This book presents an in-depth fieldwork-based study of the Greek language spoken by immigrants in Cairns, Far North Queensland, Australia. The study analyzes language contact-induced changes and code-switching patterns by integrating perspectives from contact linguistics and interactional approaches to language use and code-switching. Lexical and pragmatic borrowing, code mixing, discourse-related and participant-related code-switching, and factors promoting language maintenance are among the topics covered in the book. The study brings to light original data from a speech community that has received no attention in the literature and sheds light on the variation of Greek spoken in diaspora. It will appeal across disciplines to scholars and students in linguistics, anthropology, sociology, and migration studies.

Angeliki Alvanoudi is Lecturer at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, and Adjunct Lecturer at the Language and Culture Research Centre, James Cook University, Australia. She is the author of Grammatical Gender in interaction: Cultural and Cognitive Aspects (2014) and has published articles in the journals Gender and Language and Journal of Greek Linguistics.
Modern Greek in Diaspora

“This is the first investigation ever of Greek spoken by the immigrant community in the Australian state of Queensland. Based on participant observation and over twenty hours of audio- and video-recordings, Angeliki Alvanoudi addresses borrowings from English and code-switching of various kinds by first- and second-generation Greek migrants, and also the social factors which facilitate the maintenance of Greek in diaspora. Clearly written and well-argued, this book is a major contribution to linguistic knowledge. It will be of interest to a wide range of students of linguistics.”

—Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald, Distinguished Professor, James Cook University, Australia

“This book brings to light the Greek language as spoken in an immigrant community in Australia. It makes an important contribution by describing how code switching is used in this community and by providing readers with original and rich data concerning language contact-induced changes. Methodologically, it efficiently integrates perspectives from contact linguistics with interactional approaches to language use.”

—Argiris Archakis, Professor, University of Patras, Greece

“With this book, Angeliki Alvanoudi has rightfully earned a place in the growing field of Modern Greek diaspora studies. Her detailed account of a wide array of (socio)linguistic phenomena emerging from the contact between Greek and English in the lesser-known Greek community of Cairns will serve as a valuable reference point for scholars working on Greek diasporic communities across the world for years to come.”

—Petros Karatsareas, Lecturer, University of Westminster, UK
Angeliki Alvanoudi

Modern Greek in Diaspora

An Australian Perspective
The research reported in this book was undertaken at James Cook University, Australia, during a two-year postdoctoral fellowship. I am immensely grateful to my academic mentor Alexandra Y. Aikhenvald for her guidance and detailed and constructive comments on an early draft of the manuscript. I thank R. M. W. Dixon for his invaluable comments and helpful observations on the data analyzed in the book. I am hugely indebted to both of them. Without their strong encouragement, this book would have never been brought to fruition.

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I would especially like to thank the Greek immigrants in Cairns, Far North Queensland, Australia, for their cooperation. The book is dedicated to them.
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ABBREVIATIONS

SBJV Subjunctive
SG Singular
VOC Vocative
In this book, I use broad transcriptions based on the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).

c  Voiceless palatal stop
k  Voiceless velar stop
x  Voiceless velar fricative
ç  Voiceless palatal fricative
j  Voiced palatal fricative
ɣ  Voiced velar fricative
g  Voiced velar stop
j  Voiced palatal stop
f  Voiceless labiodental fricative
v  Voiced labiodental fricative
b  Voiced bilabial stop
p  Voiceless bilabial stop
t  Voiceless dental stop
θ  Voiceless dental fricative
ð  Voiced dental fricative
d  Voiced dental stop
l  Alveolar lateral approximant
kelas  Palatal lateral approximant
m  Bilabial nasal
n  Alveolar nasal
ŋ  Palatal nasal
ŋ  Velar nasal
r  Alveolar trill
s Voiceless alveolar fricative
z Voiced alveolar fricative
ɾ⁶⁹ Voiceless alveolar affricate
dz Voiced alveolar affricate
a Low central unrounded vowel
e Mid front unrounded vowel
i High front unrounded vowel
o Mid back rounded vowel
u High back rounded vowel
I have transcribed the data according to the conventions used in Conversation Analysis. More specifically, I follow the transcription conventions used in the Corpus of Spoken Greek of the Institute of Modern Greek Studies (the Greek version is available under http://corpus-ins.lit.auth.gr/corpus/about/symbols.html). Embodied actions are transcribed according to the conventions developed by Lorenza Mondada (available under https://mainly.sciencesconf.org/conference/mainly/pages/Mondada2013_conv_multimodality_copie.pdf).

I. TEMPORAL AND SEQUENTIAL RELATIONSHIPS

[ ] Left brackets: point of overlap onset between two or more utterances (or segments of them)

[ ] Right brackets: point of overlap end between two or more utterances (or segments of them)

= The symbol is used either in pairs or on its own.

A pair of equals signs is used to indicate the following:

1. If the lines connected by the equals signs contain utterances (or segments of them) by different speakers, then the signs denote ‘latching’ (i.e., the absence of discernible silence between the utterances).
2. If the lines connected by the equals signs are by the same speaker, then there was a single, continuous utterance with no break or pause, which was broken up in two lines only in order to accommodate the placement of overlapping talk.

The single equals sign is used to indicate latching between two parts of the same speaker’s talk, where one might otherwise expect a micro-pause, as, for instance, after a turn constructional unit with a falling intonation contour.

(0.8) Numbers in parentheses indicate silence, represented in tenths of a second. Silences may be marked either within the utterance or between utterances.

(·) Micro-pause (less than 0.5 s)

II. SYMBOLS AND COMBINATIONS OF SYMBOLS FOR REPRESENTING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF SPEECH DELIVERY

Punctuation Marks

- Period: Indicates falling/final intonation.
- Question mark: Indicates rising intonation.
- Comma: Indicates continuing/non-final intonation.
- Inverted question mark: Indicates a rise stronger than a comma but weaker than a question mark.
- Colon: Indicates the prolongation or stretching of the sound just preceding them. The more the colons, the longer the stretching.

Underlining is used to indicate some form of emphasis, either by increased loudness or by higher pitch. In particular, loud talk may be indicated by upper case.

- Degree sign: Indicates the onset of talk that is markedly quiet or soft. When the end of such talk does not coincide with the end of a line, then the symbol is used again to mark its end.
- Hyphen: Indicates a cutoff or interruption.

Word

Combinations of underlining and colons are used to indicate intonation contours. If the letter(s) preceding a colon is underlined, then there is prolongation of the sound preceding it and, at the same time, a falling intonation contour.
TRANSCRIPTION CONVENTIONS  xvii

:  If the colon itself is underlined, then there is prolongation of
the sound preceding it and, at the same time, a rising intonation
contour.

↑↓  The arrows mark sharp intonation contours. The upper arrow
indicates sharp intonation rises, whereas the down arrow indi-
cates sharp intonation falls.

>word<  The combination of ‘more than’ and ‘less than’ symbols indi-
cates that the talk between them is compressed or rushed.

<word>  The combination of ‘less than’ and ‘more than’ symbols indi-
cates that the talk between them is markedly slowed or drawn
out.

h  Hearable aspiration is shown with the Latin letter h. Its repe-
tition indicates longer duration. The aspiration may represent
inhaling, exhaling, laughter, etc.

.h  If the aspiration is an inhalation, then it is indicated with a
period before the letter h.

^  Sandhi.

III. OTHER MARKINGS

((s/he laughs))  Double parentheses and italics are used to mark metalinguistic,
paralinguistic, and non-conversational descriptions of events by
the transcriber.

(...)  The parentheses indicate that something is being said, but no
hearing can be achieved.

(word)  Words in parentheses represent a likely possibility of what was
said.

IV. MULTIMODAL CONVENTIONS

* *  Gestures and descriptions of embodied actions are delimited
between two identical symbols (one symbol per participant)
and are synchronized with corresponding stretches of talk.

+ +  The action described continues across subsequent lines until
the same symbol is reached.

———>  The action described continues across subsequent lines until
the same symbol is reached.
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