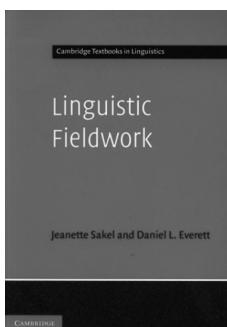


Book Review: Linguistic Fieldwork

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Sakel, J. and Everett, D.L. (2012). *Linguistic Fieldwork*. Cambridge ; New York : Cambridge University Press.

A useful book on fieldwork consists of 7 chapters starting from providing the definition of fieldwork, designing research questions, choosing appropriate methods, to presenting the results. For a clear understanding of the readers, anecdotes and tips from over forty years experiences in fieldwork of the authors are also presented in each chapter. Designed as a textbook to be used in class or for self study, the book contains practical exercises for students to test what they have learned.

As mentioned, the book begins with concept and definition of linguistic fieldwork. In chapter 2, two examples of fieldwork are presented. In it the readers find the basic skills of text-collection, transcription, analysis and elicitation to study languages, and ends with how to set up a fieldwork project. The focus of chapter 3 is on languages of fieldwork. The authors discuss ways of selecting a language to work on—whether to work monolingually or bilingually. Chapter 4 is concerned with people involved in the fieldwork: the researcher, the speakers of the language or variety under study, and the stakeholders. Fieldwork ethics are also discussed

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in this chapter. Chapter 5 is about the preparation of fieldwork, ranging from formulating research questions, finding related literature to apply for funding, and preparing for fieldwork in remote areas which includes even minor details such as vaccinations and medicals. Chapter 6 examines different methods of fieldwork, from working with texts, conducting elicitation, and linguistic experiments, to participant observation. In the last chapter, the authors end with the possible outcomes of linguistic fieldwork: corpora, scientific articles, grammars and dictionaries.

Linguistic Fieldwork is an excellent textbook for beginners who wish to participate in fieldwork. It provides a step-by-step guide in carrying out fieldwork and covers a wide range of topics in fieldwork preparation. This book is highly recommended for students or those who are interested in conducting fieldwork. Conducting fieldwork is hard; however, it yields invaluable outcomes that reflect the reality in the communities. After reading this practical guide, the readers might find that fieldwork which once a tough work becomes an enjoyable and challenging thing to try.