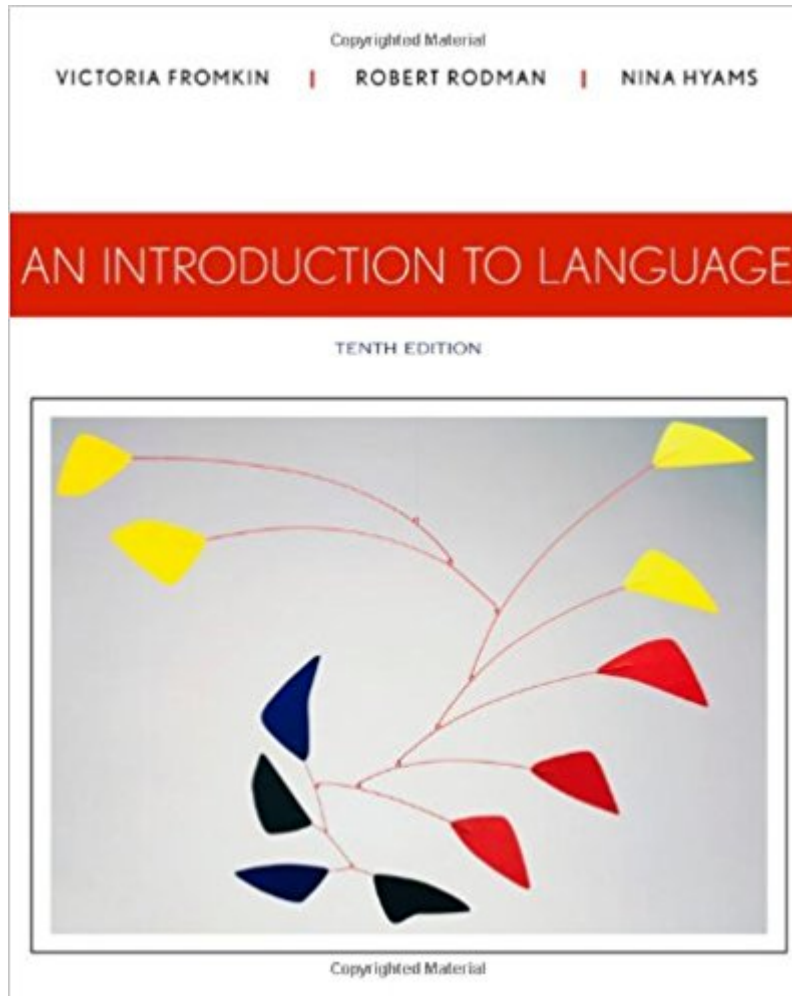




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# **An Introduction To Language**



## Synopsis

Assuming no prior knowledge of linguistics, *AN INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE*, Tenth Edition, is appropriate for a variety of fields--including education, languages, psychology, cognitive science, 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 book a perennial best-seller, while adding new information and exercises that render each topic fresh, engaging, and current.

## Book Information

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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.

This book is great that it gives you lots of information. But for people like me who have not focused on "grammar" in a long time it is EXTREMELY hard to read and get through. (And I am reading this book for the second linguistics class I have taken!). They assume that you know a lot of linguistics and grammar terminology - which is a very bad assumption - because if you don't know what the terms mean or haven't studied grammar in a long time you will be totally lost. However, other parts are extremely easy to read and get through, plus they use a lot of examples and illustrations to show you what they are discussing, which is very helpful. Some of the terms that should be defined are defined long after they have been introduced - so maybe it is just poorly organized? If you can get a "cheat sheet" on linguistic and grammar terms before reading it will be very helpful to you. I unfortunately didn't have a choice since the book was required for class.

This was a required text for a language / linguistics course. It is dense but there is so much information and it was enjoyable to read. Wish I could afford to own a copy (rented Kindle for PC).

My current text for Introductory Linguistics at the UMN would be incomprehensible without reading this first. Many of the examples in that text appear to have been lifted from this classic. Even though Victoria Fromkin has been dead for ?20? years.

Had to read for a master's class. However, was presently surprised at the ease of reading this particular book. There are many parts of language that can be confusing, but this author explains language elements in easy to understand writing. I would not recommend this book for the lay person; however, it is a great resource for those who are interested in the make up of languages.

I started an MA program in Linguistics with a concentration in TESOL. The intro class required this text as its only text. The price on .com was approx. \$20 less than the bookstore/other store prices. It is a good value for the price. Aesthetics: It's a softcover book so it will get wrinkled at some point. There are cartoons in the chapters that break up the text and illustrate some go points. Info: The information is in an easy to comprehend format that is organized well. As you move on past morphology into syntax, the the info becomes more technical and complex. I suggest taking notes as you go so you can process the info better. The info is presented in a way that is as clear cut as they can get. My one gripe is that they constantly reference later chapters for info they bring up earlier. Overall: If you need to get this for a linguistics course or as a supplement, it's a good deal. If you are just dabbling, beware that the book gets technical and slightly confusing at chapter 3 or 4.

This book is easy to read and understandable. Great for linguistics! You may need to read a few times to get the full effect.

New editions of this text are unreasonably priced. This used edition came promptly and in condition described. I loan used editions to the students I teach.

I bought this book for a Linguistic Anthropology class as a junior in college. The book is very good in terms of content and information. It's not exactly an easy read though. This book is definitely more suited to Linguistic majors, NOT Anthropology majors, as it focuses much more on the linguistic thoughts and theories - i.e. phonology, morphology, syntax, grammaticality, etc whereas my Anthro class was, of course, more concerned with the cultural aspects and effects of language.

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