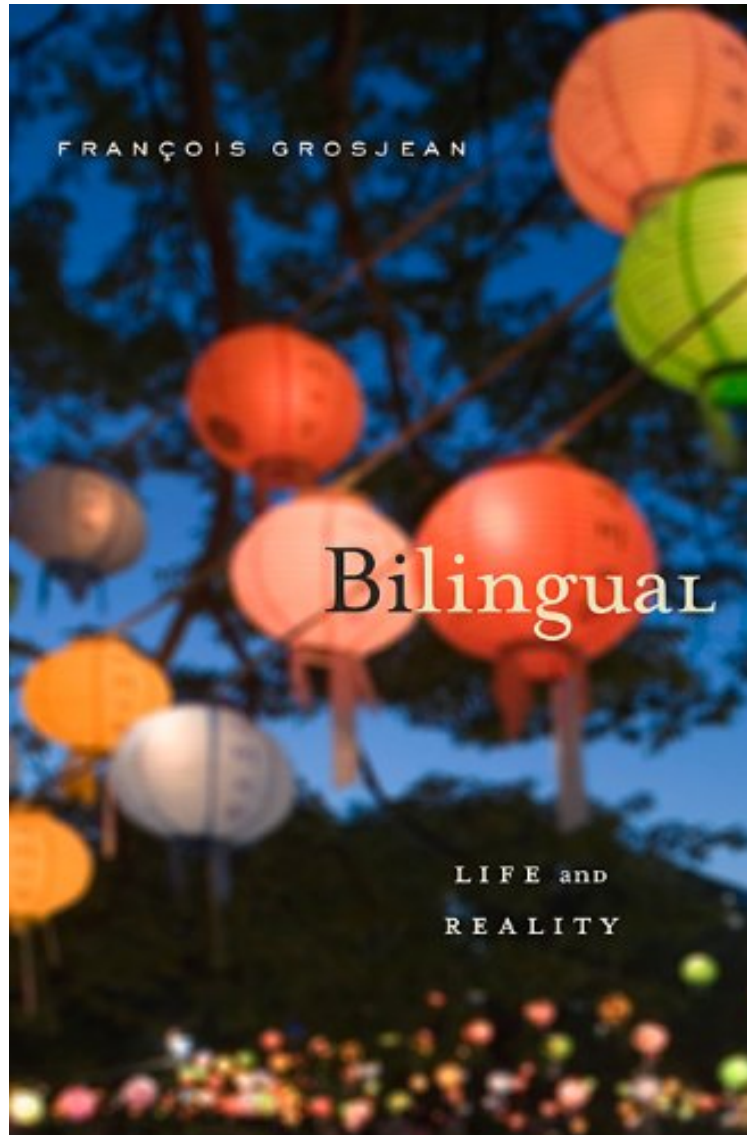


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Bilingual: Life and Reality

Franois Grosjean

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Franois Grosjean : Bilingual: Life and Reality before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bilingual: Life and Reality:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Raising bilingual kids? Start with this book. By Cynthia Meyer Are you raising children with two or more languages? Were you raised in a bilingual environment? Are you a second language learner who is wondering what "bilingual" really means and if you will ever get there? Franois Grosjean's excellent book debunks many of the myths of bilingualism and gives useful and practical suggestions for multilingual

families. Grosjean's writing style is clear and engaging. The subject matter is well-organized and logical. He shares personal stories which draw in the reader while referring to current research in the field. Bilingual readers will recognize and relate to his description of real life with two or more languages. For parents trying to raise children with more than one language, this book will give them a useful guide to overcoming some of the challenges and the maximizing the blessings of the bilingual path. I have given this book as a gift to bilingual friends, recommended it enthusiastically to participants in my family language learning workshops and even persuaded my local librarian to order a copy for our town library. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. I return to this book over and over. By holasoybonnie I purchased this book as a Spring Break read years ago. As a Spanish teacher, and mother hoping to raise a child bilingually, I return to this book over and over to refresh my spirit and remind myself how amazing our brains are, and how different a bilingual brain is from a monolingual brain! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Loved it! I'm a bilingual education student and my ... By izamar reyes Loved it! I'm a bilingual education student and my career includes a lot of readings. However this is the one book I will remember. It's such a great book and it gives you such a different prospective!

Whether in family life, social interactions, or business negotiations, half the people in the world speak more than one language every day. Yet many myths persist about bilingualism and bilinguals. In a lively and entertaining book, an international authority on bilingualism explores the many facets of life with two or more languages.

From Publishers Weekly Grosjean (*Life with Two Languages*) breaks little new ground in his study of bilingualism, but he does succeed in his stated aim to demystify who bilinguals are and the psychological ramifications of possessing more than one language with which to process and articulate experience. His discussion zeros in on such behaviors as suppressing the knowledge of one language in order to communicate in another or the choice to resist using a language because of a trauma or, conversely, lack of emotional connection to it. He distinguishes between bilinguals and biculturals and the situations that arise in the case of their coincidence. While not quite a revelation on the ability or aptitude for bilingualism, the book is a clear and readable primer covering various linguistic idiosyncrasies, state attitudes toward bilingualism, how to encourage equal aptitude in both languages, and the challenges in raising bilingual children. Enlivening the text are Grosjean's anecdotes about growing up bilingual (he is the son of an English mother and French father) and studies on the intersection of language and politics especially when bilingualism is explicitly nurtured, as in Navajo revival classes on reservations. (Apr.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. What may not be apparent to the non-specialist is the extent to which Grosjean masters the entire body of scholarly literature on bilingualism produced during the past 100 years. It is worth having at one's fingertips the unpretentiously presented, solidly researched facts and figures in this gentle, humorous, civilized book. (Mela Sarkar Montreal Gazette 2010-06-04) The personal dimension of the book contributes to its readability and vitality. Grosjean succeeds in impressing on his readers the need to demystify bilingualism and seek ways in which to encourage linguistic diversity. (Kerstin Hoge Times Literary Supplement 2010-07-16) *Bilingual: Life and Reality* is a readable, informative, and emotionally satisfying work. The book is a gift. (Barbara Zurer Pearson Language) About the Author Francois Grosjean is Professor Emeritus at the Universit de Neuchtel.