<<社会语言学>>

图书基本信息

书名:<<社会语言学>>

13位ISBN编号:9787513502320

10位ISBN编号:7513502323

出版时间:2010-10

出版时间:外语教学与研究出版社

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页数:263

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内容概要

作者以"说话者的选择"为切入视角和主题来解释语言变异,探究描述和解释语言选择的规律以及影响选择的社会因素。

在讨论社会语言学各个具体研究课题时,从不同的学科背景和文化角度提供了许多新的观点和例证, 为读者呈现了较为宽阔的视角。

本书语言表述清楚、规范,行文风格简洁、干练,可作为社会语言学的教科书使用。

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章节摘录

As human beings we are able to change our behaviour. The ideathat we act as free agents is fundamental to our self-conception. Everyword we say reinforces this conviction , for whenever we speak we makechoices. The ability to consider alternatives and opt for one is basic tointelligent life. It is restricted by our physical nature , the many things wecannot choose , such as the colour of our eyes , our IQ , or whether we arebeautiful or ugly. All this may change soon , as the human species getsready to do with itself what it has done with other species for a long time : interfere with natures course , select , breed , grow and artificially manipu-late their genetic makeup. The life sciences have made spectacular progressover the past several decades , constantly expanding the realm of culture -that which we control - at the expense of nature - that which controls us.No longer confined to science fiction novels , anthropotechnology hascrossed the threshold into the real world and become a vital concern oflegislation , the paradigm of deliberate regulation of behaviour , The pro-spects are tempting. Before long , we are told , we will be able to safeguardour offspring against congenital diseases , if not secure immortality forourselves , At the same time , we are confronted with new challenges , whichwill be a lot more serious than how to retrain all those undertakers. We willhave to decide whether to go down every pathway science opens up or toerect occasional warning signs , STOP HERE , at critical junctures. Inshort , at the present time , we are forced to rethink our place in the universe , the confines of nature and our own nature.

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