Corrections added to the second printing (2005)

p. v (Preface), ¶1, line -3: add footnote after "forthcoming in this series (LW/M, 81)":

1 Shlomo Izre'el and Eran Cohen, Literary Old Babylonian, LW/M, 81, 2004.

The last sentence in this paragraph (re Buccellati) has been deleted.

p. v (Preface), end of last ¶: add footnote before the dedication: 2 Prof. Moran passed away on December 19, 2000. This reprint is dedicated to his memory.

p. v (Preface), following the signature at the bottom of this page:
A note to the second printing (2005): Only a few minor corrections have been made, and some recent bibliographical items have been added.

p. 10, ex. 18: Sidon (instead of Tyre)

p. 20, last ¶, continuing to p. 21:
Some varieties preserve an older, tripartite system of the free pronouns, extant in the Old Babylonian period, i.e., from the first half of the second millennium BCE. This rare system is attested in a few letters from Byblos, possibly in Megiddo, and perhaps also in one variety from southern Palestine. In these texts, the pronounal system is tripartite: forms with š occur in dative environments, forms with ţ in all other non-predicative environments. The attested forms are:

p. 22, first sentence of §2.3.2.2: Variation in the use of interrogative pronouns reflects the interference of the substrata. Akkadian has mi:nu for the non-human and mannu for the human.

p. 27, ¶1, line 3: forming a morphological frame (instead of grammatical frame)

p. 47, starting at §3.1:
3.1. Grammatical Relations

The basic tripartite system of grammatical relations manifests itself prominently in the Semitic case system. It thus consists of predicative, completive and attributive marking (2.2.5). In the syntactic domain, grammatical relations, i.e., relations between sentence constituents, may refer either to lexemes or to particles, which are syntactic markers or "heads", to which the grammatical relation is applied (2.7; 3.1.4). In example 171a, the adverbial slot is taken by a single vocable consisting of the lexeme base /ašr/ unto which a combination of adverbial markers are suffixed (ašr+a:n+u → ašra:nu ‘there’, ‘in the place’; see p. 44). In example 171b, the adverbial slot is occupied by a syntactic head (ina ‘in’) upon which a nominal nucleus of the same lexeme (ašrī←ašr+î) is dependent. The nominal head ša in example 171b occupies the same slot as the demonstrative pronoun anni:m of example 172, whereas the verb (=clause) ibašša:ti stands in attributive relation to it.

(171a) ḫummiṭa ki:ma arhiš kašda u irub ašra:nu hasten IMPV + MOD like quickly arrive IMPV + MOD CONJ enter IMPV + MOD place + ADV + ADV ‘Hasten, arrive quickly, and go in there.’ (102: 29-31; Byblos)

(171b) amurmi (ana:ku) (arduka) (ina=ašrī⇔ša⇔ibašša:ti )
look IMPV + EMPH I servant+your in place HN be+1SG
‘Look: I am your servant wherever I am.’ (230: 4-5; unknown provenance)
As one can see from the examples above, expansion does not involve a change in constituent order. The following are two examples of skeletal analyses of typical simple sentences:

(I am a loyal servant of the king ... in this place.) (187: 9-11; Enishasi)