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A Student Grammar of Turkish

A Student Grammar of Turkish is a concise introduction to Turkish grammar, designed specifically for English-speaking students and professionals. Written with the needs of the learner very much in mind, it sets out the grammar of the language in a clear and jargon-free style. The book not only explains the fundamentals of the grammar, but also tests students' understanding in an interactive way with more than 200 exercises. Key grammar points are summarized in tables and there are numerous illustrative examples. A list of grammatical terms used in the book and a key to all the exercises are also provided. This essential grammar and exercise book can be used as a supplement for students studying the language, with a dual function as a reference guide to look up grammar points and as a resource from which exercises can be set and language skills practiced.

F. Nihan Ketrez is an assistant professor in Linguistics in the Department of English Teacher Education at Istanbul Bilgi University.

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For Vedat, Zeren, and Nehir

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Conventions used in the book

- Italics*: Italics are used to spell Turkish examples in the text.
- ‘...’: Single quotation marks are used for the English gloss or translation of Turkish examples. They usually follow a Turkish word spelled in italics.
- /.../: Slashes are used to represent the pronunciation, as opposed to the orthography. When they appear around a consonant or a vowel, the item refers to the phonological properties in the pronunciation of a consonant or a vowel.
- UPPER-CASE LETTERS: These letters, when they appear as suffixes, represent vowels or consonants that alternate due to vowel harmony or consonant assimilation. So an upper-case letter A represents /a/~/e/ alternation and an upper-case letter I represents one of the vowels /ı, i, u, ü/. Similarly, an upper-case consonant represents an alternation: -DI can appear as -tI or -dI. Here is a list of all upper-case letters and what they stand for:
- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Upper-case K | may appear as k, g, or ğ |
| Upper-case D | may appear as t or d |
| Upper-case A | may appear as a or e |
| Upper-case I | may appear as ı, i, u, ü |
| Upper-case C | may appear as ç or c |
- (hyphen): When it appears before suffixes, a hyphen represents a suffix boundary.
- (hyphen): When it appears after a lexical item, the hyphen shows that the stem cannot appear alone, that it needs to appear in an inflected form. The hyphen is used with verb stems (for example, *sev-*).
- ˈ (acute accent): When it appears in a word, it shows the syllable that bears the primary word stress. It is not a regular orthographic symbol. It is only used in the section where stress assignments are discussed.
- (...): When parentheses appear in a suffix, the part of the suffix that is between parentheses can be omitted in certain contexts. In the case of the possessive suffix -(s)I, for example, *s* is omitted after consonants, e.g., *araba-sı*, *at-ı*.
- [...]: Square brackets are used to mark the boundaries of clauses or phrases embedded in sentences.
- *: An asterisk placed before a word or a sentence shows that the word or the sentence is not acceptable or grammatical.