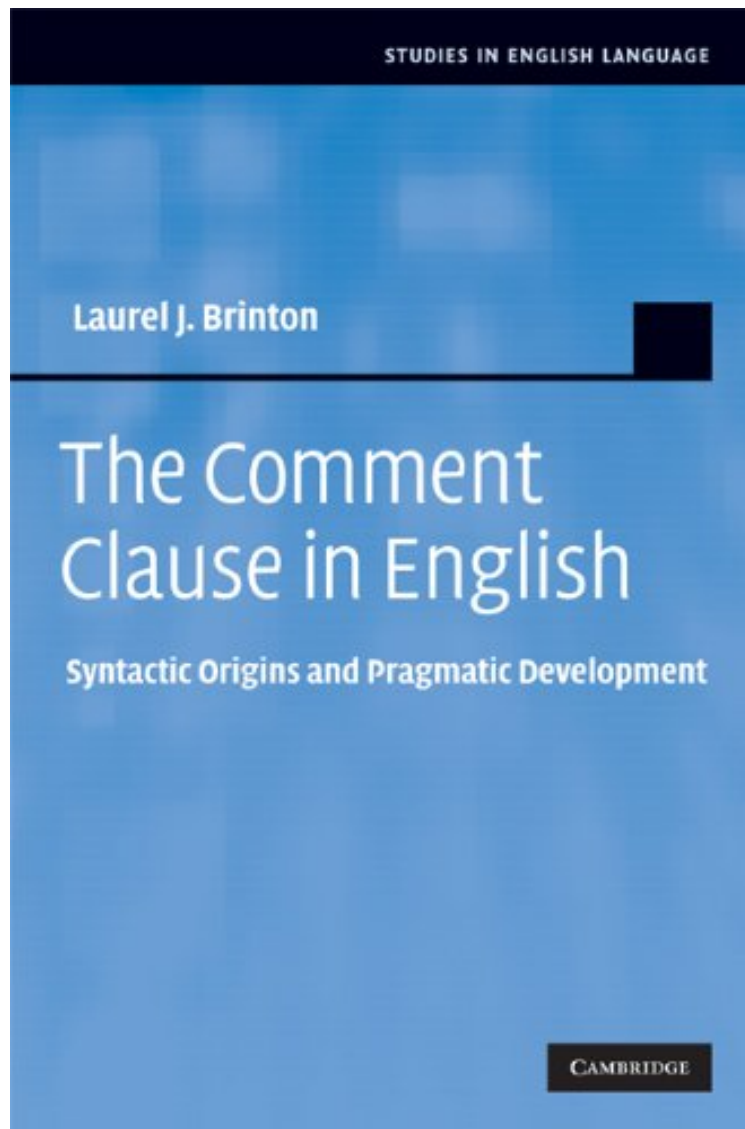


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## The Comment Clause in English: Syntactic Origins and Pragmatic Development (Studies in English Language)

Von Laurel J. Brinton

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Von Laurel J. Brinton : The Comment Clause in English: Syntactic Origins and Pragmatic Development (Studies in English Language) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Comment Clause in English: Syntactic Origins and Pragmatic Development (Studies in English Language):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Seminal bookVon pigeonwhiteA very seminal book for people who are interested in linguistics, particularly in syntax and pragmatics. It provides a new perspective on certain linguistic phenomena, both in written English and in spoken English.

KurzbeschreibungAlthough English comment clauses such as I think and you know have been widely studied, this book constitutes the first full-length diachronic treatment, focusing on comment clauses formed with common verbs of perception and cognition in a variety of syntactic forms. It understands comment clauses as causal pragmatic markers that undergo grammaticalisation, and acquire pragmatic and politeness functions and subjective and intersubjective meanings. To date, the prevailing view of their syntactic development, which is extrapolated from synchronic studies, is that they originate in matrix clauses which become syntactically indeterminate and are reanalysed as parenthetical. In this corpus-based study, Laurel J. Brinton shows that the historical data do not bear out this view, and proposes a more varied and complex conception of the development of comment clauses. Researchers and students of the English language and historical linguistics will certainly consider Brinton's findings to be of great interest.Pressestimmen'Although the outlines of all case studies look similar, they are variable enough to allow for the individual history and function of each discussed item. The organization of each chapter leads to the derivation that is proposed. The analyses are carefully conducted and easy to understand. No proposed derivation remains unclear. In sum, it is an impressive and excellent study of the derivation of comment clauses. I can recommend this book to all linguists ' The Linguist Listber das ProduktEnglish comment clauses such as I think and you know have been widely studied in present-day English. This study, however, constitutes the first full-length treatment of the history of comment clauses in the English language, and proposes a varied and complex conception of their development.