I. General

Lorenzo Renzi, one of the leading figures in the field of (Italo-) Romance linguistics in Italy over recent decades, receives a much-deserved tribute in the form of two separate collections of essays written by colleagues and former pupils highlighting R.’s wide-ranging interests in such areas as syntax, phonology, historical linguistics, and philology: *Il tempo, i tempi: omaggio a Lorenzo Renzi*, ed. Rosanna Brusegan and Michele Cortelazzo, Padua, Esedra, 1999, x + 310 pp., and *Renzi Vol.* The central position occupied by R. in Italian linguistics is also reflected by his pioneering work on the ItalAnt research project, which will lead to a much-awaited grammar of early (Tuscan) Italian bringing together the expertise of many leading figures in the field along lines similar to those of his very successful project on modern Italian which produced the monumental three-volume *Grande grammatica italiana di consultazione* (Bo, Il Mulino, 1988–95). Preliminary results and pilot studies conducted for *ItalAnt* are now published in two collections of papers: *ItalAnt: per una grammatica dell’italiano antico*, ed. Lorenzo Renzi, Padua, Centrostampa Palazzo Malcura, 1998, 89 pp., and a special issue of *LS*, ‘Linguistica e italiano antico’, ed. Lorenzo Renzi and Antonietta Bisetto, 35, 2000: 537–743. M. Barbera and C. Marello, ‘L’annotazione morfo-sintattica del Padua Corpus: strategie adottate e problemi di acquisizione’, *RevR*, 36: 3–20, gives a detailed account of the Turin ItalAnt group’s plan to part-of-speech tag the Padua Corpus for the benefit of all participants in the ItalAnt project.

The continuing importance of dialectal evidence in challenging and developing general issues in linguistic theory is confirmed by two important monographs by Cecilia Poletto and Adam Ledgeway dealing respectively with the syntax of northern and southern dialects (see relevant sections), and the recent collection of outstanding articles contained in Repetti, *Phonological Theory*, an important contribution to both Italian dialectology and phonological theory, serving as an excellent introduction to the phonological structures of the dialects (northern, central, southern) while at the same time presenting the reader with a number of sophisticated analyses of complex and often poorly understood and under-studied phonological phenomena.

2. History of the Language, Early Texts, and Diachronic Studies