



## Italian Syntax

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Book Condition: New. Publisher/Verlag: Springer Netherlands | A Government-Binding Approach | In the course of our everyday lives, we generally take our knowledge of language for granted. Occasionally, we may become aware of its great practical importance, but we rarely pay any attention to the formal properties that language has. Yet these properties are remarkably complex. So complex that the question immediately arises as to how we could know so much. The facts that will be considered in this book should serve well to illustrate this point. We will see for example that verbs like *arrivare* and *telefonare*, which are superficially similar, actually differ in a large number of respects, some fairly well known, others not. Why should there be such differences. we may ask. And why should it be that if a verb behaves like *arrivare* and unlike *telefonare* in one respect. it will do so in all others consistently, and how could everyone know it? To take another case, Italian has two series of pronouns: stressed and unstressed. Thus, for example, alongside of reflexive *se stesso* which is the stressed form. one finds *si* which is unstressed but otherwise synonymous. Yet we will...



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