



## METADATA

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**Authors:** Giannoulou, G., Professor, UOA

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### Abstract

The book offers an introduction to the basic concepts and methods of Contrastive Linguistics (CL), a rapidly developing branch of theoretical and applied Linguistics. CL is one of the fields that deal with the comparison between languages. CL compares a small number of languages (usually two to four) from a synchronic point of view and independently of their genetic relationship. The first part of the book introduces the basic concepts and the methodology of CL and presents the relationship between CL and both Historical – Comparative Linguistics and Language Typology. It also examines the differences between linguistic theories (generative and functionalist ones) about contrastive analysis and analyzes

inter-linguistic comparison at every level of the language system (phonetics/phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics), as well as pragmatics. The second part of the book focuses on a specific contrastive analysis of linguistic data in four languages (Greek, Italian, French, German). In particular, the phenomena discussed are a) the definite article, in which syntax, semantics, and morphology are involved, and b) compounding, a morphological process with semantic dimensions. Although the point of view of contrastive analysis is mainly synchronic, it also includes the diachronic dimension to give a full interpretation. Each chapter includes exercises on both the theory and its applications.

