



The Prism of Grammar: How Child Language Illuminates Humanism (Paperback)

By Tom Roeper

MIT Press Ltd, United States, 2009. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Exploring the creativity of mind through children's language: how the tiniest utterances can illustrate the simple but abstract principles behind modern grammar -- and reveal the innate structures of the mind. Every sentence we hear is instantly analyzed by an inner grammar; just as a prism refracts a beam of light, grammar divides a stream of sound, linking diverse strings of information to different domains of mind -- memory, vision, emotions, intentions. In *The Prism of Grammar*, Tom Roeper brings the abstract principles behind modern grammar to life by exploring the astonishing intricacies of child language. Adult expressions provide endless puzzles for the child to solve. The individual child's solutions (Don't uncomfortable the cat is one example) may amuse adults but they also reveal the complexity of language and the challenges of mastering it. The tiniest utterances, says Roeper, reflect the whole mind and engage the child's free will and sense of dignity. He offers numerous and novel explorations -- many at the cutting edge of current work -- that anyone can try, even in conversation around the dinner table....



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