









## Júda Ronén

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וְיִהְיֶה כְּלִי-הָאָרֶץ שֶׁפָּה אֶת דְּבָרֵי אֲתָדִים

Soðlice ealle ménn spræcon ða áne spræce

A'r holl dír ydoedd o vn-iaith, ac o vn ymadrodd

καὶ ἦν πᾶσα ἡ γῆ χειλὸς ἔν καὶ φωνῆ μία πᾶσι

erat autem terra labii unius et sermonum eorundem

Se cræft is ealra boclicra cræfta ordfruma 7 grundweall ·

‘This craft [grammar] is the source and foundation of all literary crafts.’

Ælfric’s Grammar and Glossary  
Oxford, St. John Collage, MS. 154, 143r

Alboin in the old play-room, turned into junior study, looked out into the dark. He did not for a long time turn to books. ‘I wish life was not so short,’ he thought. ‘Languages take such a time, and so do all the things one wants to know about. [...]

TOLKIEN, J. R. R. (1987). “The Lost Road”. In: *The Lost Road and Other Writings*. Ed. by Christopher TOLKIEN. Vol. 5. The History of Middle-earth. Chap. 3.

tíl.la ša.du<sub>11</sub>.ba.ta ud.da an.ga.me.a  
The life of yesterday was repeated today.  
Sumerian proverb, early second millennium BCE

ḥr ntt rf wḥmw dddwt iw dddwt ddw  
What is said is just repetition, what has been said has been said.  
The Complaints of Khakheperre-seneb, an Egyptian poem, early second millennium BCE

ma-še-hâyâ hû šey-yihye [...]  
The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be [...]  
Ecclesiastes 1:9

Nullum est iam dictum, quod non dictum sit prius  
Nothing is now said that has not been said before.  
Terentius, *Eunuchus*, 161 BCE

Mais il reste à faire un grand travail pour ordonner les faits linguistiques au point de vue de la langue même.

‘But much work remains to be done in order to order the linguistic facts from the point of view of the language itself.’

MEILLET, Antoine (1921). *Linguistique Historique et Linguistique Générale*. Vol. 1. Edouard Champion, Paris. P. viii.

Byddaf yn hoffi medru dehongli cystrawen yn fathemategol hollol.

‘I will like being able to interpret syntax mathematically completely.’

LEWIS, Saunders and Kate ROBERTS (1992). *Annwyl Kate, annwyl Saunders: gohebiaeth, 1923–1983*. Ed. by Dafydd IFANS. Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru, Aberystwyth.  
(KR to SL, 2/2/33, No. 75, p. 99)

stæfcræft is seo cæg ðe ðæra boca andgit unlicð

‘grammar is the key that unlocks the understanding of these books’

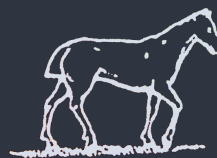
Ælfric’s Grammar and Glossary  
Oxford, St. John Collage, MS. 154, ff. 1v and 143r

The basic pleasure in the phonetic elements of a language and in the style of their patterns, and then in a higher dimension, pleasure in the association of these word-forms with meanings, is of fundamental importance. This pleasure is quite distinct from the practical knowledge of a language, and not the same as an analytic understanding of its structure. It is simpler, deeper-rooted, and yet more immediate than the enjoyment of literature.

Tolkien, J. R. R. (1983). “English and Welsh”. In: *The Monsters and the Critics and Other Essays*. George Allen Unwin.



: ARBOR



: EQUOS

etc.

etc.

‘When I use a word,’ Humpty Dumpty said in rather a scornful tone, ‘it means just what I choose it to mean—neither more nor less.’

‘The question is,’ said Alice, ‘whether you can make words mean so many different things.’

‘The question is,’ said Humpty Dumpty, ‘which is to be master—that’s all.’

CARROLL, Lewis (1872). *Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There*