

Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	page vi
Introduction	I
1 Early Humanist Critics of Scholastic Language: Francesco Petrarch and Leonardo Bruni	20
2 From a Linguistic Point of View: Lorenzo Valla's Critique of Aristotelian-Scholastic Philosophy	44
3 Giovanni Pontano on Language, Meaning, and Grammar	71
4 Juan Luis Vives on Language, Knowledge, and the Topics	95
5 Anti-Essentialism and the Rhetoricization of Knowledge: Mario Nizolio's Humanist Attack on Universals	127
6 Skepticism and the Critique of Language in Francisco Sanches	154
7 Thomas Hobbes and the Rhetoric of Common Language	180
8 Between Private Signification and Common Use: Locke on Ideas, Words, and the Social Dimension of Language	215
Conclusion	245
<i>Bibliography</i>	252
<i>Index</i>	271