Contents

Acknowledgments – vii
Preface – ix
1 Complexity theory: what’s it all about? – 1
2 Complex systems – 25
3 Change in complex systems – 43
4 Complex systems in language and its evolution – 79
5 Complex systems in first and second language development – 115
6 Complex systems in discourse – 161
7 Complex systems and the language classroom – 197
8 Researching complex systems in applied linguistics – 229

Bibliography – 257