An Introduction to Late Modern English
Ingrid Tieken-Boon van Ostade

March 2009
Pb • 978 0 7486 2598 7 • £14.99
Hb • 978 0 7486 2597 0 • £50.00

New introductory textbook to the increasingly popular Late Modern English period

Description
Twenty years ago it was widely believed that nothing much happened to the English language since the beginning of the eighteenth century. Recent research has shown that this is far from true, and this book offers an introduction to a period that forms the tail end of the standardisation process (codification and prescription), during which important social changes such as the Industrial Revolution are reflected in the language. Late Modern English is currently receiving a lot of scholarly attention, mainly as a result of new developments in sociohistorical linguistics and corpus linguistics. By drawing on such research the present book offers a much fuller account of the language of the period than was previously possible. It is designed for students and beginning scholars interested in Late Modern English.

The volume includes:
• A basis in recent research by which sociolinguistic models are applied to earlier stages of the language (1700-1900)
• A focus on people as speakers (wherever possible) and writers of English
• Research questions aimed at acquiring skills for working with important electronic research tools such as Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO), the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) and the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (DNB)
• Reference to electronically available texts and databases such as Martha Ballard's diary, the Proceedings of the Old Bailey and Mrs Beeton's Book of Household Management.

Selling Points
• ECCO is an important new database: a variety of the research questions included in the book aim at acquiring familiarity with this database, as well as with the OED and the DNB
• Complements other ETOTEL titles on historical linguistics, which look at Old English (Hogg, 2002), Middle English (Smith and Horobin, 2002) and Early Modern English (Nevalainen, 2006)

About the Author
Ingrid Tieken-Boon van Ostade has a chair in English Sociohistorical Linguistics at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. She is the director of a VICI research project called The Codifiers and the English Language: Tracing the Norms of Standard English.

Series
Edinburgh Textbooks on the English Language

Readership
Language & Linguistics
Undergraduate students of English Language and Linguistics.

Table of Contents
1. Introduction
2. Spoken English
3. Spelling
4. Vocabulary and early dictionaries
5. Grammar and grammars
6. Language and social networks
7. The Language of Letters
8. Conclusion
9. Texts

last amended date: 25/11/2008