# Table of contents

Acknowledgements — v
List of contributors — ix

## Part I: Core modality

Ronald Langacker  
**Modals: Striving for control** — 3

Jill Bowie, Sean Wallis and Bas Aarts  
**Contemporary change in modal usage in spoken British English: mapping the impact of “genre”** — 57

Geoffrey Leech  
**Where have all the modals gone? An essay on the declining frequency of core modal auxiliaries in recent standard English** — 95

## Part II: Peripheral modality

Johan van der Auwera, Dirk Noël and An Van Linden  
**Had better, ’d better and better: Diachronic and transatlantic variation** — 119

Peter Collins  
**Grammatical colloquialism and the English quasi-modals: a comparative study** — 155

Lucía Loureiro-Porto  
**Modal necessity and impersonality in English and Galician** — 171

Frank Brisard and Astrid De Wit  
**Modal uses of the English present progressive** — 201

Debra Ziegeler  
**On the generic argument for the modality of will** — 221

## Part III: Evidentiality and Modality

Anne-Marie Simon-Vandenbergen  
**REALITY and related concepts: towards a semantic-pragmatic map of English adverbs** — 253
Aurelija Usonienė and Jolanta Šinkūnienė
A cross-linguistic look at the multifunctionality of the English verb *seem* — 281

Marta Carretero and Juan Rafael Zamorano-Mansilla
Annotating English adverbials for the categories of epistemic modality and evidentiality — 317

Part IV: Evidentiality and Modality in Discourse

Roberta Facchinetti
*Modal verbs in news-related blogs: When the blogger counts* — 359

Laura Hidalgo Downing and Begoña Núñez Perucha
*Modality and personal pronouns as indexical markers of stance: Intersubjective positioning and construction of public identity in media interviews* — 379

Juana I. Marín-Arrese
*Stancetaking and inter/subje ctivity in the Iraq Inquiry: Blair vs. Brown* — 411

Subject index — 447