1 Celebrations for the 700th Centenary of Dante’s Death

In 2021, the 700th anniversary of the death of Dante Alighieri (1321–2021) was celebrated in Italy and Europe. The centenary was an occasion for the publication of various books and essays on various aspects of the works of the ‘Divine Poet’, including important new editions of the Dante's Commedia. In the linguistic field, Dante, l’italiano, ed. by Giovanna Frosini and Giuseppe Polimeni (Florence: Accademia della Crusca–goWare, 2021), 293 pp., published by the Accademia della Crusca on the occasion of the XXI Week of the Italian Language in the World, and Paola Manni, L’invenzione della lingua. Perché Dante è il padre dell’italiano (Turin: Gedi, 2021), 141 pp., intended to celebrate Dante through his inventions and linguistic theories, which are still current and applied today. Work on the Vocabolario Dantesco is also ongoing. This is a new lexicographic tool resulting from a collaboration between the Accademia della Crusca and the Institute of the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche Opera del Vocabolario Italiano, directed by Paola Manni and Lino Leonardi, with the aim of reaching ‘a full understanding of Dante’s lexicon in relation to the language of his time, of previous and subsequent generations, of the Latin and Romance literary tradition’ (http://www.vocabolariodantesco.it/). Among the contributions inspired by this research experience, Rosario Coluccia and Paola Manni, ‘Impostazione, metodo e finalità di una nuova impresa lessicografica: Il Vocabolario Dantesco’, in Actes du xxixe Congrès international de
linguistique et de philologie romanes (Copenhague, 1–6 juillet 2019), ed. by Lene Schøsler and Juhani Häräma, in collaboration with Jan Lindschouw, 2 vols (Strasbourg: SLR/ELiPhi, 2021), pp. 805–814, illustrate the methods and objectives of the research work. Several studies have investigated specific aspects of Dante's universe. Donatella Lippi, Dante tra Ipocràte e Galieno. Il lessico della medicina nella Commedia (Florence: Pontecorboli, 2021), 175 pp., focuses on the presence of medical language in Dante's Commedia; Mirko Volpi, Amor condusse noi. Lettura linguistica di Inferno v (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 125 pp., presents a rich and accurate linguistic reading of the love between Paolo and Francesca (Canto 5 of Inferno), one of the most famous and celebrated episodes of the poem. Antonio Sorella, Bembo e Dante: storia di un disamore. L’invenzione dell’italico, un manoscritto petrarchesco perduto, controversie filologiche, cosmologiche e religiose, intrighi sentimentali e politici (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 483 pp., has as his topic the very delicate relationship between Dante and Pietro Bembo. In his grammar book (Prose della volgar lingua, 1525), Bembo gave preference to the Petrarchian monolithic lyric over the variegated multilingualism of the Florentine poet, because, in his view, the former is more suitable as a reproducible model of good language. Marco Grimaldi, Filologia dantesca. Un’introduzione (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 175 pp., offers a valuable overview of the thorny question of Dante’s philology (we do not have autographed manuscripts of Dante), while Angelo Eugenio Mecca, I manoscritti frammentari della Commedia (Siena: Edizioni Università per Stranieri di Siena, 2021), 365 pp., illustrates the codes with textual fragments of the Commedia. In addition, after the first two series of Nuove prospettive sulla tradizione della ‘Commedia’ (Nuove prospettive sulla tradizione della Commedia. Una guida filologico-linguistica al poema dantesco, ed. by Paolo Trovato (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2007), 742 pp., and Nuove prospettive sulla tradizione della Commedia. Seconda serie (2008–2013), ed. by Elisabetta Tonello and Paolo Trovato (Padua: Libreriauniversitaria, 2013), 234 pp., the third series came out: Nuove prospettive sulla tradizione della ‘Commedia’. Terza serie (2020), ed. by Martina Cita, Federico Marchetti, and Paolo Trovato (Padua: Libreriauniversitaria, 2021), 221 pp., affirming that this series of studies—begun almost twenty years ago—is still a point of reference in the field of Dante’s philology.

History of Italian

The great undertaking—reconstructing the history of Italian in an original and innovative way, following the evolution of genres and types of written Italian—was started in 2014 with the publication of the first three volumes:
Otto e Novecento. Lingua e stile. Con la riedizione di un testo raro di Anna Vertua Gentile (Milan: Biblion, 2021), 252 pp.—and by investigating the language of Catholic education—Rita Fresu and Stefania Sotgiu, Editoria cattolica femminile tra Otto e Novecento. La lingua della produzione educativa di suor Maria Vincenti (Milan: Franco Angeli, 2021), 329 pp. The Italian of the Church is also discussed in La Chiesa e l’italiano: un cammino nel tempo e nel mondo, ed. by Rita Librandi (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 190 pp. The goal of the volume is to show the great diffusion of Italian through the channels of the Church, thanks to the interventions of linguists who worked in Italy (Rita Librandi, Michele Colombo, Giuseppe Polimeni, Edoardo Buroni) and abroad (Francesco De Toni, Franco Pierno), and theologians (Gianfranco Ravasi). Finally, there are two books that deal with the topic of gender in the Italian language through the centuries: Maschile/Femminile nella letteratura di formazione dalle culture antiche all’età moderna, ed. by Rita Fresu, Giulia Murgia, and Patrizia Serra, 2 vols (Perugia: Morlacchi, 2021), 726 pp., collects the results of a two-year research project coordinated by Rita Fresu with the aim of examining the construction mechanisms and ways of representing masculine and feminine in training texts. Valeria Melis and Rita Fresu, Le amiche di Lisistrata. Lingua, genere, comicità nel tempo (Perugia: Morlacchi, 2021), 261 pp., focus on the uninterrupted and persistent line of linguistic behaviours attributed to genres, several of which also involve the dimension of the comic and the implications that pertain to it. For example, the very ineptitude of women to produce comedy, in addition to their inopportunity to provoke it, constitutes a constant that crosses time and space.

3 Literary Italian

The contributions on literary Italian have been numerous and important. In addition to the works on Dante already mentioned, several other leading figures of the Italian cultural scene over the centuries have been studied. Proceeding in chronological order, we can start from the collective book on another of the ‘Three Crowns’, Boccaccio, ed. by Maurizio Fiorilla and Irene Iocca (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 405 pp., in which Roberta Cella, ‘La lingua e lo stile’ (pp. 253–269), is dedicated to Boccaccio’s language and style. The chapter addresses issues related to syntax, metrics, vocabulary, morphology, and phonetics. A paragraph is then dedicated to the judgement of posterity on the language of Boccaccio, who, since the 16th century, has been considered a master of prose to be imitated. Barbara Fanini, Leonardo scrittore (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 112 pp., offers a complete guide to Leonardo’s writings, with particular regard to his literary output. The final chapter provides an updated description of
the IT and bibliographic tools available today to gain an in-depth knowledge of Da Vinci’s notebooks. Giovanna Frosini, *La lingua di Machiavelli* (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 196 pp., traces the linguistic profile of the works of Niccolò Machiavelli. After an introductory chapter, which describes the elements of the 16th-century Florentine vernacular, we get to the heart of the texts through an analysis of language in terms of handwriting, phonology, syntax, and lexicon. There is also a chapter in which the author reflects on Machiavelli as a theorist of language and on his relationship with tradition, especially with the works of Dante. A selection of texts is presented and commented upon in the anthological section that closes the volume. Jacopo Galavotti, ‘*Spento era il gran Bembo*’. *Metrica e sintassi nei lirici veneziani del secondo Cinquecento* (Alessandria: Edizioni dell’Orso, 2021), ix + 431 pp., considers the Venetian lyric poets of the 16th century and studies their many metric methods. Riccardo Tesi, ‘*Nè più mai toccherò le sacre sponde*’. *Saggi sulla lingua poetica dell’Ottocento* (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 119 pp., brings together some essays dedicated to 19th-century poetic language, analysing the evolution of language and poetic style in Italy throughout the century. Alessio Ricci, *Sullo ‘Zibaldone’ e altro*. *Lingua e linguistica di Leopardi* (Canterano: Aracne, 2021), 197 pp., has written a short book that consists of four chapters on the syntax and textuality of Leopardi’s ‘diary of thoughts’, the linguistic differences between this text and his other texts, and reflections on the language used. The other ‘champion’ of 19th-century Italian literature, Alessandro Manzoni, is the subject of an interesting book: Mariarosa Bricchi, *Manzoni prosatore. Un percorso linguistico* (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 247 pp., divides her book in two parts: the first is *L’avventura del romanzo* (pp. 17–171), which considers the linguistic differences of the different drafts of the *Promessi Sposi*, and the second is *La prosa saggistica* (pp. 173–233), which considers the non-literary works of Manzoni (i.e. works on morality, literary theory, history, and language). The volume closes with a large and updated ‘Bibliografia’ (pp. 235–242) and a very useful ‘Indice delle parole, dei modi e dei concetti notevoli’ (pp. 243–247). Another collective volume released in 2021, similar to the one on Boccaccio, is dedicated to the writer Italo Svevo: *Svevo*, ed. by Claudio Gigante and Massimiliano Tortora (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 256 pp. The chapter ‘Lingua e stile di Svevo romanziere’ (pp. 187–212), written by Paolo Zublena, deals with issues related to the author’s alleged ‘bad writing’, which was often criticized by his contemporaries. Another issue addressed concerns the influence of dialect and German on his language and style. Sergio Bozzola and Chiara De Caprio, *Forme e figure della saggistica di Calvino. Da Una pietra sopra alle Lezioni americane* (Rome: Salerno Editrice, 2021), 196 pp., investigate the last phase of another great Italian writer of the 20th century, Italo Calvino, focusing on the collection of literary essays
from *Una pietra sopra. Discorsi di letteratura e società* (1980) to the *Lezioni americane. Sei proposte per il prossimo millennio*, designed for a series of lectures to be given at Harvard University, and published posthumously in 1988. Back in the present, there are two books focused on today’s fiction: Maurizio Dardano, *Come sono fatti questi romanzi? Le forme della narrativa italiana di oggi* (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 196 pp., considers the linguistic and formal aspects of sixteen novels published between 2013 and 2020 by the following authors: Edoardo Albinati, Silvia Ballestra, Gianrico Carofiglio, Mauro Covacich, Paolo Di Paolo, Claudia Durastanti, Helena Janeczek, Valeria Parrella, Francesco Pecoraro, Francesco Piccolo, Remo Rapino, Roberto Saviano, Antonio Scurati, and Emanuele Trevi. Luigi Matt, *Narratori italiani del Duemila. Scritti di stilistica militante* (Milan: Meltemi, 2021), 340 pp., has collected together essays and reviews on fiction from the early 2000s, with particular attention to writing style, as ‘chiave di accesso privilegiata, che permette di capire meglio anche gli aspetti tematici (data l’inscindibilità di forma e contenuto propria della scrittura letteraria)’ (p. 7) (‘privileged access key, which allows you to understand the thematic aspects (given the inseparability of form and content of literary writing)’).

4 Italian and Other Languages

The volume *Il patrimonio linguistico europeo, un tesoro da proteggere*, ed. by Claudio Marazzini (Florence: Accademia della Crusca, 2021), 138 pp., collects together the minutes of a meeting held 28 September 2018 at the Accademia della Crusca, organized by the Accademia in collaboration with the European Commission Representation in Italy. The meeting was aimed at a comparison between the different language policies in Italy, France, and Spain. For the European Commission, Beatrice Covassi and Paola Rizzotto were present. For the Real Academia Española, Pedro Álvarez de Miranda, professor of Spanish language at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and director of Escuela de Lexicografía Hispánica, and María Paz Battaner Arias, former professor of Spanish language. The Académie française was represented by Hélène Carrère d’Encausse, secrétaire perpétuel of the French Academy since 1999. The President Emeritus Nicoletta Maraschio and the current President Claudio Marazzini spoke for the Accademia della Crusca. Meanwhile, Lorenzo Tomasin, *Europa romanza. Sette storie linguistiche* (Turin, Einaudi, 2021), xiv + 234 pp., tells seven stories set between the 13th and 16th centuries in Mediterranean and Central Northern Europe, characterized by a multilingualism due to contact between peoples. The protagonists of these stories are non-literate writers,
whose writing is characterized by the crossing of two or more Romance languages. On Italian as a ‘host language’, as a language for migrants and ‘new Italians’, Mari D’Agostino, *Noi che siamo passati dalla Libia. Giovani in viaggio fra alfabeti e multilinguismo* (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 248 pp., has interviewed young African migrants, who arrived in Italy after crossing the Mediterranean, after months or years of forced stay in Libya, reporting their words and stories. For these migrants, the spontaneous acquisition of new languages is crucial for the success of their migratory transition. *Didattica della punteggiatura italiana a apprendenti giapponenti, coreani, vietnamiti, cinesi e arabi*, ed. by Emanuele Banfi, Pierangela Diadori, and Angela Ferrari (Siena: Edizioni Università per Stranieri di Siena, 202), 310 pp., is divided into three sections. The first two deal with general issues of punctuation in Italian and Oriental languages: ‘Questioni di punteggiatura nell’italiano (con apertura al tedesco)’ (pp. 1–75) and ‘Questioni di punteggiatura di lingue orientali (cinese, giapponese, coreano, vietnamita, arabo)’ (pp. 78–178). The third section, through the presentation of some case studies, examines ways to teach punctuation in Italian to learners whose mother tongue is an Oriental language: ‘Didattica della punteggiatura italiana a apprendenti di madrelingua cinese, giapponese, coreana, vietnamita e araba: studio di casi’ (pp. 181–293). On the multilingualism that characterizes the Italian linguistic system today, there are several new contributions. *Studi sul plurilinguismo. Tematiche, problemi, prospettive*, ed. by Fabiana Fusco, Carla Marcato, and Renato Oniga (Udine: Forum, 2021), 238 pp., collects the results of the Secondo Colloquio Internazionale sul Plurilinguismo held at the University of Udine. Italian multilingualism, both a historical phenomenon due to the country’s centuries-old political fragmentation, and a new one, due to the many languages of immigrants present in the territory today, is investigated in different geographical and cultural contexts. *Ricerche su plurilinguismo e neoplurilinguismo nel Friuli Venezia Giulia*, ed. by Carla Marcato (Udine: Forum, 2021), 184 pp., collects some essays dedicated to multilingualism and new plurilingualism in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region (north-east Italy). In this region, multilingualism is particularly pronounced: Italian and its varieties intersect with both local languages (especially Friulian) and immigrant languages, which have a significant presence.

5 Italian and Dialects

The volume *La presenza dei dialetti italo-romanzi nel paesaggio linguistico: ricerche e riflessioni*, ed. by Giuliano Bernini, Federica Guerini, and Gabriele Iannàccaro (Bergamo: Bergamo University Press, 2021), 254 pp., collects twelve
case studies concerning the presence of the dialect in the linguistic landscape of different areas of Italy: Sicilia, Sardegna, Toscana, Liguria, and Lombardia. The volume closes with an essay on the use of dialect on Instagram (Camilla Masullo and others, ‘Dialeto su Instagram: usi, differenze e atteggiamenti linguistici’, pp. 237–254). Alessandro Aresti, Il glossario latino-bergamasco (sec. xv) della Biblioteca Universitaria di Padova (ms. 534). Nuova edizione con commento linguistico, note lessicali e indici delle voci (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2021), 274 pp., offers a new edition of the 15th-century MS 534 of Biblioteca Universitaria di Padova, containing an extensive Latin–Bergamasco glossary. Marta Idini, Parole filmate a Nord-Est. Le scelte plurilingui nella rappresentazione del Triveneto al cinema (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 184 pp., looks to the Venetian cinema to relate the decentralization process that has removed cinematic production from Roman monopoly, leaving room for local and provincial realities. Valentina Retaro, Dinamiche linguistiche in Campania. I dialetti dell'area nord-vesuviana (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 346 pp., examines the dialect variation present in five towns in the north Vesuvian area: Pollena Trochita, Sant'Anastasia, Somma Vesuviana, Ottaviano, and San Giuseppe Vesuviano. The survey is the result of field research carried out over a three-year period and was conducted on a corpus of linguistic data taken from dialectal interviews. Michele Loporcaro, La Puglia e il Salento (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 264 pp., has written a book as part of the Dialetti d'Italia editorial series, which aims to trace a series of linguistic profiles of some dialects of Italy. The book focuses on the co-existence of two distinct dialect areas in the Puglia region: the Apulian and the Salento. The description of the dialects is organized by levels of analysis: sounds, forms, sentence structure, and lexicon. The data are presented through numerous examples and are illustrated by maps that represent the territorial distribution of the phenomena examined. Two books by Roberto Sottile bring us to Sicily: Suca. Storia e usi di una parola (Palermo: Navarra, 2021), 95 pp., tells the story of the word 'suca', derived from the Sicilian verb sucari ('suck'), and now used in colloquial and youthful Italian to deny something or express opposition to a request; Sciasciamo dialettale. 67 parole dalle Parrocchie (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 191 pp., is a contribution to the documentation of the language of Leonardo Sciascia (1921–1989), with specific regard to the dialectal lexicon, and offers a useful tool for understanding the writer's literary words. This is a list of words concerning Sciascia dialect voices that have no link to the literary Italian of other national authors.
6 Sector Languages

With regards to the Italian of politics, *Populismi, rottamazioni e social media: sviluppi recenti della comunicazione politica in Italia*, ed. by Stefano Ondelli (Trieste: Edizioni Università di Trieste, 2021), 151 pp., takes into consideration the linguistic attitudes of some Italian political leaders. The first chapter is Anna Turcati, ‘Matteo Renzi: la rottamazione del politichese’ (pp. 15–43), the second is Arianna Di Foggia, ‘Matteo Salvini: una Lega tutta sua’ (pp. 45–70), the third is Francesca Nasi, ‘Beppe Grillo: politico o comico?’ (pp. 71–98), the fourth and last is Silvia Ferrari, ‘Di Maio, Renzi, Salvini: la lingua social dei leader politici’ (pp. 99–138). Pierpaolo Lala and Rocco Luigi Nichil, *Invasione di campo. Il gioco del calcio nel linguaggio e nel racconto della politica* (San Cesario di Lecce: Manni, 2021), 202 pp., present a historical and linguistic analysis of the converging path between the language of football and the language of politics. From the 19th century onwards, politicians have often used words, images, and/or popular expressions typical of sports fields (in particular football) to represent themselves in the eyes of the voters. The book is enriched by the preface by Marco Damilano and the afterword by Filippo Ceccarelli, both journalists, and by an essay by the linguist Marcello Aprile. With regard to the Italian of law and administration, Sergio Lubello, *L’italiano del diritto* (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 128 pp., covers a brief history of the ‘Italian of law’ from the 10th century through some moments and exemplary texts. The book, belonging to the Bussole series, outlines different types of legal works, with a rich choice of commented texts. Interesting paragraphs are also dedicated to the ‘Italian of law’ outside Italy: in particular, in Switzerland and in the institutions of the European Union. *Atti chiari. Chiarezza e concisione nella scrittura forense*, ed. by Riccaldo Gualdo and Laura Clemenzi (Viterbo: Sette città, 2021), 77 pp., collects together the contributions of an online seminar organized by the University of Tuscia and the Civil Chamber of Viterbo on the subject of writing clear and concise procedural documents. ‘Atti chiari. La chiarezza degli atti del processo’ is the title of the PRIN (Progetti di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale (Projects of Relevant National Interest)) which involves four Italian universities: Genova, Florence, Salento, and Tuscia (https://attichiari.unige.it/). Michele A. Cortelazzo, *Il linguaggio amministrativo. Principi e pratiche di modernizzazione* (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 208 pp., considers the characteristics of administrative language. A considerable part of the discussion has an operational nature: the book comments on positive and negative examples of real administrative texts, proposes rewrites, provides suggestions for effective writing, and discusses organizational proposals to achieve the goal of modernizing Italian administrative language. With regards to the Italian of science, *I...
numeridell’italianoel’italianodeinumeri, ed. by Paolo D’Achille and Claudio Marazzini (Florence: Accademia della Crusca, 2021), 170 pp., collects the interventions presented at the eleventh edition of Piazza delle Lingue, organized in Florence from 16 to 18 March 2018 by Accademia della Crusca in collaboration with Unicoop Firenze. The volume contains eleven contributions about the relationship between the Italian language and the world of numbers: for example, the Italian of mathematicians, the importance of numerical data in linguistic analysis, the presence of numbers or numerical expressions in basic Italian. With regard to medical communication during the pandemic, Daniela Petrini, La lingua infetta. L’italiano della pandemia (Rome: Treccani, 2021), 238 pp., starts from the consideration that a large part of the ‘lexicon of contagion’ was formed internationally; she therefore provides a European look at languages (especially French and German) and behaviours, essential for understanding the communication methods of a crisis that cannot be read only in an Italian key. La comunicazione istituzionale ai tempi della pandemia. Da sfida a opportunità, ed. by Raffaella Bombi (Rome: Il Calamo, 2021), 206 pp., sheds light on the complex aspects of communication between state and citizen in times of pandemic crisis. The volume is divided into two parts: the first is ‘La lingua istituzionale nella Pubblica Amministrazione’ (pp. 25–131) and investigates the methods of administrative communication during a health emergency; the second is ‘La comunicazione istituzionale tra web, social media e anglicismi’ (pp. 133–206) and investigates the linguistic novelties spread on the web in the last two years due to the pandemic. About linguistic novelties, Ugo Cardinale, Storie di parole nuove. Neologia e neologismi nell’Italia che cambia (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 203 pp., observes the transformation of the Italian lexicon in the period from the 1960s to the present day, managing to interpret the evolution of society through the change in vocabulary. A relevant topic that deserves a separate discussion is hate speech and insulting language. Paolo Nitti, L’insulto. La lingua dello scherzo, la lingua dell’odio (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 120 pp., offers a review on a subject not yet sufficiently systematized. The volume proposes a definition of insulting language and a classification of insults, as well as presenting the results of a research on cyberbullying practices. Valeria Arnaldi, E di chi non te lo dice. I migliori insulti della storia (Rome: Ultra Edizioni, 2021), 192 pp., explores society, customs, and morals through dirty words, with numerous quotes and references to literature, cinema, theatre, and art. Claudia Bianchi, Hate speech. Il lato oscuro del linguaggio (Rome: Laterza, 2021), 224 pp., analyses hate speech in all its many facets and in its historical (many examples come from the best European literature) and current manifestations (sexist comments, racist insults, and homophobic attacks on social media). Silvia Garambois and Paola Rizzi, #StaiZitta giornalista. Dall’hate speech allo
zoombombing, quando le parole imbavagliano (Rome: All Around, 2021), 144 pp., tackle the problem of insults and even threats directed at the journalists who collect and test news and dismantle fake news. The book is the result of a focus study carried out between March and September 2020 in collaboration with Vox Osservatorio Diritti, which has been mapping hatred online since 2015.

7 The Grammar of Italian

Gerhard Rohlfs, Grammatica storica della lingua italiana e dei suoi dialetti. I Fonetica (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 596 pp., Gerhard Rohlfs, Grammatica storica della lingua italiana e dei suoi dialetti. II Morfologia (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 472 pp., Gerhard Rohlfs, Grammatica storica della lingua italiana e dei suoi dialetti. III Sintassi e formazione delle parole (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 640 pp., is the new edition in three volumes of the monumental work of the German philologist Gerhard Rohlfs on the historical grammar of Italian and dialects, first published in 1966–1969. The new edition was made possible by close collaboration with the Accademia della Crusca. Vittorio Coletti, Nuova grammatica dell’italiano adulto (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 296 pp., continues the previous Vittorio Coletti, Grammatica dell’italiano adulto. L’italiano di oggi per gli italiani di oggi (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2015), 225 pp., and deals with linguistic issues of current interest, such as those relating to gender, with orthographic and morphological implications (e.g. the feminine of professional names). Two books are dedicated to the general study of linguistics. Gaetano Berruto, Che cos’è la linguistica (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 142 pp., allows the reader to orientate between the different schools of thought and the different methodological orientations practised in the study of linguistics. Michele Prandi and others, Orizzonti della linguistica. Grammatica, tipologia, mutamento (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 462 pp., place the sentence at the centre of their discussion in this new manual, divided into four parts: ‘La sintassi della frase’, ‘Dalla sintassi al lessico’, ‘La morfologia’, and ‘La linguistica storica: dal semplice al complesso, e ritorno’. With regard to individual levels of linguistic analysis with regard to phonological studies see Giovanna Marotta and Laura Vanelli, Fonologia e prosodia dell’italiano (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 312 pp., who describe the phonological system of Italian and aim their book primarily at specialists and students of language subjects, but also at teachers who wish to acquire the relevant notions of Italian phonetics and phonology. For morphological studies: Salvatore Claudia Sgroi, Saggi scelti di morfologia lessicale (Rome: Il Calamo, 2021), 384 pp., presents a selection of author’s thirteen essays, which first appeared between 2003 and 2019, relating to the formation of words. All works are placed within
a dual perspective, theoretical and applied (with attention to empirical data extracted mainly from Italian, but also from dialects). For syntactic studies: Giorgio Graffi, *Introduzione alla sintassi* (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 196 pp., has written an introductory volume to the study of syntax, perhaps, in the last decades, the most debated and innovative element of linguistics. It presents some concepts of traditional grammar, discussing its strengths and weaknesses. Cristiana De Santis, *La sintassi della frase semplice* (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2021), 208 pp., studies the simple sentence, consisting of a predicative verb and all the elements necessary for its completion. The book illustrates the strategies that Italian grammar uses today to form syntactically and semantically complete sentences, and to modify their structure for communicative purposes. For text analysis: Angela Ferrari, Letizia Lala, and Luciano Zampese, *Le strutture del testo scritto. Teoria e esercizi* (Rome: Carocci, 2021), 192 pp., present the text and the linguistics of the text on a theoretical level, then discuss the different levels of textual analysis. Each chapter ends with several exercises. For etymological studies: Alberto Nocentini, *Etimologì si nasce e io, modestamente, lo nacqui* (Florence: Le Monnier, 2021), viii + 128 pp., provides anecdotes, quotes, and details of meetings during his forty-five years as Professor of Glottology and General Linguistics at the University of Florence. Nocentini is also the author of *Etimologico*, the etymological dictionary published in 2010, of which he is preparing a new edition.

8 Italian in School

The book *Scrivere. Idee per la didattica della scrittura*, ed. by Anna Rosa Guerriero (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 142 pp., collects together contributions around the theme of writing at school; Cristina Lavinio, *Testi a scuola. Tra lingua e letteratura* (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 140 pp., focuses on the analysis of texts at school. In The levels of language and literacy in some Italian schools are still below the national guidelines. These volumes provide valuable contributions for an effective study of the issues. Both books are part of the editorial series Quaderni di base del GISCEL (Gruppo di Intervento e Studio nel Campo dell’Educazione Linguistica (Intervention and Study Group in the Field of Linguistic Education)). The GISCEL brings together linguistics scholars and teachers of all school levels interested in the studies of linguistic phenomena and educational practice. Established on the initiative of Tullio De Mauro, it has been active since 1973 (https://giscel.it/). *Per una didattica della parola. Ascoltare, parlare, leggere e scrivere nella scuola primaria*, ed. by Raf- faella Setti, Cristiana De Santis, and Roberta Cella (Florence: Franco Cesati,
2021), 140 pp., outlines ways to develop in children the four linguistic skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing), and to enrich their vocabulary and their reflection on the language, stimulating curiosity and the pleasure of discovery. *Poesia, lingua e ascolto. Una nuova didattica per la scuola dell'infanzia*, ed. by Franca Bosc (Florence: Franco Cesati, 2021), 170 pp., collects some of the many programmatic challenges of ‘Indicazioni nazionali per il curricolo della scuola dell’infanzia e del primo ciclo d’istruzione’ (‘National guidelines for the kindergarten curriculum and first cycle of education’). Through six essays, which move between theoretical reflections and applications in the classroom, the book proposes tools to promote children’s mastery of the Italian language, a possible enhancement of their mother tongue, and discovery of other languages as access keys to other cultures and other worlds.