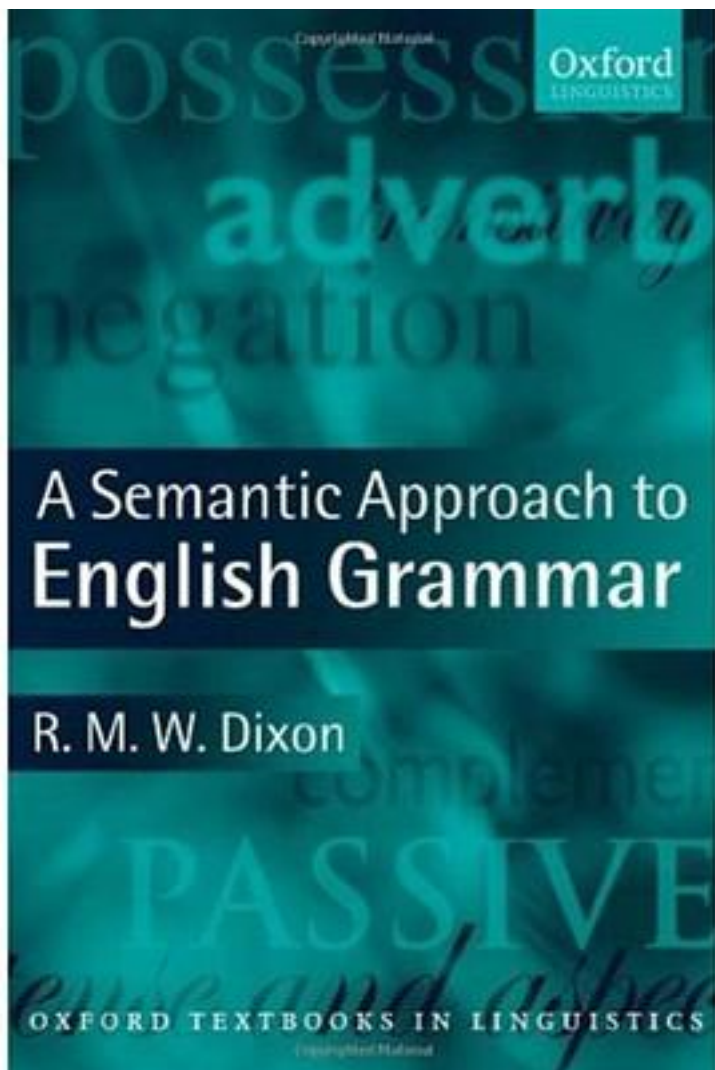


A Semantic Approach to English Grammar



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著者:R. M. W. Dixon

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This book shows how grammar helps people communicate and looks at the ways grammar and meaning interrelate. The author starts from the notion that a speaker codes a meaning into grammatical forms which the listener is then able to recover: each word, he shows, has its own meaning and each bit of grammar its own function, their combinations creating and limiting the possibilities for different words. He uncovers a rationale for the varying grammatical properties of different words and in the process explains many facts about English - such as why we can say I wish to go, I wish that he would go, and I want to go but not I want that he would go. The first part of the book reviews the main points of English syntax and discusses English verbs in terms of their semantic types including those of Motion, Giving, Speaking, Liking, and Trying. In the second part Professor Dixon looks at eight grammatical topics, including complement clauses, transitivity and causatives, passives, and the promotion of a non-subject to subject, as in Dictionaries sell well. This is the updated and revised edition of A New Approach to English Grammar on Semantic Principles. It includes new chapters on tense and aspect, nominalizations and possession, and adverbs and negation, and contains a new discussion of comparative forms of adjectives. It also explains recent changes in English grammar, including how they have replaced the tabooed he as a pronoun referring to either gender, as in When a student reads this book, they will learn a lot about English grammar in a most enjoyable manner.

作者介绍:

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Dixon) 先后任澳大利亚国立大学语言学系主任、拉筹伯大学语言类型学中心主任，现任詹姆斯·库克大学 (James Cook University) 荣誉教授。

迪格森是国际知名的语言类型学家，以研究澳大利亚土著语以及拉丁美洲亚马逊河流域的语言而闻名，对语言理论研究有独到的贡献。特别值得称道的是他对名词的分类，以及对类别词、使动结构、及物性，以及词的性质等专题研究。

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