English in Australia and New Zealand: An Introduction to Its History, Structure and Use

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English in Australia and New Zealand combines both theory and description, and introduces the major theoretical and methodical issues in modern linguistic study. It also provides an overview of the structure and history of the English language in its many varieties, especially those of Australia and New Zealand. The emphasis is on English as it is used everyday. Almost all the examples are drawn from culinary texts, spoken and written. These include cooking books throughout the centuries, food and wine magazines, and books about food, health, diet and even etiquette.

The book integrates a synchronic and diachronic approach. A description of each aspect of present-day English - be it vocabulary, sounds, or grammar - is followed by a discussion of its historical development. The approach is purposefully eclectic and draws upon many different traditions and areas within linguistics. Each chapter concludes with a summary of points to remember, as well as practical exercises and questions for discussion.