Noun Phrases in Creole Languages

A multi-faceted approach

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This volume offers a thorough examination of the syntactic, semantic, pragmatic and discourse properties of noun phrases in a wide variety of creole (and non-creole) languages including Cape Verdean Creole, Santome, Papiamentu, Guinea-Bissau Creole, Mindanao Chabacano, RÉunionnais Creole, Lesser Antillean, Haitian Creole, Mauritian Creole, Seychellois, Sranan, Jamaican Creole, Berbice Dutch Creole and African American English. Comparative studies also consider the determiner systems of Middle and Modern French, European Portuguese, Brazilian Portuguese, Spanish, Ewe, Fon and Gun. This compilation of 16 chapters brings together descriptive, theoretical, diachronic and synchronic studies that focus on the structure and interpretation of bare nouns in creoles. The contributions demonstrate the variety and complex nature of determiner systems in creoles and their widespread use of bare nouns in comparison to their source languages. This volume is evidence of the relevance of creole languages to theories of language creation, language change and linguistic theory in general.


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Table of contents

Acknowledgment

Part I: An introduction
1. Noun phrases in creole languages:
An introductory overview
Marlyse Baptista and Jacqueline Guéron

Part II: Portuguese-lexified Creoles
2. Bare nouns and the nominal domain in Santome
Nélia Alexandre and Tjerk Hagemeijer
3. On the syntax and semantics of
DP in Cape Verdean Creole
Marlyse Baptista
4. Papiamentu and Brazilian Portuguese: A
comparative study of bare nominals
Ellen-Petra Kester and Cristina Schmitt
5. On the interpretation of bare noun phrases
in Guinea-Bissau Portuguese Creole (Kriyol)
Alain Kihm

Part III: Spanish-lexified Creoles
6. Some aspects of NPs in Mindanao Chabacano:
Structural and historical considerations
Anthony P. Grant
7. Bare nouns in Palenquero: A fresh
consensus in the making
Armin Schwegler

Part IV: French-lexified Creoles
8. Bare nouns in RÉunionnais Creole
Robert Chaudenson
9. The bare NP in Lesser Antillean
Karl Gadelii
10. Bare NPs and deficient DPs in Haitian Creole and
French: From morphosyntax to referent construal
Anne Zrbi-Hertz and Herby Glaude

Part V: A comparison of romance Creoles
11. Implicit determination and plural
Viviane Déprez

Part VI: English-lexified Creoles
12. Bare nouns and articles in Sranan
Adrienne Bruyn
13. Aspects of the syntax and semantics
of bare nouns in Jamaican Creole
Michèle Stewart

Part VII: African American English
14. NPs in aspectual Re constructions
in African American English
Lisa Green
15. Bare nouns in African American English (AAE)
Arthur K. Spears

Part VIII: Dutch-lexified Creoles
16. Bare nouns in Berbice Dutch Creole
Silvia Kounenberg

Part IX: A Synthesis and a postface
17. Properties of noun phrases in creole
languages: A synthetic comparative exposition
Marlyse Baptista
18. Functional deficiency, ellipsis or innovation
in creole languages? A postface
Marlyse Baptista and Jacqueline Guéron

Index