

machine translation processes and then focuses on the pragmatic and real performance of three specific systems. Moreover, most of the sections include a little compilation or summary of the principal ideas that have been disclosed and an evaluation of all methods and results presented. The only difficulty in this work is that the examples of machine translated texts are carried out both in German and in English.

Terttu Nevalainen and Helena Raumolin-Brunberg (2003): *Historical Sociolinguistics: Language Change in Tudor and Stuart England*. Great Britain: Pearson Education, 260 pages.

Reviewed by Sara Ponce Serrano

Historical Sociolinguistics: Language Change in Tudor and Stuart England is a comprehensive study of language variation and change from a social perspective. In the preface the authors present the process of data compilation together with the material used for the analysis. The research is based on an electronic collection of personal letters (*Corpus of Early English Correspondence 1410-1681*), consisting of 6,000 letters and approximately 800 writers. Through this corpus Nevalainen and Raumolin-Brunb analyse some of the linguistic changes present in literate sections of the English population and, for this purpose, they focus on the Late Middle and Early Modern English periods, with special attention to the Tudor and Stuart times, from an interdisciplinary Sociolinguistic approach.

The work is divided into ten chapters, including three different appendices which contain the methodology used in the graphical representation of data, numerical information in relation to the different linguistic changes and the list of letters used in the study. Chapter one serves as an introduction, followed by eight chapters and a final chapter summarising the conclusions in relation to the analysis previously done. Chapter two deals specifically with the study of the different models through which the social context of the English language can be studied. Several sociolinguistic paradigms are here commented and the repercussions of the different models in language change are described. In chapter three, Nevalainen and Raumolin-Brunberg present the historical data used consisting of personal correspondence from 1410 to 1681. The Tudor and Stuart England periods are the background for the reconstruction of the social contexts of language use. Chapter four is initially dedicated to the time courses of all linguistic changes analysed. In the second part of this chapter the authors provide the reader with different material related to several linguistic changes through the history of English. In the last part of this chapter fourteen grammatical changes previously analysed are illustrated and explained with several examples. In the four next chapters, six, seven, eight and nine, the authors relate these fourteen linguistic changes present in the history of the English language with several sociolinguistic factors: real and apparent time, gender, social status, regional and register variation and the role these issues played in language change.

In order to help the reader understand the different linguistic changes in relation to the sociolinguistic factors considered, the authors illustrate these changes with several graphics, containing a detailed description of them and of their relation with frequency and time. In conclusion, this is a thorough work which can be very useful for both teachers and students interested in Historical Linguistics and Sociolinguistics.