

LALPing: where next?

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While LALPists were publishing their 'findings', other linguists were, as Kuhn's philosophy of 'normal' science predicts, 'devis[ing] numerous articulations and *ad hoc* modifications' for 'the elimination of the ambiguities/[anomalies] that the [paradigm] from which they worked retained' (Kuhn 1970: 78, 34). Among numerous *ad hoc* modifications are:

- 1) Lass: 'a slightly uneasy compromise [...] I will mean by "English" (with no further qualifications) the set of features that seem to hold for the main so-called "standard" varieties' (1987: 6);
- 2) Greenbaum: '[a] grammar of present-day English is a grammar of the standard dialect of English, which is implicitly identified with the language as a whole' (1988: 36);
- 3) my neologisms: 'letteracy' (2006: 57), 'scribos' (2023: 320).

I argue that, when language communities (lay and professional) have for 300 years identified the 'Standard' dialect/language/variety with the language and when linguists 'complement the traditional picture of a language history based primarily on the highest social rank' and primarily on print (Rutten & van der Wal 2014: 407) with 'findings' from lower-rank scripts, they must continue devising modifications *ad hoc*. Therefore, I propose to describe and explain whole languages in print and script by

- 4) determining the ontology of languages (How do languages exist at all?),
- 5) filling a gap in linguistic methodology with Graphetics and Graphology, in order to govern *die umständliche Beschaffung und mühsame Aufbereitung* (Elspaß 2005: 11) of texts

and thereby *ex hypothesi* to eliminate the basic anomaly: Have or haven't linguists described and explained the Dutch/English/German languages paradigmatically?

References

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