Contents

	ist of figures	page 1X	
L_i	ist of tables	X	
	reface	xi xiii	
\boldsymbol{A}	cknowledgments		
L_i	ist of abbreviations	xiv	
1	Just in time: is there a critical period for		
	language acquisition?	1	
	1.0 Introduction	1	
	1.1 Central themes	3	
	1.2 Background research on critical periods	7	
	1.3 Language and brain	12	
	1.4 Theoretical frameworks	21	
	1.5 Conclusion	25	
2	Right on time: process and schedule of first		
	language acquisition	27	
	2.0 Introduction	27	
	2.1 Phonology	29	
	2.2 Lexicon	36	
	2.3 Syntax	46	
	2.4 Morphology	58	
	2.5 Conclusion	63	
3	All in good time: a window of opportunity for		
	first language acquisition	65	
	3.0 Introduction	65	
	3.1 L1A in exceptional circumstances	67	
	3.2 L1A in extreme deprivation	74	
	3.3 Deafness	83	
	3.4 Language creation	92	
	3.5 Conclusion	98	

	~
V111	Contents

4	Behind time: process and schedule of second				
	lan	guage acquisition	100		
	4.0	Introduction	100		
	4.1	Phonology	102		
	4.2	Lexicon	109		
	4.3	Syntax	117		
	4.4	Morphology	126		
	4.5	Conclusion	132		
5	Pressed for time: age constraints in second				
	lan	guage acquisition	134		
	5.0	Introduction	134		
	5.1	Sensitive periods for L2A	136		
	5.2	Child L2A in typical and exceptional circumstances	144		
	5.3	Grammatical deterioration and age	155		
	5.4	Endstate grammars	165		
	5.5	Conclusion	170		
6	Bic	ling time: further consideration of age and acquisition	172		
	6.0	Introduction	172		
	6.1	A biological critical period for language acquisition?	173		
	6.2	The brain and language	182		
	6.3	Processing language	193		
	6.4	Neuroimaging	203		
	6.5	Conclusion	209		
7	It's about time: evaluation of age sensitivity in				
	lan	guage acquisition	211		
	7.0	Introduction	211		
	7.1	Evidence for a critical period	212		
	7.2	Age effects and the brain	217		
	7.3	Child acquisition	227		
	7.4	Adult L2A	233		
	7.5	Conclusion	239		
Bi	blios	raphy	242		
	Index				