

Contents

Acknowledgments — VII

List of figures — XI

List of tables — XIII

Francesco Romano

Introduction — 1

Silvina Montrul

Chapter 1

**Heritage language development: Dominant language transfer
and the sociopolitical context — 5**

Part I: Experimental studies

Pedro Guijarro Fuentes, Iria Bello Viruega, Estela García Alcaraz,

Sergio Viveros Guzmán

Chapter 2

**Ultimate attainment in long-immersed heritage Italian immigrants: Syntactic
and semantic knowledge of direct object clitics and partitive *ne* — 35**

Giuditta Smith, Roberta Spelorzi, Antonella Sorace, Maria Garraffa

Chapter 3

**Grammatical competence in adult heritage speakers of Italian and adult
immigrants: A comparative study — 65**

Francesco Romano

Chapter 4

Ultimate attainment of gender in heritage and L2 Italian — 95

Maria Teresa Bonfatti-Sabbioni

Chapter 5

Auxiliary selection in heritage speakers of Italian — 127

Jacopo Torregrossa, Irene Caloi, Andrea Listanti

Chapter 6

The acquisition of syntactic structures in heritage Italian: Assessing the role of language exposure at critical periods — 155

Katrin Schmitz, Tim Diaubalick

Chapter 7

The expression of (deontic and epistemic) modality in Italian as heritage language in Germany — 195

Part II: Obserational studies

Caterina Ferrini

Chapter 8

Italian as heritage language in third generations on social networks: Morphosyntactic code-switching features — 233

Elisa De Cristofaro, Linda Badan

Chapter 9

Discourse markers in heritage Italian spoken in Flanders — 255

Margherita Di Salvo, Eugenio Gorla

Chapter 10

Auxiliary selection in Italo-Romance heritage languages: Argentina and the UK — 289

Francesco Romano, Antonella Sorace

Conclusion and future directions — 321

Index — 325