* series.

Groningen, December 1998

Peter Ackema