



Explaining the irreversibility of grammaticalization

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GRIN Verlag Okt 2009, 2009. sonst. Bücher. Book Condition: Neu. 214x150x1 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2007 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Linguistics, grade: 1,0, University of Wuppertal (Anglistik/Amerikanistik), course: Sprachwissenschaft, 5 entries in the bibliography, language: English, abstract: The paper deals with the unidirectionality of grammaticalization, which is explained by Haspelmath within a usage-based theory of language change as proposed by Keller, who sees language change as an invisible-hand process. Haspelmath focuses on the maxim of extravagance as the main factor for irreversibility. The notion of extravagance was criticised by Geurts as being inappropriate and unnecessary for explaining the unidirectionality of grammaticalization. Haspelmath's explanation is extended by Huelva Unternbäumen, who derives the irreversibility of grammaticalization from three conditions that have to be fulfilled grammaticalization and degrammaticalization to take place. 20 pp. Englisch.

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