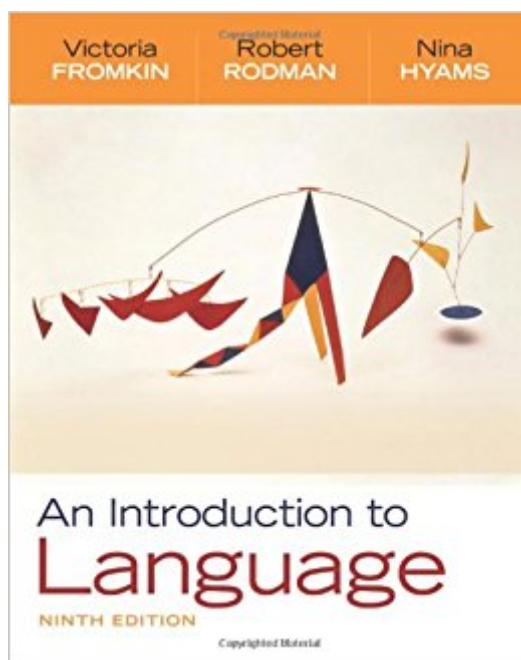


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# An Introduction To Language, 9th Edition



## Synopsis

Assuming no prior knowledge of linguistics, *AN INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE*, Ninth Edition, is appropriate for a variety of fields--including education, languages, psychology, anthropology, English, and teaching English as a Second Language (TESL)--at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. This completely updated edition retains the clear descriptions, humor, and seamless pedagogy that have made the text a perennial best-seller, while adding new information and exercises that render each topic fresh, engaging, and current.

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## Customer Reviews

Victoria Fromkin received her bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California, Berkeley and her M.A. and Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). She was a faculty member of the UCLA Department of Linguistics from 1966 until her death in 2000, and served as its chair for four years and as the Graduate Dean and Vice Chancellor of Graduate Programs for ten years. Dr. Fromkin served as president of the Linguistics Society of America, president of the Association of Graduate Schools, and chair of the Board of Governors of the Academy of Aphasia. She received the UCLA Distinguished Teaching Award and the Professional Achievement Award, and was the U.S. Delegate and a member of the Executive Committee of the International Permanent Committee of Linguistics (CIPL). She was an elected Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the New York Academy of Science, the American Psychological Society, and the Acoustical Society of America, and in 1996 was elected to membership in the National

Academy of Sciences. She published more than 100 books, monographs, and papers on topics concerned with phonetics, phonology, tone languages, African languages, speech errors, processing models, aphasia, and the brain/mind/language interface -- all research areas in which she worked. Robert Rodman received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of California, Los Angeles, master's degrees in both mathematics and linguistics, and a Ph.D. in linguistics. He was on the faculties of the University of California at Santa Cruz, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Kyoto Industrial College in Japan, and North Carolina State University. His research areas included forensic linguistics and computer speech processing. In 2009, he was elected into the American Academy of Social Sciences as an Associate Fellow for his achievements in computational forensic linguistics. Robert Rodman passed away in January 2017. Nina Hyams received her bachelor's degree in journalism from Boston University in 1973 and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in linguistics from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York in 1981 and 1983, respectively. She joined the faculty of the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1983, where she is a professor of linguistics. Her main areas of research are childhood language development and syntax. She is author of the book LANGUAGE ACQUISITION AND THE THEORY OF PARAMETERS (D. Reidel Publishers, 1986), a milestone in language acquisition research. She has also published numerous articles on the development of syntax, morphology, and semantics in children. She has been a visiting scholar at the University of Utrecht and the University of Leiden in the Netherlands and has given lectures throughout Europe and Japan.

Any version of this book is great--it has evolved as the field of linguistics has evolved, and since this is an older version, is more affordable than the most recent edition--I use this in my undergraduate and graduate classes alike--best general introduction to the various sub disciplines of linguistics, such as morphology, syntax, phonology, phonetics, and so forth, that there is available today. Perhaps a bit too much on sign language, depending on the volume, and a somewhat outdated (even the newest version) and chaotic view of syntax, it still is the benchmark upon which similar books are based. I have used the 4th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th editions over the years, and though I have constantly looked for others, tried some here and there, this is still the one I return to for my basic text in my introductory linguistics courses.

This is a very good introduction to theoretical linguistics and its subdisciplines. Some of the concepts are somewhat difficult, but it's nothing that a good re-read can't fix. It covers all the components that make up linguistics i.e. phonology, syntax, etc. but it also adds some cool chapters on language and

the brain, language change, and psycholinguistics which are all pluses in my book. This textbook provides good cartoons to illustrate some key points, the exercises are good for beginner's (perhaps some too easy) and the authors provide some really good suggested readings although some might be the suggestions insanely difficult to read even after reading this book (for example, after reading the chapter on syntax, it suggests you read Chomsky's minimalist program. If this is the student's first introduction to syntax, then I really doubt they could tackle that book). All in all, I think it's a perfect book to use in an introductory language class. The only problem I have with this book is its price. Way too expensive!!!

I used this text for an Introduction to Linguistics course, and found it very informative and entertaining. Although the text often mentions how its content would benefit ESL teachers, I feel that anyone interested in studying languages and/or interested in analyzing the various components of a language (for example morphology, syntax, grammatical elements, etc.) would find this text a fascinating read. The book is divided into logical and digestible chapters to give the student a concrete, general overview of what language is and the various theories pertinent to the study of it. The included exercises were relevant and helpful, encouraging the student to apply and practice what was covered and encouraging thoughtful discussion in the classroom. I also enjoyed the various drawings and humorous references in the book, that made the content enjoyable and easy to digest (who says learning has to be boring?). I still refer back to this book every so often simply because it is full of fascinating theories and concepts - highly recommended.

A comprehensive text that broadly covers a variety of linguistic specialties. It deftly avoids the overly pedantic tone of most books on linguistics (such as *Women, Fire, and Dangerous Things*) with a casual yet scholarly touch, along with a sprinkling of humor that never descends into the sophomoric. A selection of appropriate cartoons adds a nice touch as well. This review refers to the seventh edition.

I needed this for my linguistics class and was overwhelmed by the other overpriced new ones. Since I bought it used I expected to find some highlighting since people like doing that (not a fan myself), but it was only in the first part of morphology! It is in really good condition and saved a great amount of money.

This book has been extremely informative. I'm starting linguistic studies as a know-nothing--or

would have, had it not been for this book. :) I'm pleased with it over all, but disappointed with some of the off-color illustrations--my vocabulary has grown in ways I never wanted it to.

I would recommend this book to anyone who is considering linguistics as a career. I'm not very interested in the career field myself, but I really did enjoy reading about every aspect of language and the anthropology that goes along with it. I had to read this book for a class, and was pleasantly surprised at how funny it got in some points.

The book is like new. Just as described. No stains, marks or highlights. I'm very pleased with the product.

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