



*Ni a wnawn, ac a
wzandawn:* William
Morgan's Choices in
His 1588 Welsh
Translation of the
Pentateuch

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Ni a wnawn, ac a wzandawn:
William Morgan's Choices in His 1588
Welsh Translation of the Pentateuch — the
Case of the Hebrew Verb *šm'* ('hear')

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Celtic and Afro-Asiatic

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Abraham Ortelius, *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, 1570

J. Rhŷs, J. Morris-Jones, J. Pokorny, H. Wagner, O. D. Gensler,
K. Jongeling, A. Shisha-Halevy, G. R. Isaac, and many others



Textual Substratum

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Ac efe a gyminerth lyfr y cyfannod, ac at
darllenodd lle y clywe y bobl, a dywedasant ni
a wnaeon, ac a wrandawn yz hyn oll a lefarodd
y Arglywydd.

Left: Exodus 24:7, William Morgan's Bible, 1588

Right: Exodus 24:7, Leningrad Codex, 1008/9

וַיְקַרְא־קֹרֶב־חֲבָרוֹת־עִקָּרָא
בְּאַונְמָה־גָּסְנוּ־אַמְרָיוֹכְלָשׁ
אֲשֶׁר־דְּבָרָיוֹתָה־נְגַשָּׂה־
וּנְשַׁמְעָ



1588 Welsh Bible

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Bishop William Morgan. Imaginary portrait by T. Prytherch, 1907

Ac efe a gyminerth lyft y cyfannod, ac a'i
darllenodd lle y clywe y bobl, a dywedasant ni
a wnaeon, ac a wzandawn yz hyn oll a lefarodd
y Arglywyd.

וַיְקַרְא־סִפְרֵר־חֲבָרִית־וַיְקַרְא־
בְּאַוְעַמָּךְ־גָּסְנוּ־אֶמְרוֹכָל־
אֲשֶׁר־דָּבָר־יוֹתָה־נִعְשָׂה־
וּנְשָׂמֵעַ

Left: Exodus 24:7, William Morgan's Bible, 1588

Right: Exodus 24:7, Leningrad Codex, 1008/9



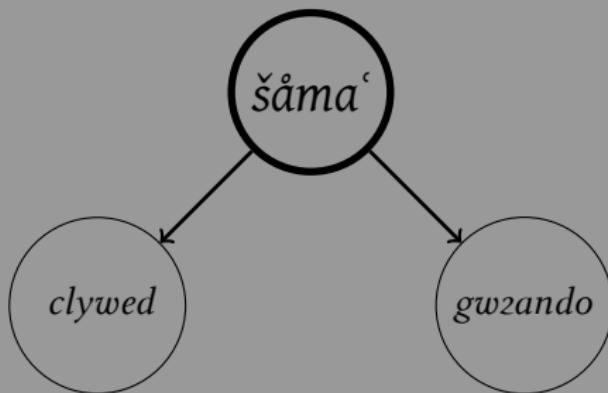
šåma^c → {clywed, gw2ando}

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Dispersing light, dispersing language

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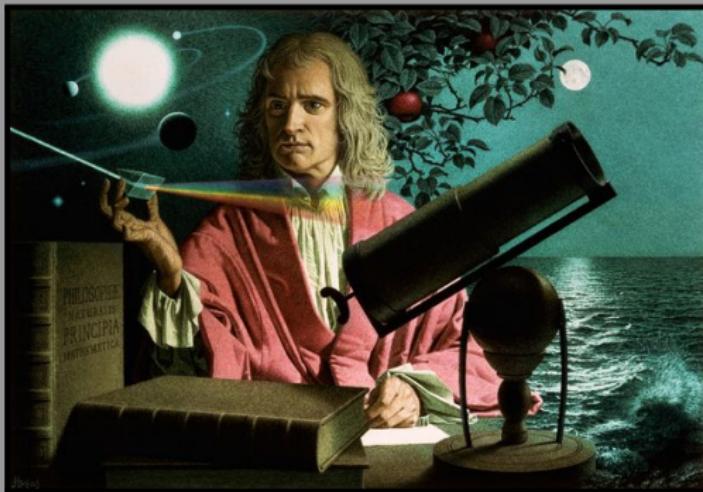


Illustration by Jean-Leon Huens, National Geographic Stock



Working procedure

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- 1 **First**, we isolate all cases where the syntactic environment dictates only *clywed* **or** *gwzando* as selectable (i.e neutralising environments).
- 2 **Only then** we can proceed to examine the opposition *clywed:gwzando*, where it **actually exists**.



Corpus

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1588 Welsh translation
(London: Christopher Barker, 1588)



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1588 Welsh translation
(London: C. Barker, 1588)



1620 Welsh translation
(London: B. Norton & J. Bill, 1620)



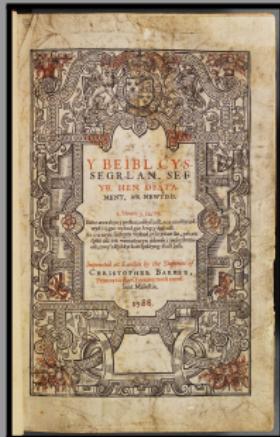
Corpus

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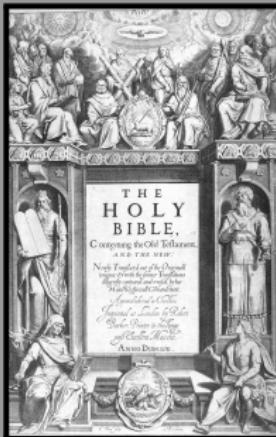
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1588 Welsh translation
(London: C. Barker, 1588)



King James' Version
(London: R. Barker, 1611)



1620 Welsh translation
(London: B. Norton & J. Bill, 1620)



Corpus: limitation

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Exodus
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Deuteronomy



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an overview

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clywed:gw2ando

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- *šåma^c* + PREPOSITION → *gw2ando (+ ar)* (84 examples)
- *šåma^c* + CONTENT → *clywed* (14 examples)
- *šåma^c* + OBJECT+PARTICIPLE → *clywed* (5 examples)



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šåma^c + PREPOSITION → gw2ando + ar

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šåma^c + { bə-
 'el
 lə-
 → gw2ando + ar

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Ex. 1: šåma‘ + bə- → gw2ando (+ ar)

Exodus 4:1

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Epilogue

Yna Moses a attebodd, ac
a ddywedodd, etto wele
ni ch̡edant i mi ac ni
wzandawant ar fy llais: onid
dywedant nid ymgdangosfodd
y2 Arglwydd i ti.

And Moses answered and said,
But, behold, they will not
believe me, nor **hearken** unto
my voice: for they will say, The
LORD hath not appeared unto
thee.

way-ya‘an mōšē way-yōmer
wə-hēn lō-ya‘āmīnū l-ī wə-lō
yišmə‘ū bə-qōlī kī yōmrū
lō-nir’ā ’ēlekå YHWH

וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה וְאָמַר וְהִנֵּה לֹא-יִאֱמִינו לְךָ
וְלֹא יִשְׁמְעוּ בְּכָלְלֵי כִּי יִאמְרוּ לֹא-נִרְאָה
אֶלְיךָ יְהוָה:



Ex. 2: šåma‘ + ’el- → gw2ando (+ ar)

Exodus 6:9

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A Moses a lefarodd felly
wth feibion Ifrael: ond ni
wzandawfant ar Moses, gan
gyfyngd2a yfþydd, a chan y
gaethiwed galed.

And Moses spake so unto the
children of Israel: but they
hearkened not unto Moses for
anguish of spirit, and for cruel
bondage.

way-dabbēr mōšē kēn
'el-bənē yiśrā'ēl wə-lō šām'ū
'el-mōšē miq-qōṣer rūah
ū-mē-'ābōdā qāšā

וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה כִּי אָל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְלֹא
שָׁמַעוּ אֶל-מֹשֶׁה מִקְצָר רُוח וּמִעֲבָדָה
קְשָׁה:



Ex. 3: šåma^c + lə- → gw2ando (+ ar)

Genesis 3:17

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Epilogue

Hefyd w2th Adda y dywedodd,
am **w2ando** o honot **ar** lais dy
w2aig, a bwytta o'2 p2enn am y2
hwn y go2chymynnafwn i ti gan
ddywedyd, na fwytta o honaw:
melldigedic [fydd] y ddaiar o'th
achos di, a th2wy lafur y bwyttai
o honi holl ddyddiau dy enioes.

And unto Adam he said, Because thou
hast **hearkened** unto the voice of thy
wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of
which I commanded thee, saying, Thou
shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground
for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of
it all the days of thy life;

ū-l-’ādām ’āmar kī-**šåma’tå lə-**
qōl ’ištækå wat-tōkal min-hå-‘es
’āšer siwwiṭikå lē-mōr lō tōkal
mimm-ennū ’ärūrā hå-‘adāmå
ba-‘abūreka bə-‘iṣṣābōn
tōkälennå kōl yəmē ḥayyekå

ולאךם אמר כי-**שְׁמֻנַת** לִקְוֹל אֲשֶׁתך וְתַאכְלֵי
מוֹרָעָץ אֲשֶׁר צוֹתִיךְ לאמר לא תאכל ממן
אֲרוּרָה הַאֲדָמָה בְּעֵבֶרֶך בְּעֵצֶבֶן תַאכְלֵנָה כָל
ימֵי תְּיִזְ:



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šåma^c + CONTENT → *clywed*

šåma^c + { a *kī* ‘that’ phrase
a form of ’åmar ‘say’



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clywed + a variety of structures



Ex. 4: šåma^c + CONTENT → clywed

(1/2)

Genesis 42:2

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Dyweddodd hefyd, wele **clywais**
fod ŷd yn y² Aipht, ewch i
wared yno, a phÿynnwch i ni
oddi yno, fel y bôm fyw, ac na
byddom feirw.

And he said, Behold, I have
heard that there is corn in
Egypt: get you down thither,
and buy for us from thence;
that we may live, and not die.

way-yōmer hinnē
šåma'tī kī yεš-šeþer
bə-mišrāyim rədū-šāmm-å
wə-šibrū-l-ånū miš-šām
wə-nihyε wə-lō nāmūt

וַיֹּאמֶר הָנָה שְׁמַעֲתִי כִּי יִשְׁשָׁבֵר
בְּמִצְרָיִם רְדוֹשָׁמָה וְשִׁבְרוּלָנוּ מִשְׁם
וְנַחֲנָה וְלֹא נִמְוֹת:



Ex. 5: šåma‘ + CONTENT → clywed

(2/2)

Genesis 41:15

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A Pharao a ddywedodd
wth Joseph, b2euddwydias
freuddwyd, ac nid [oes]
ai deonglo ef: ond myfi a
glywais ddywedyd am danat
ti, y gw2andewi freuddwyd iw
ddeonglu.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph,
I have dreamed a dream, and
there is none that can interpret
it: and I have **heard** say of thee,
that thou canst understand a
dream to interpret it.

way-yōmer par'ō 'el-yōsēp
ḥālōm ḥālamtī ū-pōtēr 'ēn
'ōt-ō wa-'ānī **šāma'tī** 'āleka
lē-mōr tišma' ḥālōm li-p̄tōr
'ōt-ō

וַיֹּאמֶר פְּרָעָה אֶל־יְوָסֵף חֲלוֹם חַלְמָתִי
וַיֹּתֶר אֵין אָתָּה וְאַנִּי שְׁמַעְתִּי עַל־יךְ
לְאָמֵר תְּשִׁמְעַ חֲלוֹם לְפִתְּחָה אָתָּה:



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šåma^c + OBJECT+PARTICIPLE

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šåma^c + [OBJECT + PARTICIPLE]
↓ ↓ ↓
clywed + [OBJECT + yn+INFINITIVE]

way-yišma^c mōšε ['et-hå-åm bōkε]
↓ ↓ ↓
A chlybu Moses [y bobl yn wylo]
(And Moses heard [the people weeping]))



Ex. 6: šåma‘ + OBJECT+PARTICIPLE → clywed

Numbers 11:10

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A chlybu Moses y bobl yn wylo trwy eu tylwythau, pob vn yn nrws ei babell: ac enynnodd dig y² Arglwydd yn faw², a d²wg oedd gan Moses.

Then Moses **heard** the people weep throughout their families, every man in the door of his tent: and the anger of the **LORD** was kindled greatly; Moses also was displeased.

way-yišma‘ mōšε 'ɛt-hå-'åm
bōkε lə-mišpəhōtåw
'iš lə-p̄etah 'åhålō
way-yihar-’ap̄ YHWH mā'ōd
ū-b-’ēnē mōšε rá'

וַיִּשְׁמַע מֹשֶׁה אֲתִיהָעָם בְּכָה לְמַשְׁפֵחָתָיו אִישׁ לְפַתַּח אַהֲרֹן וַיִּחַר-אֲף יְהֹוָה מָאֵד וּבְעֵינִי מֹשֶׁה רֹעֵךְ



šåma^c → {clywed, gw2ando}

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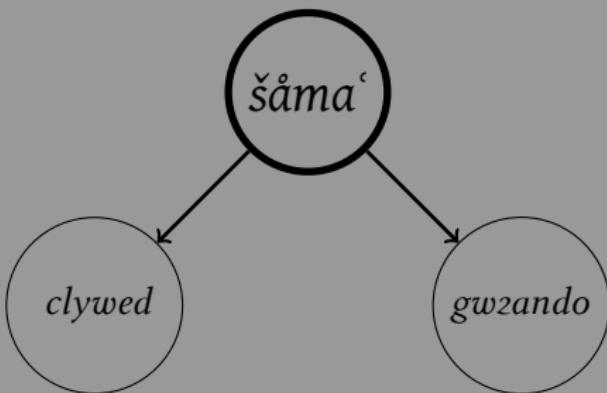
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	sensory	(non-sensory) additional meaning
<i>clywed</i>	+	—
<i>gw2ando</i>	±	+



Lists of senses and abilities

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Ex. 7: Lists of senses and abilities

(1/2)

Deuteronomy 4:28

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Ac yno y gwafanaethwch
dduwiau [o] waith dwylo dŷn,
[sef] p̄en, a maen, y rhai ni
welant, ac ni **chlywant**, ac ni
fwyttânt, ac ni aroglant.

And there ye shall serve gods,
the work of men's hands, wood
and stone, which neither see,
nor **hear**, nor eat, nor smell.

wa-'ăbadtēm-šām 'ĕlōhīm
ma'ăsē yədē 'ădām 'es
wā-'ĕben 'ăšer lō-yir'ūn
wə-lō **yišmā'ūn** wə-lō yōklūn
wə-lō yərīhūn

וְעַבְדָתָם־שָׁם אֱלֹהִים מְעַשָה יְהִי אָדָם
עַז וְאֲבָן אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָרָא וְלֹא **יִשְׁמַעְוּ**
וְלֹא יִאַכְלוּ וְלֹא יֵרִיחוּ:

Ex. 8: Lists of senses and abilities

Ps. 115:4–7

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⁴ Eu delwau hwy [ydynt] o aur, ac arian, [sef] o waith dynnion.

⁵ Genau [fydd] iddynt, ac ni lefarant, llygaid [fydd] ganddynt, ac ni welant. ⁶ [Y mae] clustiau iddynt, ac ni **chlywant**, ffroenau [fydd] ganddynt, ac ni arogant.

⁷ Dwylo [fydd] iddynt, ac ni theimlant: traed [fy] iddynt, ac ni cherddant: ni leisiant [ychwaith] ai gwddf.

⁴ Their idols *are* silver and gold, the work of men's

hands. ⁵ They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not: ⁶ They have ears, but they **hear** not: noses have they, but they smell not:

⁷ They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat.

⁴ 'אַשְׁבָּהֶם כִּסֵּפֶר וְחֶבֶב מְעֻשָּׂה יְתִי אֲדָם: ⁵ פָּה־לֹא לִבְנָם וְלֹא יְדַבֵּרוּ

עִינִים לֹא לִבְנָם וְלֹא יְרָאוּ: ⁶ אַזְגִּים לֹא לִבְנָם וְלֹא יְשַׁמְּעוּ אַף לֹא לִבְנָם וְלֹא

ירִיחָוּ: ⁷ יְדִים וְלֹא יְמִישָׁן רְגִלִּים וְלֹא יְהַלְכוּ לֹא יְחַנְּנוּ

בְּנָרֹגֶם:



Judgement

*Ni a wnaeon, ac a
wzandawn:* William
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šåma^c → *gwzando*

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Ex. 9: Judgement

Deuteronomy 1:16

*Ni a wnaun, ac a
wzandawn:* William
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Epilogue

A'r amfer hwnnw y
go2chymynnais i'ch barnwŷ2
chwi gan ddywedyd:
gw2andewch [ddadleuon]
rhwng eich b2ody2, a bernwch
gyflawnder rhwng gw2 ai
frawd, ac ai eslron hefyd.

And I charged your judges at
that time, saying, **Hear the**
causes between your brethren,
and judge righteously between
every man and his brother, and
the stranger that is with him.

wå-'ăšawwe 'et-šōp̄tēkem
b-å-'ēt ha-hi lē-môr **šāmōa'**
bēn-'ahēkem ū-špaṭṭem
šedeq bēn-īš ū-bēn-'ahīw
ū-bēn gērō

וְאַצְוֹה אֶת-שֻׁפְטִיכֶם בְּעֵת הַהּוּא
לְאָמֵר **שְׁמֻעָה** בֵּין-אֲחֵיכֶם וּשְׁפָטָתֶם
פְּدָק בֵּין-אִישׁ וּבֵין-אָחִיו וּבֵין גָּרוֹ:



Vows

*Ni a wnaun, ac a
wzandawn:* William
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šåma^c → *clywed*

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Ex. 10: Vows

Numbers 30:13*

*Ni a wnaun, ac a
wrandaun:* William
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clywed:gw2ando

Epilogue

Ond os ei gŵ2 gan ddiddymmu
ai diddymma hwynt y dydd
y **clywo**, ni faif dim a
ddaeth allan oi gwefusau,
oi haddunedau, ac o
rwymedigaeth ei henaid,
ei gŵ2 ai diddymmodd hwynt,
ar Arglwydd a fadde iddi.

But if her husband hath
utterly made them void on
the day he **heard them**; then
whatsoever proceeded out of
her lips concerning her vows,
or concerning the bond of
her soul, shall not stand: her

wə-'im-håpēr yåpēr 'ōt-åm
'išåh bə-yōm šåm'ō kål-mōşå
səpåt̄ehå li-ndårshå
ū-l-'issar naþåh lō yåqūm
'išåh häpēråm wa-YHWH
yislah-l-åh

וְאִם־הָפַר יִפְרֶא אֶתְתָּם | אִישָּׁה בַּיּוֹם
שְׁמֻעוֹ כָּל־מוֹצָא שְׁפָתֵיה לְנַדְרִיחָה
וְלֹא־סָר נֶפֶשָׁה לֹא יִקּוּם אִישָׁה הַפְּרָם
וַיְהִי יִסְלַח־לָהּ:



Ex. 11: Interpretation of dreams

(1/3)

Genesis 41:15

Ni a wnaun, ac a
wzandawn: William
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clywed:gw²ando

Epilogue

A Pharaon a ddywedodd
w²th Joseph, b²euddwydaias
freuddwyd, ac nid [oes]
ai deonglo ef: ond myfi a
glywais ddywedyd am danat
ti, y **gw²andewi** freuddwyd iw
ddeonglu.

And Pharaoh said unto Joseph,
I have dreamed a dream, and
there is none that can interpret
it: and I have heard say of
thee, *that thou canst understand* [lit. in Heb. *hear*] a dream
to interpret it.

way-yōmer par'ō 'el-yōsēp
ḥālōm ḥālamtī ū-pōtēr 'ēn
'ōt-ō wa-'ānī šāma'tī 'āleka
lē-mōr **tišma'** ḥālōm li-p̄tōr
'ōt-ō

וַיֹּאמֶר פְּרָעָה אֶל־יְوָשָׁף חֲלוֹם חִלְמָתִי
וְפִתְחֵר אֵין אָתָּה וְאַנְּיִ שְׁמַעְתִּי עַלְיָךְ
לְאָמֵר תְּשִׁמְעַ חֲלוֹם לְפִתְחֵר אָתָּה:



Ex. 12: Interpretation of dreams

(2/3)

Genesis 37:6

*Ni a wnaun, ac a
wzandawn:* William
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clywed:gwando

Epilogue

O blegit dywedase w̄thynt,
gw̄andewch atolwg y
b̄euddwyd hwn, y² hwn
a frenddwydiais.

And he said unto them, **Hear**,
I pray you, this dream which I
have dreamed:

way-yōmer 'ālēhēm **šim'ū-nā**
ha-hălōm haz-ze 'āšer
hålåmtī

וַיֹּאמֶר אֲלֵהֶם שִׁמְעוּ נָא הַחֲלֹם הַזֶּה
אֲשֶׁר חָלָם תִּי:



Ex. 13: Interpretation of dreams

Judges 7:15

(3/3)

*Ni a wnaun, ac a
wrandaun:* William
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Epilogue

Pan **glybu** Gedeon adzoddiad y bœuddwyd ai ddirnad, yna efe a addolodd: ac a ddychwelodd i werffyll Israel, ac a ddywedodd, cyfodwch, canys rhoddodd yz Arglywydd werffyll y Madianiaid yn eich llaw chwi.

And it was so, when Gideon **heard** the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.

way-hī **ki-šmōā'** gił'ōn
'et-mispar ha-hälōm
wə-'et-šibrō way-yištāhū
way-yāšāb 'el-mahänē
yiśrá'ēl way-yōmer qūmū
kī-nāṭan YHWH bə-yedkem
'et-mahänē midyān

וַיְהִי כֹּשֶׁמַע גָּדוֹעַ אֶת-מִסְפֵּר הַחֶלּוֹם וְאֶת-שְׁבָרֶן
וַיִּשְׁתַּחַוו וַיֵּשֶׁב אֶל-מִחְנָה יְשָׁרָאֵל וַיֹּאמֶר קָמוּ
כִּי-נָתַן יְהוָה בִּזְכָּם אֶת-מִחְנָה מִדְיָן:



Ex. 14: šåma‘ ‘hear’, ‘åså ‘do’, and šåmar ‘keep’ (1/2)

Exodus 24:7

*Ni a wnawn, ac a
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Epilogue

Ac efe a gymmerth lyfr y
cyfammod, ac ai darllenodd lle
y clywe y bobl, a dywedasant
ni a wnawn, ac a **wzandawn**
y² hyn oll a lefarodd y²
Arglwydd.

And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be **obedient** [lit. in Heb. *we will hear*].

way-yiqqah sēp̄er hab-bərīt
way-yiqrå bə-’åznē hå-’åm
way-yōmrū kōl ’ăšer-dibber
YHWH na’ăśe **wə-nišmå‘**

וַיָּקֹחַ סְפִּיר הַבְּרִית וַיִּקְרֹא בְּאֹזֶן הַעֲםָן
וַיֹּאמְרוּ כֹּל אֲשֶׁר־דִּבֶּר יְהֹוָה נָעֲשֶׂה
וּנְשַׁמְּעֶ:



Ex. 15: šåma‘ ‘hear’, ‘åså ‘do’, and šåmar ‘keep’ (2/2)

Deuteronomy 5:24*

*Ni a wnawn, ac a
wzandawn:* William
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Epilogue

Neffa di a **chlyw** 'r hyn oll
a ddywed y² Arglwydd ein
Duw, a llefara di w²thym ni
y² hyn oll a lefaro 'r Arglwydd
ein Duw w²thit ti: ac nyni
a **wzandawn**, ac a wnawn
[hynny.]

Go thou near, and **hear** all that
the **LORD** our God shall say: and
speak thou unto us all that the
LORD our God shall speak unto
thee; and we will **hear** it, and do
it.

qərab̥ 'attå ū-šämå' 'ēt
kål-'äšer yōmar YHWH
'élōhēnū wə-'at tədabbēr
'ēlēnū 'ēt kål-'äšer yədabbēr
YHWH 'élōhēnū 'ēlekå
wə-šåma'nū wə-'åsīnū

קָרְבַּ אֶתְהָ וְשָׁמָעַ אֵת כָּל־אֲשֶׁר יֹאמֶר
יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאַתָּ | תֹּדַבֵּר אֶלְيָנוּ אֵת
כָּל־אֲשֶׁר יֹדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֱלִיךָ
וְשָׁמָעֵנוּ וְעַשֵּׂנָה:



Conclusion

*Ni a wnavn, ac a
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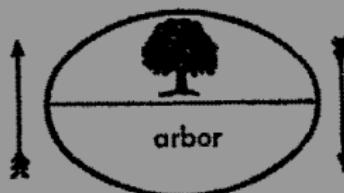
Louis Hjelmslev (1899–1965)



Ferdinand de Saussure (1857–1913)

The objects of interest to linguistic theory are texts. The aim of linguistic theory is to provide a procedural method by means of which a given text can be comprehended through a self-consistent and exhaustive description.

(from *Prolegomena to a Theory of Language*)





Conclusion

*Ni a wnwawn, ac a
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