Studies on language change have been mostly biased toward the vertical mode of transmission, portrayed as tree diagrams as a function of time, following the lead of Darwin, Schleicher, and the reductionist methods of the Neogrammarians. There have always been alternative voices stressing horizontal transmission as a function of space, such as Schuchardt, Trubetzkoy, and more recently, linguists influenced by the late Uriel Weinreich, such as Labov and Wang. My aim will be to review the central theoretical issues of language change as evolutionary processes, as these relate to the two modes of transmission.