R. M. W. Dixon: Annotated list of publications from 2010

A list of publications up to 2010 was included at pages 359-381 of my I am a linguist (Brill 2001). A translation from 1973 has recently come to light. The 2010 entry is here expanded.

1973
Story
c Under the nom-de-plume Simon Tully: De qui ma sœur est-elle le frère,? French translation by Hélène S. Costinesco of 1967a, Whose brother is my sister? Galaxie-bis No.27/104. pp. 192-226.

2010
Books
a Basic linguistic theory, Volume 1 — Methodology. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Published simultaneously in hardback and paperback. xvi, 382 pp. [Published October 2009; dated 2010 by publisher.]
d Translation into Modern Mandarin by Zhu Xiaonong, Yan Zhincheng, Jiao Lei, Zhang Caicai and Hong Ying of 1997a, The rise and fall of languages. Beijing: Beijing University Press. See also 2001c.
f Reissue by de Gruyter of 1982a, Where have all the adjectives gone and other essays in semantics and syntax. [Reissue at first under name R. M. Dixon, later corrected by R. M. W. Dixon.]

Article
The publisher stated: 'Basic linguistic theory is the triumphant outcome of a lifetime's thinking about every aspect and manifestation of language and immersion in linguistic fieldwork.'

Review of the first two volumes of Basic linguistic theory in Language:
'These books are monumental and destined to become classics, equatable to the two volumes entitled Language by Sapir (1921) and Bloomfield (1933), and to Givón’s Syntax, volumes 1 (1984) and 2 (1990), but in each case surpassing them in scope, detail, rigor, and coherence. Dixon presents a complete, fully articulated, and cohesive explication of grammar, with extensive elaboration on every major grammatical structure found in the world’s languages, as well as many minor ones. . . . This is a masterwork . . . a lasting reference for grammar writers, typologists, grammatical theorists, and all those fascinated by the complexities of linguistic systems and grammatical analysis.'

Review in Studies in Language:
'Two wonderful books, a treasure trove of ideas and information, a reference work for many decades to come. Extremely informative, exceedingly useful, and profoundly inspiring. These are books I can recommend to every graduate student, to every linguistic field worker.'

2011
Books
a I am a linguist. Leiden: Brill. Published simultaneously in hardback and paperback. xvii, 391 pp. plus 24 colour photographs.
e Paperback reissue of 1984a, Searching for Aboriginal languages, memoirs of a field worker. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ix, 333 pp. See also 1989a

Review of *I am a linguist* in the *International Journal of American Linguistics*:

The significance of R. M. W. (“Bob”) Dixon in global linguistics is great. Australian Aboriginal linguistics was basically built up by him. He has written a handful of high-quality descriptive grammars and (co)edited close to a dozen influential typological volumes with major publishers and a number of other works with high impact. Apart from that, he has written works for a general audience, such as a fascinating account of his fieldwork experiences in Australia and a few novels and science fiction stories... It transpires from the book that Dixon is the ultimate linguist, and that there are perhaps a handful of linguists of his caliber. Others who think they are linguists can learn how to become one in this autobiography-cum-hagiography that reads like a novel.

2012
Book

Article

After completing the three volumes of *Basic linguistic theory* (on which I had been working since 1991), I set about four completely different books, each of which had been in embryo for a good while. *Making new words* …, provides a comprehensive account of derivational morphology and had been in preparation for fifteen years (an earlier version of one chapter was published as 2008c). *Edible gender* … features substantial revisions of essays on three of the original languages of North Queensland (originally published between 1968 and 2008) plus an account of grammatical differences across dialects of Dyirbal. The first draft of *Are some languages better than others?* was as far back as 1989. And the ideas propounded in *The unmasking of English dictionaries* had been fomenting since the 1960s; research and writing
extended over a decade. I did achieve my goal; the first three volumes were published in 2014, 2015 and 2016 and the fourth is due on 2018.

2013
Book

Article
b Possession, and also ownership: vignettes, pp. 291-308 of 2014a,

Review of *Possession and Ownership in Language*:
'This collection of essays about possession and ownership aims at combining linguistic and anthropological concepts concerning the relation between language, culture and modes of thinking, particularly the ways in which culture and cognition are manifested in grammar. Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald's opening essay, 'Possession and ownership: A cross-linguistic perspective', is a lucid introduction that defines, explains, and exemplifies all conceivable aspects of the topic....This volume, the result of cooperation among eminent linguists and anthropologists, is a significant intellectual achievement. The reviewer fully shares the wish that this should be 'a fruitful start for an evolving partnership.'

2014
Books
c Translation into Traditional Mandarin by Bii-Chee Kwok of 1977a *The rise and fall of languages*. Taipei, Taiwan, Institute of Linguistics, Academia Sinica.

Articles
d The non-visible marker in Dyirbal, pp 171-89 of 2014b.


Review in of *Making new words* in *Language*:
'I believe this book to be a worthy successor to Marchand’s *Categories* (1960, 1969), and, as such, it deserves to be labeled... a ‘truly monumental work’ synthesizing and expanding the available knowledge in the field. While its scope only encompasses affixation processes, these are described with remarkable comprehensiveness and systematicity...D’s monograph is one of the most impressive reference books of recent years.'

Review of *The grammar of knowledge* in *Sky Journal of Linguistics*:
*The Grammar of Knowledge* offers many novel perspectives to the study of evidential meanings in language ... The rich data on little documented and endangered languages based on first-hand fieldwork is of high value in its own right. Written in an engaging and accessible manner, *The Grammar of Knowledge* is essential reading for anyone interested in knowledge-related grammatical categories, linguistic typology and the study of lesser-documented languages.'

2015
Book


Review
2016
Book

Review of *Are some languages better than others?* in *Language*:
'This treatise unabashedly poses the simple polar question whether some languages are ‘better’ than others. Dixon, an extraordinarily experienced linguist, is of course wise enough not to answer with a plain ‘yes’ or ‘no’. At the end of the book, he even completely leaves the decision to his readers: ‘It is up to you, the reader, to decide’. …Dixon confesses that this book is, ‘in essence, speculation—a hypothesis awaiting confirmation’. It is, however, speculative at a high intellectual level, thought-provoking, stimulating, and inspiring. It provides a wealth of interesting data, drawn from the author’s own ‘forty years of immersion fieldwork’ on lesser known languages and analyzed in a lucid way. The book is a veritable compendium of linguistics, a collection of concise but detailed information about the essential components of human languages. It is written in an accessible, enjoyable, and refreshingly clear style.'

2017
Books
[Note that a-c are draft versions produced by the Language and Culture Research Centre, JCU]


Articles

g What Dyirbal uses instead of commands, p. 127-5 of 2017e.
h The Australian linguistic area, pp. 624-50 of 2017d

2018

Book

a *The Unmasking of English Dictionaries*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.