English in Australia and New Zealand combines both theory and description, and introduces the major theoretical and methodical issues in modern linguistic study. It also provides an overview of the structure and history of the English language in its many varieties, especially those of Australia and New Zealand. The emphasis is on English as it is used everyday. Almost all the examples are drawn from culinary texts, spoken and written. These include cooking books throughout the centuries, food and wine magazines, and books about food, health, diet and even etiquette.

The book integrates a synchronic and diachronic approach. A description of each aspect of present-day English - be it vocabulary, sounds, or grammar - is followed by a discussion of its historical development. The approach is purposefully eclectic and draws upon many different traditions and areas within linguistics. Each chapter concludes with a summary of points to remember, as well as practical exercises and questions for discussion.
An Introduction to Its History, Structure and Use is designed as a textbook and tries to give a complete overview over all aspects of the English language in Australia and New Zealand. The authors aim at making the context understandable for everyone. Technical terms in the book are in bold print the first time they appear and can be looked up in the glossary. It gives a brief definition for many terms; some are general like “affix” or “verb,” some are more complex like “Grimm’s law,” and some are more specific to the topic, such as “global English” or “high rising intonation.” At the end of each chapter, Australia and New Zealand. The British Commonwealth of Nations. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (Commonwealth of Australia). Geography Australia is the smallest continent and the biggest island in the world. It is situated between the Pacific and the Indian Ocean. Population Australia and New Zealand were discovered by the Dutch in the 17th century (Abel Tasman). Later Captain James Cook explored the coasts of the islands. In Australian English a lot of words are made by shortening everyday words: Oz, barbie, ta thank you ... Australians prefer short words. Sheep and cattle farmers live on isolated farms called stations in Australia. The farmers do not often go to towns.