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Reviews

Éva Á. Csató: Review of A. Sumru Özsoy, *Türkçe. Turkish*. Boğaziçi Üniversitesi yayınları. İstanbul: Boğaziçi Üniversitesi Dil Uygulama ve Araştırma Merkezi, 1999. ISBN 975-518-130-X.

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This book by A. Sumru Özsoy bears both a Turkish and an English title, *Türkçe / Turkish*, suggesting that texts, explanations of grammatical phenomena and glosses are given in both languages. The laconic title itself does not, alas, give any clue concerning the content and aim of this publication. At least a subtitle would have been needed in order to set us on the right track. As explained by the author in the *Foreword*, the book aims at providing the reader with an analysis of the complex syntactic structures in Turkish.

Özsoy's book is the only textbook on Turkish morphosyntax written for students at the intermediate and advanced level. Its potential readership also includes general linguists interested in the structure of Turkish. Linguists with a basic knowledge of Turkish can find useful information on Turkish syntax. The book is divided into 15 lessons, each of which consists of a dialogue presenting the morphosyntactic structures that are explained in the given lesson. A great number of varied exercises help the students to use the newly learned structures. The lessons end with short readings of different genres. Two appendices, a list of the glosses occurring in the book and an index of morphosyntactic forms complete the volume.

The most innovative part of this highly useful book is the presentation of complex clause structures. Diathetic forms, such as passive, causative, reflexive, reciprocal are presented with detailed descriptions of the clause structures in which they are used. One of the main difficulties in learning embedded nominal clauses is to understand the differences between clauses based on infinitives, participles or other verbal nouns, such as the ones formed with the suffix *-(y)Iş*. Özsoy gives well-structured, comprehensive descriptions of the structures and their meanings used in direct and indirect speech as embedded statements, embedded questions, sentential subjects, and sentential predicates. Many well-designed exercises teach the relevant clausal structures together with semantically defined classes of predicates, which differ in their preference of taking, for instance, object clause complements based on infinitives or participles. Relative clauses and gerundial clauses are explained in great detail.

In addition to the structural description, some lessons are based on functional notions. Özsoy applies a functional approach, for instance, when presenting forms and