I. J. Gelb attended an international conference on writing and visual communication in Canada in September 1979, where he presented a tutorial paper on the principles of writing within the frame of visual communication. At a meeting on the language of Ebla, held in Naples in April, he gave the introductory paper "The Importance of the Language of Ebla for Near Eastern Studies." Mr. Gelb also lectured
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and conducted seminars this spring at UCLA on writing and Ebla. Among Mr. Gelb's publications this year are the large monograph Computer-Aided Analysis of Amorite, written with the assistance of J. Bartels, S.-M. Vance, and R. M. Whiting, and two studies on the structure of ancient society and economy. Four other articles dealing with socio-economic matters and writing are in press.