TOPICS IN WORORA GRAMMAR

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      (v) Topography
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Abstract

A description of the grammar of Wovora, a language from the north west Kimberley region of Western Australia, proceeds along pedagogical lines.

The first chapter introduces the reader to the speakers of Wovora and their history and society, and the nature of the land in which they used to live, as well as to the master and circumstances in which this account came to be written.

From there an account of the language's phonology is presented, with particular attention to those phonological rules that account for its morphology.

Chapters 4 to 7 describe in outline six important lexical categories, essential to a basic understanding of the grammar: simplex nouns (ch. 4), verbs (ch. 5), adjectives, adverbs and inalienable nouns (ch. 6) and pronouns (ch. 7).

Chapters 8 and 10 expand on the account of verbs presented in chapter 5, with an account of conjunctural paradigms encoding mood in chapter 8, and another lexical category of infinitives used in verbal compounds, in chapter 10.

Chapter 9 deals with number marking, a morphology occurring in most lexical categories, and chapter 11 looks at the way in which stretches of discourse are made coherent by an array of pragmatic coding devices.