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Optimality Theory - An Introduction

By Patrick Schmitz

GRIN Verlag GmbH. Paperback. Condition: New. 28 pages. Dimensions: 8.4in. x 5.8in. x 0.2in. Seminar paper from the year 2009 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Linguistics, grade: 2, 0, RWTH Aachen University, language: English, abstract: The linguistic model Optimality Theory was for the first time proposed by the linguist Alan Prince (Rutgers University, New Jersey) in cooperation with his colleague Paul Smolensky (John Hopkins University, Baltimore) in the year 1993. This representational model has - since then - been constantly expanded for instance owing to the work of John J. McCarthy (University of Massachusetts Amherst) and other scholars such as Ren Kager in the Netherlands or Caroline Fry in Germany. The studies conducted in this term paper are primarily based upon the work of the aforementioned scholars with a particular focus on the examinations by the three fathers of Optimality Theory, viz. Prince, Smolensky and McCarthy. Another fact revealing that this model is a current and productive one - i. e. beside the spreading and development of Optimality Theory all over the linguistic world - is its applicability to different subfields of linguistics, namely phonology, syntax and morphology. With reference to its wide use, it should be...



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