

Dictionary Notes

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Here I am going to collect comments on the dictionary, a few of which may rise to the level of proposals for changes. There are two main sources: read the dictionary itself, and read discussions in the SL transcripts.

All the short paragraphs begin with “entry” now, but when I start mining the SL transcripts we also might have “new word” paragraphs.

entry **a** in the dictionary: I don’t like giving comma as a meaning of **a**: I would suggest including in the entry a statement with example that points out that Loglan doesn’t do this with connectives: where English has **A**, **B**, or **C**, we have **A**, **a B**, **a C**. The same remark would apply to other logical connectives.

It is useful to note (perhaps in a key) that references to Linnaean nomenclature are no longer essential to the language. The Linnaean predicates are just borrowed predicates; the Linnaean names are a class of foreign names. I don’t see any reason to remove the annotation, but it would be nice to have a remark somewhere that it is now only of historical interest.

entry **ai**: the form **-ai** as found in upper case consonant names is to my mind not even an affix; I don’t think it merits an entry, and if it does of course it would be a separate one. What do others think? I might be wrong here: but certainly if it is an entry it would be a separate hyphenated one.

entry **aktci**: This is a challenging consonant combination. It might be nasty if **akci** were also a word. I’m not suggesting a change; I do enjoy noting now and then that Loglan is not actually always easy to pronounce.

entries (for example) **afi Ama** These entries should be revised. The primary meaning of these words and their primary use is as pronouns. **Ama** means capital **A** *only* in the special context **lii Ama**, and this ought to be clear from the entry. This applies to all entries for letterals.

entry **anhasiydzo** (duck-walk, to waddle) I just like this word :-)

entry **arba** correct to Arabic language

entry **Archaepteryx lithographica**: since I now require the *y* in writing, perhaps it should be inserted in entries for full Linnaean names.

entry **ba**: This is a comment on the example: **ba crina** actually literally means “someone is rained on”.

I do not really like the translation of **ba** as “there is”. **ba** is not the quantifier in the sentence **toba mrenu**: the entire sense of *there are two...* is actually in the quantifier **to**.

entry **baa** to be **-baa**.

entry **bac** to be **-bac**.

entry **bacfundu** : what an odd entry! I am not objecting, just amused.

entry **bad** to be **-bad**.

entry **badlo**: just an idle thought. Could this include a third argument indicating what the package is contained or wrapped in? I see that **badmao** has this argument, but perhaps **badlo** should too.

entry **bae** to be **-bae**.

second entry **bai** to be **-bai**.

entry **baj** to be **-baj**.

entry **bajpro**: No criticism here, just a comment that the remark on the second argument is interesting. Surely the second argument can be singular if one is interested (oddly) in a particular smaller branch coming from a larger one. But usually one will be interested in the many smaller branches coming from the larger one.

entry **bak** to be **-bak**.

entry **bakduo**: is what one is bailing necessarily water? A third argument could be provided in case one is bailing some other fluid ;-)

entry **bakso**: would a third argument indicating what the box is made of be amiss?

entry **bakto**: same remark, a third argument indicating what the bucket is made of might not be amiss.

entry **bakvla**: no criticism: this is a striking consonant cluster :-)

entry **bal** to be **-bal**.

entry **balbiu**: this is just a speculative remark. This word for poised/balanced behavior has two different pronunciations. I wonder whether in a living Loglan these two forms would acquire different connotations. One you say quickly, the other you linger over.

entry **balma**: I wonder whether this word should have arguments (center and radius suggest themselves). They might not be used often.

entry **balpi**: I suggest attention to argument structure here. A balance is around a point of balance as well as with respect to forces.

entry **bam** to be **-bam**.

entry **bamcli**: same remark about lack of argument structure.

entry **bamfoa**: I notice that this has the arguments I missed in **balma**. But still, perhaps **balma** ought to have them.

entry **bamfomcartu**: this is a wonderfully strange word (no criticism).

entry **bamhanco**: this predicate is certainly missing a second argument, the person or animal whose fist it is. This is a necessary correction. **nu bamhanco** is then a person or animal making a fist :-) Cyril suggests a third argument, the paw or hand used.

entry **bamkuspypae**: another wonderfully strange word. I thought carelessly that it refers to a toilet paper roll, but actually it refers to certain antiperspirant applicators or to ballpoint pens. It is fun.

entry **ban** to be **-ban**.

entry **banci**: I sense two possible meanings for the second argument. I suggest X takes a bath in tub Y in fluid Z – taking a bath in the claw tub is not the same thing as taking a bath in milk: add a third argument to distinguish these two issues.

entry **bangoi**: No criticism, but this has interesting semantics.

entry **banhane** should a fruit have the tree it comes from as an argument?

entry **bao** should be **-bao**.

entries **baorduo**, **baormao** exhibit the pronunciation issue for English speakers which I support by allowing alternative forms **baorrduo**, **baorrmao**; under some circumstances the **r** hyphen can be vocalic and so an extra syllable. There is no need to comment on this in the dictionary, of course.

entry **bap** should be **-bap**.

entry **bapduo** should probably have a third argument for the bottles.

entry **bar** should be **-bar**.

entry **bardua** No intention to make a change, but wouldn't it be fun if we had a word for bangle which took the person it adorns as an argument...so it is not a bangle if it is not banging :-)

entry **barteu** It is notable how the English definition supports a metaphorical use of “reach” here.

entry **bas** should be **-bas**.

entry **bat** should be **-bat**.

entry **batfantoa** I question the argument order: rebate for what is one of the main questions one would ask.

entry **batmi** is really interesting because it has arguments which clearly have exactly the same case.

entry **batmra** has a fun consonant combination.

entry **batpi** could have a third argument indicating what the bottle is made of.

entry **be**: I have quibbles about the first and last lines of this definition.

entry **bed-** has the hyphen in my copy but not in Torrua's. Cyril notes that in the case of **djifoa** these hyphens could be added automatically without the need to change dictionary keys.

entry **bedgoi** Should this have an argument for which bed you are going to? I think perhaps yes.

entry **bedhedto** This should definitely have a second argument. The phrasing of the entry even suggests it. X is head of bed Y.

entry **bedkru** Should there be a third argument for the bed or beds which make it a bedroom?

entry **bedpli** The second argument which is the bed or thing used as a bed is there in my mind.

entry **beg-** needs the hyphen

entry **begdou** can the second argument be an action as in **begco**?

entry **begnordou** is the second argument the object or action denied to the would be recipient (which seems better) or the actual petition (an act or event) as the phrasing of the definition seems to suggest? I suggest parallelism with **begdou**.

entry **bei** As noted above, clarify all such entries to make it clear that their primary use is as pronouns (lower case standing for descriptive arguments rather than proper names).

entry **beinracveo** It might be too baroque but I'd like a third argument for what the luggage is made of.

entry **beinreu** Should this have an argument for the person or animal it is on?

entry **bek-** needs a hyphen

entry **bekciu** Just a snide remark: these tomatoes have no peer suggests that they are best, but this word only provides that no tomatoes have the same qualities; some might be better. Is there an analogous word using \geq ? This is an interesting word. I suppose the difference from **ciktu** is that the first two arguments are actually quantities. But the last example under **ciktu** seems as if it should rather be an example under **bekciu**.

entry **bekfao** Could this have an argument for a direction?

entry **beklia** Are second arguments individual objects in the formation, or are masses of objects in the formation also acceptable arguments? I would think the former, but there are idioms which might threaten the latter usage.

entry **bekykrosio** I would think the items in the traffic and the field in which the traffic takes place should occupy separate argument places. These are not really conflatable.

entry **bel-** needs hyphen.

entries **belcpu**, **belduo** Perhaps one of these should have a third argument for the sound (see **belsoa**)

entry **ben-** needs hyphen

entry **bendu** An argument for the kind of music played?

entry **beo** Usual notes about rewriting entries about letterals to emphasize pronoun-hood.

entry **ber-** hyphenate

entry **bercykeu** an argument for the flock?

entry **bercymio** an argument for the victim (mutton from sheep S)

entry **berprati** the use of “freight” is not the usual one: “freight charge (or rate)” would probably be better.

entry **bet-** hyphenate

entry **betytue** An elaborate word for a simple concept. Just a comment.

entry **betytuebongu** an amazingly long word for kneecap!

entry **beu-** separate hyphenated entry for the djifoa

entry **bia-** separate entry for the djifoa

entries **biarskapi**, **biartorspa** examples of symmetric predicates with arguments with the same case

entries **biaski**, **biaspa** why two words? No action required, just an example of double coinage, which happens in various places, and is probably a natural phenomenon in Loglan.

entry **Biblos** I would rather say, the Christian scripture, and have a separate entry for **la Tanah**, the Jewish scripture.

entry **bic-** hyphenate

entry **bid-** hyphenate

entry **bidvetfa** attention to argument structure? This might reasonable have an additional argument, as for example for the field of practice in which the innovation is made?

entry **bidzi** I suppose that a bead which is self-sufficient, not on an ornament or garment, can be **nuo bidzi**.

entry **bie-** separate hyphenated entry for the djifoa

entry **bierfodydjoso** This is a magnificent word. One doesn't just hem a garment, one hems it in a particular place. I think another argument place is needed.