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וַיְהִי כִּלְהַאֲרִץ שָׁפָה אֶת־תּוֹדְבָרִים אֲחָדִים

Soðlice ealle ménn spræcon ða áne spræce

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

καὶ ἦν πᾶσα ἡ γῆ χεῖλος ἐν καὶ φωνὴ 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.

til.la ša.du₁₁.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 ḏddwt iw ḏddwt ḏdw

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-šc-hāyā hū šcy-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 fath-
emategol hollol.

'I will like being able to interpret syntax mathemati-
cally 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'

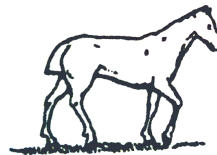
Ælfric's Grammar and Glossary
Oxford, St. John Collage, MS. 154, ff. 1v and 143r

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 understand-
ing 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*