

ZyGLots for Hebrew

“ZyGLots” are Consonant-Pairs like GL in GLeam, Glitter— & GoLd.
The important new discovery is that these **ZyGLots have universal meanings,**

Even crossing different language families. This means that they can “unlock” even unrelated languages, like Hebrew for English speakers.

ZyGLots are a new development in a theory of language that I call “Nanosemantics—because it drills down into words, beyond the “morphemes” recognized in linguistics, down to “**submorphemes.**”

The present introduction does not contain any of the drills & exercises that would be need in a complete book to teach Hebrew. But it does present some important sequence of ZyGLots, within the context of a conversation (between a student & a teacher). This conversation can be used as an ‘Enrichment activity or lesson’ FOR Hebrew students who have studied a hundred words or more. The desired outcome is the ability to translate the Here words explained here— & to explain their meaning relationships. The hope is that this sample of Nanosemantics would allow students to speculate on their own, on the model of the student here, looking into ZyGLots such as those listed at the end.

Optional: transcendental Meditation.

Travel in your mind the whole Length & width of the Universe. Then travel from the beginning t the end of time. This exercise of your imagination may help you, since you will be traveling much further...into the Human Mind!

“Puh-Lease! Can’t you help?
Learning Hebrew words is so hard!
They’re so scary!”

Maybe I can chop them down to size...or into more manageable pieces!
“What do you mean?”

Which would you rather have as a learning help?

A **picture or icon** that gave you a hint about the meaning of each unknown word?

Or 2. A **meaningful piece** of a word, that would help you remember or guess the

Whole word?

“Why do we have to guess? Can’t I just **know it** all?”

I don’t want you to have so much pressure! Just keep thinking that this is all a guessing game and I’m giving you some **tricks or hints** that may be helpful.

Here’s an example from English. Think of the words **GLobe**, **GLoom** & **GLEam**.

“**GLoom** & **GLEam** are opposites and **GLobe** doesn’t seem to have anything in common with them!

See If you can use your imagination, but not just any way you want. Hebrew is very imaginative itself. **To understand Hebrew you have to go along with its imagination!** After all, you’re not making up your own language!

“OK.”

. So see if you can think of to think that “**to roll**” is the meaning of GL.

“Well, that’s easy for **GLobe**, but it doesn’t work for **GLEam** & **GLoom**.

How about for the Hebrew words **GalGaL** ‘wheel’ & **aGoL** ‘round’?

OK, those are easy.

How about the Hebrew **GoLeL**, for the person who rolls up the Torah scroll?

“Yes, that one works. That’s easy”

How about **GoLem** ‘monster’ and **GoLGoLet** ‘skull’?

“Well, a skull is round, and I can see a monster like Godzilla “**rolling**” **over a city.**

So does **GLoom** make any sense now?

I guess I can see it now.

Here’s a big general idea about language in general, any language.

Any word in any language has multiple meanings. We can call them “submeanings.” Most words have multiple submeanings. You can see them numbered in a dictionary.

“Doesn’t this make language very confusing?”

The amazing thing is that language is usually not confusing at all, even with all the ambiguity. Just one simple example: *oversight can prevent oversights*. In every case, a word has one Main or Basic meaning. When we comprehend language, we “tweak” the Basic Meaning, to arrive at a submeaning that fits the context & logic.

“But what rules do we use?”

That’s the amazing thing. We don’t use rules, we just make logical inferences, logical guesses. This is the “Magic” of comprehension”: that we just use common sense, “Natural Logic.” I like to call it “**hypotheguessing.**”

‘OK, I see it; So for a change we don’t use complicated grammar rules, but just common sense. That’s nice!’

So when you learn a FOREIGN language, you’re really learning a new way to think, a new way to arrange submeanings.

“So speakers of different languages think differently?”

Exactly. This is called “Linguistic Relativity.” The most dramatic example of this Linguistic Relativity is the possibility that Einstein thought of his Theory of Relativity based on a Hebrew word, namely *olam*. Even though his family wasn’t religious, this is such a common word that he might have become aware of it.

“I’m not seeing the point.”

“The point is that *olam* has both spatial & temporal meanings. It has a spatial meaning in *melekh ha’olam* ‘king of the Universe,’ but a temporal meaning in *l’olam & me’olam*—’for-ever & from-ever.’

“Maybe *melakh* ha’olam means “Lord of Space & Time!”

Good idea! This interpretation certainly fits *Adon Olam*, as ‘**Lord of the Space-Time Continuum!**’ So we can say that *olam* actually means ‘Space-Time Continuum.’

“We can’t ask Einstein or read his mind. So we can’t really be sure.

True enough. But let me give you another example. The Greek word *Kalos* means both ‘beautiful’ & ‘good.’ This word might be the source of Keats’ idea that

“Truth is beauty & Beauty is Truth. That is all you know, & all you need to know.”

“Again, we can’t read his mind, so we can’t know.

Maybe Keats revealed it himself.

“How?”

Well, this line is the last line of a poem by Keats that he named “Ode On a Grecian Urn.”

OK, I believe it!

So let’s get back to rolling. One of the important submeanings of ‘roll’, is **OVERWHELM**, other than literally rolling—think of your friend Godzilla.. But overwhelming can be negative or positive. Which of the words might overwhelm in a negative way?

Well *GLoom* might fit, as well as ‘monster.’

Good guess!

And what might overwhelm in a positive way?

“Well, *GLEam* might be a good guess here—so I guess we have a **solution to the mystery of *Gleam & Gloom!***

Good! Your guesses are all very good. How about some words from other languages all together, Like Greek and Russian? In Russian, *GoLova* means chapter & GoLova means ‘head.’ Can you explain them?

“Sure. Head is like skull & a chapter is a bunch of pages with a heading! But what did you mean by pictures or icons to give hints about word meanings?”

Well, are you ready for more abstract ideas? You’ve been doing great with “hypothe-guessing,” so I think you can handle it.

“Not to mention that I’ve been playing with words in a bunch of different languages that I never knew before!

This is what’s called being “Try-lingua;”: just trying out whatever bits & pieces of different foreign languages as they come along. So let’s look at a few more.

	Hebrew	Spanish	Latin	Greek	English
	PaNim	PaN	PeRsona	PRosopo	Pray, Prey
	‘face’				
	Pele’	PLaza		PoLis	PLuck,PLay

	‘wonder’	‘citysquare’		‘city’	
				PR otz	PRu
PN	PL		PR	‘break-thru’	‘PRocreate’
‘turn to’	‘pull up’		‘push forward’		

The three ZyGLots for face & facing can be **analyzed or “decomposed” into their component single consonants.**

	PR	PL	PN	
	Push forward	Pull up	to face	
P	R	L	N	
PUSH/PULL	STRETCH, REACH	UP, LIFT	FOCUS	

“**Magic Letters.**”

Consonant CLusters can be 2 or 3 or 4v consonants long—or even just one consonant long! I call a one-consonant ZyGLot a “Magic Letter.” Calling it a letter is especially appropriate because of the importance of their shape: these Magus Letters are iconic, little pictures or icons of the whole word’s meaning. An icon, in turn, is an “eye-con,” forcing the “eye” to conceptualize (visualize) a complex concept. Visual cognition is especially powerful: if you try to say your phone number backwards, you’ll probably have to visualize it. The shared meaning cuts across the differences between different alphabet, so C, meaning COLLECT, as in **Cap, Cup, Chair, Church, Congress**, looks as if it’s trying to Catch & Collect the other letters of the word, while its Hebrew equivalent is a backwards C, in the Hebrew equivalents of these words: *Kipah, Kós, Kise^a, Knesiyah, Kneset*.

The Four Easiest Magic Letters (*L, M, Sh, B*).

These four “Magic Letters” are enough to solve the following Brain-Game.

The4-Language Brain-Game:

Italian		translations
Chiesa		get married
Lingua		shawl
maritarsi		dance
Sciale		tongue
Ballare		

Arabic		translations
Umm		police
Lugha		mother
shurTah		broadcast
Bith		language

Hebrew		translations
shoTer		stage
Hallel		pull
Bimah		people
mshokh		police
Am		praise

Chinese		translations
Min		wrap
Shr		is, yes; ten
Bao		come
Lay		eat
Chr		people

Of course the cross-linguistic Parallels give a “shortcut” to this Brain-Game. But such Parallels are not common, & interesting only to the extent that they reveal the underlying Key-letter meanings.

Additional ZyGLots.

The following additional ZyGlots should be interesting to the American student of Hebrew, e.g. DV in ‘honey, bee, bear.’ Or CL in Eng. *CoLlect* vs. Hebrew *KoLel/Klal, Kol*,

BL	CL/KL	DV	GR			

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