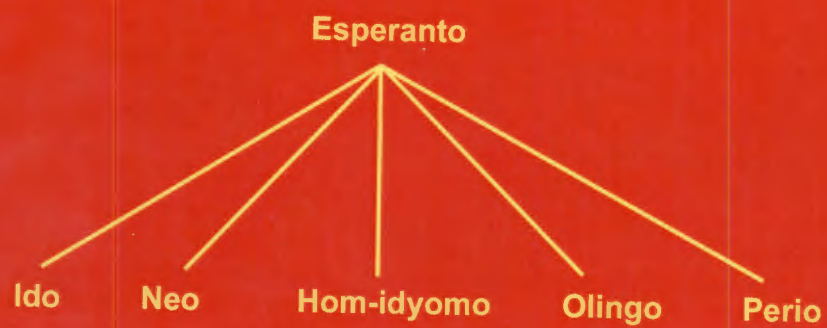


# Daughters of Esperanto

*Alan Reed Libert*



*Languages of the World*

33

Esperanto is by far the most successful artificial language. However, some of those who learned it were not satisfied with it and changed it in various ways. Esperanto has also been modified to serve as an intermediate language in machine translation. In addition, designers of some other languages borrowed many elements from Esperanto. This book is a survey of artificial languages resulting from these processes. After an introductory chapter in which the languages are presented, there are chapters on phonetics and phonology (including orthography), the lexicon, morphology, syntax, and semantics.

At various points comparisons to Esperanto are made. The languages covered include Ido (the best known language of this type), Aiolia, Arlipo, Atlango, the DLT Intermediate Language, Ekselsioro, La lingvo Esperantida, Esperloja, Farlingo, Hom-Idyomo, Linguna, Modern Esperanto, Mondezo, Mondlingo, Mondlingvo, Neo, Olingo, Perio, Zamenhof's Reformed Esperanto, Romániço, Senxespera, and Virgoranto. Some of these languages are quite similar to Esperanto, while others are rather different in several respects. Some daughters of Esperanto involve simplifications in one or more areas of the grammar, but some have introduced greater complexity, e.g. more personal pronouns or more morphological cases.

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# Daughters of Esperanto

*Alan Reed Libert*

*University of Newcastle*

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## Preface

I have often preserved the incorrect spelling or punctuation of quotations, i.e. only sometimes have I corrected errors in punctuation, spelling, and formatting. In examples I do not always show the full morphological analysis of words when this is not relevant to the point being discussed. When I have omitted one or more entire sentences while quoting I have put ellipsis points inside square brackets; when I have omitted one or more words within a sentence I have used only ellipsis points.

Several designers of languages discussed in this book helped me by giving me information on their languages, and I thank them for this. The Interlibrary Services section of the libraries of the University of Newcastle has been of considerable assistance, for which I am indeed grateful. I also thank Shinji Ido, Silvia Ratcheva, and Jia Hongge for proofreading; in addition Hongge provided much appreciated help with formatting. Of course I alone am responsible for any remaining errors or shortcomings in this work.

I dedicate this book to the memory of my friend and former colleague from the University of Newcastle, George M. Horn.



## Abbreviations

ACC – accusative  
 ADJ – adjective (word class marker for adjectives)  
 ADV – adverb (word class marker for adverbs)  
 antepres. – antepresent  
 art. – article  
 att. – attributive  
 C – common gender (masculine or feminine, but not neuter)  
 cat. – category  
 CAUS – causative  
 CN – common gender including neuter  
 condit./CONDIT – conditional  
 copret. – copreterite (a tense of Hom-idyomo)  
 demonstr. – demonstrative  
 DIR – directional (case)  
 direct. – direction  
 E-tida – Esperantida  
 F – feminine  
 FOC – focus particle  
 FUT – future  
 FUTPASSPARTIC – future passive participle  
 GART – generic article  
 hypoth./HYPOTH – hypothetical (a mood of Hom-idyomo)  
 Hom-id. – Hom-idyomo  
 imm. – immediate  
 IMPER – imperative  
 indef. – indefinite  
 INFIN – infinitive  
 M – masculine  
 mann. – manner  
 Mod. Esp. – Modern Esperanto  
 MT – my translation (as opposed to one given by the source)  
 N – neuter  
 n.d. – no date  
 neg. – negative  
 NF – name forming suffix (in Aiola)  
 NFD – suffix attached to derived names (or derived members of simple derived name combinations) within complex derived names (in Aiola)  
 NN – word class marker for nouns  
 NOM – nominative  
 Nov-Esp. – Nov-Esperanto  
 particip. – participle  
 PASSPARTIC – passive participle  
 pers. – person  
 PRESPARTIC – present participle  
 PRESPASSPARTIC – present passive participle  
 PSTPARTIC – past participle  
 PL – plural

possess. – possessive  
 prep. – preposition  
 pres./PRES – present  
 pret./PRET – preterite  
 PROG – progressive  
 PST – past  
 Q – question particle  
 quant. – quantity  
 RA – relational adjective forming suffix (in Aiola)  
 rel. – relational  
 SG – singular  
 suggest./SUGGEST – suggestive (a mood of Hom-idyomo)  
 tr. – translation  
 univ. – universal  
 Virgor. – Virgoranto  
 VOC – vocative

I use the asterisk (\*) for a form which is to my knowledge unattested, or for a non-existent word.

## 1 Introduction

Esperanto is the most successful artificial language. However, some of those who learned it were not satisfied with it, and changed it in various ways, and other language designers borrowed heavily from it for their languages. This book is about some of the languages which resulted from such processes, i.e. modified or "reformed" versions of Esperanto and languages based at least to some extent on Esperanto. I shall refer to all of these languages as "daughters of Esperanto", although some of them have taken very many components from other languages, and might not be seen as descendants of Esperanto in a strict sense. In general I only describe points on which these languages differ from Esperanto and I do not describe all such features, but I hope that I shall have given an idea of what these languages are like.

The best known and most successful daughter of Esperanto is Ido, and I shall treat it in this book. However, I shall not discuss projects to reform or modify Ido, which could be seen as granddaughters of Esperanto.<sup>1</sup> Most of the present chapter will be devoted to introducing the languages that I shall be dealing with.

### 1.1 Aiola/Ayola

The "Chief Developer of Ayola" (ARG 2008) is Richard W. Stimets, but at least to some extent Ayola is the product of a collaborative effort, namely by the Ayola Research Group (ARG). Ayola (*Aiola* being an earlier version of the name) seems to have been constructed from several sources: ARG (2005:3) says, "In developing Aiola, ARG has borrowed many ideas from previous international languages such as Esperanto, Interlingua and Loglan, and introduced many new ideas of its own. Ayola's vocabulary and some of its grammatical attributes are largely based on those found in the Romance (Latin, Italian, French, Spanish, and Portuguese) and Germanic (English, German) languages". Further, in the "FAQ" part of the Ayola website (ARG 2008) is the following answer to the question "Is Ayola a revision of any other constructed language, such as Esperanto, Loglan, or Interlingua?":

It is essentially impossible in creating a constructed language to produce a result that does not share some features in common with previous attempts. The term 'revision' implies a high correlation between the original and the revised version, i.e. a correlation coefficient of 75 -100%. The correlation between Ayola and other previous international languages such as Esperanto, Interlingua, and Loglan is considerably less than this range for the three principal grammatical categories of word endings, prefixes and suffixes, and roots.

However, some people have judged it to be similar to Esperanto. For example, according to Cowan (2004), "Aiola is essentially Esperanto spelled out in Loglan and with a few Loglan ideas in it". The *Langmaker* website page on the language (Henning n.d. a) states, "By the website's own admission, the very first 'version' of **Aiola** appears to have been a modified Esperanto, although it also admits that the language has since moved significantly far away from that language." Thus it might

<sup>1</sup> Among the projects of this type mentioned by Monnerot-Dumaine (1960:108) are Ido Novialisat, Ido simpligita, Ido reformita, Dutalingue, Italico, and Ido Avancit.



be like Neo (v. sec. 1.20), a language descended from Esperanto, but one which over time has come to be rather different from its parent. At the time of writing this (July 2008) the grammar of Ayola was not available on the Ayola website and I have used the formerly available grammar ARG (2005) as my main source for the language.<sup>2</sup> This work uses the previous name for the language (*Aiola*) and that is the name which I shall use from now on.

## 1.2 Arlipo

The creator of Arlipo (from *Artifika Lingvo por Omni*) is Lubor Vitek. He lists (Vitek n.d. a) several features that an international auxiliary language should have, including “[f]acila prononco” (‘easy pronunciation’), “[s]impla kaj logika gramatiko” (‘simple and logical grammar’), and “[m]axima parencezo kun le monde plej disvastigitaj naturala lingvi, tak pri vortstoko, tak anke pri gramatiko” (‘maximum relatedness with the world’s most widespread languages, both concerning the vocabulary, and also concerning the grammar’), though he is aware that “omna artifa lingvo esat kompromiso” (‘every artificial language is a compromise’) (ibid.). Although Arlipo is “surzbaze di Esperanto, Ido kaj ikva plusa lingvi” (‘based on Esperanto, Ido, and some other languages’) (ibid.), Vitek has made changes from Esperanto and Ido so that it will have the desired features. Vitek’s webpages (the major sources on the language to my knowledge) include a short description of the grammar, a fairly extensive Arlipo-English dictionary, and a text (the “Gospel of Mark”).

## 1.3 Atlango

The designer of Atlango is Richard A. Antonius, who says (2008b):

**ATLANGO** is an international, Euroamerican auxiliary language intended as a lingua franca for citizens of different countries to learn. Atlango is a **highly euphonious** (“angloromaneska”) and **easy to learn** language and without any special accented letters like in Esperanto. Atlango can be learned considerably quicker than any other natural language.

This language turns to be **the real candidate** to become the basis for a **neutral and common language for Europe** but also for North and South America. [...] Atlango is easy to learn and pronounce and much more euphonious than old constructed languages - Esperanto, Ido, Occidental, Novial, Neo and Interlingua. Atlango can be used as a democratic and intermediary language for all people.

An excellent **bridge language** between different cultures and traditions.

Concerning the sources for the language he says (ibid.) that it is “bazita su-l cefa langoy di Europo kaj Amerika, cefa langoy konstruktita kay le lango Latina” (‘based on the main languages of Europe and America, main constructed languages and the Latin language’). Atlango has various features in common with Esperanto, including the word class endings for nouns, adjectives, and adverbs, the infinitive suffix *-i*, the causative suffix *-ig-*, and the prefix *bo-*. Some affixes and words have

<sup>2</sup> Since this sentence was written, the *Ayola Grammar Book* has appeared in the Ayola website (<http://www.aiola.org/>), but I have not used it in the description of this language.

different spellings in the two languages but the same pronunciation (due to orthographic differences), e.g. Atlango *-ac-* and Esperanto *-ac-*, or are phonetically similar, e.g. Atlango *-ily-* and Esperanto *-il-*. I have obtained information on Atlango from the fairly extensive webpages Antonius (2008b) and (2008c). Antonius has made modifications to his language, which he mentions in another webpage (Antonius 2008a).

## 1.4 Baza

Baza (or *Inter-esperanto*) was designed by Greg Hoover in 2003. Its main difference from Esperanto is that its lexicon is a subset of that of Esperanto (It is thus the same type of language as Basic English.) The web page *Inter-esperanto* (Hoover:n.d.) states, “When communicating in Baza, one must submit to the discipline of using only the prescribed vocabulary to express communicative intent. In some languages, using many words is a sign of sophistication. In Baza, the reverse is true”.

Although Baza, like Esperanto, was apparently created to serve as a means of communication among speakers of different languages, it was also meant to serve two other purposes: it “functions as a simple basic language that can unite the speaking communities of Esperanto, Ido, Mondlango, and other Esperanto derived language systems” (ibid.) and it “can also simple [sic] be a stepping stone language, learned prior to studying traditional Esperanto, Ido, Mo[n]dlango, and other Esperanto-based language systems” (ibid.). I am not aware of any published materials on this language; my information on it comes largely from the above mentioned web page “*Inter-esperanto*”.

## 1.5 The DLT Intermediate Language

The Distributed Language Translation (DLT) project (which A. P. M Witkam started and which was based in Utrecht) used a modified version of Esperanto as the “intermediate language” (Schubert 1992:78) between source and target languages for translation by computers. The DLT Intermediate Language is not very different from Esperanto; Schubert (ibid.:88) says:

At the end of the prototype phase [of the development of the DLT Intermediate Language], the difference between common Esperanto and DLT’s version can be summarized under a single condition; DLT’s version is *syntactically* unambiguous. The term *syntax* is meant in a broad sense which covers all grammatical properties on the formal side of the linguistic sign ...

Some of the features of this language are not original but come from earlier modified versions of Esperanto, as Schubert (1986) acknowledges. The DLT Intermediate Language changed somewhat over time; I shall treat the version presented in Schubert (1986).<sup>3</sup> Although this may not have been the final version of the language, it has some interesting features.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore when I say “the DLT Intermediate Language” I mean this version of it.



## 1.6 Ekselsioro

Ekselsioro was the work of Frederic Greenwood, who was also the designer of the language Ulla. On the title page of Greenwood (1906a) and (1906b) it is claimed that Ekselsioro “can be Telegraphed, Signalled, Codified, Printed, Typed, Spoken, Sung, Written and Easily Read” and that it is “The Last and Best of all attempts hitherto made. Sonorous, Flowing and Musical. Adapted to Travel, Commerce and Science”. The following page in Greenwood (1906a), which is a “reklamajo” (‘advertisement’), contains the following statements:

There is no doubt but that the extensive knowledge of languages had made it possible for the author, having all the efforts and assistance of *Previous Language Builders Before Him*, to produce at least *the Best Universal Language Yet Given to the People*, for be it well noted that

EKSELSIORO IS FOR THE PEOPLE,

AS WELL AS FOR THE LEARNED, being a practical Every Day Language, which the ordinary mind may easily assimilate. IN SHORT A BREAD WINNER.

According to Monnerot-Dumaine (1960:169) Ekselsioro is “Esperanto très peu modifié”.

## 1.7 La Lingvo Esperantida and Other Languages of René de Saussure

René de Saussure (1868-1943) created several modified versions of Esperanto over the course of about 30 years. Apparently his involvement in the Esperanto movement was due to his brother Ferdinand, one of the major figures in modern linguistics, who had him attend the 2nd Universal Congress of Esperanto (held in 1906 in Geneva). Künzli (2001) says that he “apartenas al tiuj raraj lingvistoj, kiuj kritikis Esperanton el lingscienca vidpunkto por trovi kompromison inter Esperanto kaj Ido”.

The languages and versions of languages by de Saussure that are mentioned by Künzli (2001) are: Lingvo Internacina di Antido 1 (1907), Esperanto de Antido 2 (1910), Lingvo Kosmopolita (1912), Lingvo Internatsia de Antido (1917), “Reformita Esperanto proponita en la broŝura ‘Les “tares” de l’espéranto/Die “Mängel” des Esperanto” (1917), Esperantido de Antido (1919), Esperantido de Antido (1920), Esperantido dialekto de Esperanto, de Antido (1922), Esperantido da Antido (1924), Nov-Esperanto/Idiomo Mondialo (1925-32), Universal Eo (1935), and Esperanto II (1937). According to Monnerot-Dumaine (1960:69) Saussure’s “espérantides” are “assez proche de l’Ido, malgré son pseudonym d’Antido”. I have information from primary sources for only three of de Saussure’s projects (la lingvo Esperantida as described in de Saussure (1919), la lingvo Esperantida as described in de Saussure (1923),<sup>4</sup> and Nov-Esperanto as described in de Saussure 1926<sup>5</sup>), and I shall

<sup>4</sup> I shall refer to these as 1919 Esperantida and 1923 Esperantida respectively although the proper name of the language is *la lingvo Esperantida*. In De Saussure (1919:2) is the following “notico” (‘note’): “La Akademio decidis, ke la vorto *Esperantido* signas persono (ne lingvo). La lingvo Esperantida estas do la lingva de la Esperantidon, kie la lingvo franca estas la lingvo de la francon” (The [Esperantida] Academy has decided that the word *Esperantido* denotes a person (not a language). The Esperantida

concentrate on these; Kunzli (ibid.) gives very brief information on and samples of 11 of his projects. There is also a website devoted to Nov-Esperanto, whose home page is Selva (2006).

## 1.8 E-speranto

E-speranto is the work of Neville Holmes, who states (Holmes n.d. a):

E-speranto is an artificial language intended only as a[n] auxiliary language to make cross-cultural communication easier. A side-effect will be to make translation by machine easier. Esperanto has precisely the same objective, but its adherents tend to overlook this ideal, and come to propound its virtues as a literary language in its own right. Whether or not Esperanto is suitable for literary creation is irrelevant, and advertising this virtue does no good to Esperanto’s prospects for wider acceptance.

Holmes (ibid.) says that “E-speranto is a dialect of Esperanto”. I have obtained my information on E-speranto from Holmes’s webpages about it and from Holmes (2008), as well as from personal communications from Holmes. These materials only give limited on the details of the language. Further, there are some differences in the language as described in the webpages and in Holmes (2008); I shall refer to these two version of the language as webpage E-speranto and 2008 E-speranto.

## 1.9 Esperanto sen Fleksio

Esperanto sen Fleksio (EsF) was created by Rick Harrison. He states that it “is a proposed dialect of ... Esperanto” (Harrison 2004) and that it “is an experiment”. It “eliminates many of the unnecessary grammatical inflections that cause trouble for people whose native languages (e.g. Chinese, Indonesian, English) have simpler grammars than traditional Esperanto” (ibid.). EsF only involves four changes from Esperanto, one of which is not related to inflection (v. section 2.1). Harrison (ibid.) had some further ideas about modifying Esperanto:

... I have noticed a few things about my own style of EsF. Please experiment and see if you develop a similar style.

- I use *la* less frequently.
- I feel the need for an optional way to express plural nouns. Not a suffix, but rather a short word that behaves exactly like *tri*, *kvar* etc. and means “more than one.”
- I feel the need for a particle that would allow us to make some “topic, comment” sentences.
- I feel the need for a way to turn adjectives into stative verbs. Instead of *esti granda* I seem to want to say *grandazi* (or something).

language is therefore the language of the Esperantidists, as the French language is the language of the French [people]”).

<sup>5</sup> De Saussure wrote several works on Nov-Esperanto, and not all of the details of the language were identical in all of these works; when I refer to Nov-Esperanto, I mean the version of the language presented in de Saussure (1926).



One might note that EsF is not entirely "without inflection": although the past, present, and future tense suffixes have been done away with, as well as most of the participial suffixes, this is not true of the infinitive, conditional, and imperative endings, as we see in the following examples:

- (1a) Ven-u            via       regno.  
       come-IMPER your kingdom  
       'thy kingdom come' (ibid.)
- (1b) ... vi    pov-us            forlas-i            sufero  
       you can-CONDIT abandon-INFIN suffering  
       '... you could abandon suffering' (ibid., MT)

Two participial endings have also been retained, *-anta* and *-ita*.

### 1.10 Esperloja

Esperloja was apparently designed by Larry Sulky, who says at the beginning of his webpage entitled *Esperanto by Hindsight: A Smug Redesign* (Sulky, n.d.)

If only Professor Zamenhof had been as enlightened as we all are in the fabulous 21<sup>st</sup> century! He would have avoided diacritical marks because computer keyboards were not going to like them. [...]

The fact is, Esperanto was an amazing creation, as shown by the fact that it has survived for about a century. There are just a few things about it that bug me. So I'll correct them here."

To my knowledge the only substantial source on Esperloja is this webpage by Sulky, who is also the creator of a language called Ilomi.

### 1.11 Farlingo

Farlingo is the work of Matvei Farber (and Vladimir Faber?) and, like the DLT Intermediate Language, was designed to be an intermediate language for computer translators. As far as I know, information on this language is only available from internet sources, mainly from the webpages by Matvei and Vladimir Farber. There is a webpage in Russian on grammar and glossaries from Farlingo into several languages, including Arabic, Bulgarian, and Danish, and English. Farlingo drew on a relatively large number of languages for its construction: Henning (n.d. b) gives as "Language sources" for it "Esperanto, English, French, Spain [sic], Italian, Russian, Hebrew, Yiddish.

### 1.12 Hom-Idyomo

The designer of Hom-iyomo was C. Cárdenas, who says of it, "I may confess that Hom-idyomo is not so easy to learn as Esperanto is, but it is incomparably easier to practise, on account of the abundance of words with which it is endowed and which express exactly and separately every one of the ideas of any scholastic man. In the actual state of Esperanto, nobody is able to translate into it, with sufficient clearness,

even half of the English dictionary" (Cárdenas 1923:vi). In spite of this admitted difficulty in learning the language, Cárdenas (ibid.) asserts that it "can be learned, easily and completely, by a work of half an hour a day during one year." To my knowledge Cárdenas (1923) does not explicitly acknowledge any debt to Esperanto, and makes the following statement about how he created it (ibid.:vi): "It has been formed by opening simultaneously five national dictionaries and selecting from them each common word, carefully not changing its form but what has been strictly necessary to arrange the whole in groups ruled by Logic and Philosophy. No preference has been given to any of the five languages by sympathy or passion, only for the sake of simplicity and to the good of humanity." However, an examination of Hom-idyomo will reveal many features that it shares with Esperanto, e.g. the prefixes *bo-* and *ge-*, the suffixes *-em*, *-et*, *-il*, and *-in*, and the word class endings for nouns, adjectives, and adverbs. My source for this language is Cárdenas (1923), a long book containing a grammar and dictionaries from Hom-idyomo to English and from English into Hom-idyomo.

### 1.13 Ido

As mentioned above, Ido achieved more popularity than any other attempt to modify Esperanto and is one of the few artificial languages of any type that has had a real community of speakers. The story of Ido has involved a considerable amount of bitterness and some of the facts may be in dispute; what follows is one version of it. In 1901 the Délégation pour l'adoption d'une langue auxiliaire internationale, which was the idea of Louis Couturat and Léopold Leau, was created and in 1907 a committee of it was organized to decide on the best artificial language. The two major candidates were Esperanto and Idiom Neutral. Louis de Beaufront acted as the advocate for the former. Esperanto emerged as the winner, however, not Zamenhof's form of it, but a modified form that had been put forth anonymously ("Ido" was given as the name of its author; it may have been the work of Couturat, who was one of those making the decision, and/or de Beaufront, who, as has already been said, was supposed to have been arguing on behalf of Esperanto.) Zamenhof rejected this outcome, and there were many who supported him and were proponents of the unchanged version of the language, while others became adherents of the modified form of Esperanto, i.e. of Ido, which underwent some more changes. Thus occurred the so-called "Ido schism" and since then relations between the two camps (or at least some of the people in them) have sometimes been quite unfriendly.

As one would expect of a language associated with so much controversy, opinions on it vary. Kellerman (1909:844) considered Ido not as good as Esperanto, with aesthetics being involved with his view: "Esperanto is more musical, for in cutting out the six supersigned letters Ido and its related systems have been forced to reduce the sounds also; thus a so-called 'purification' has resulted in monotony." He also (ibid.) brings up ease of learning or use: "Ido ... with its harsh Anglo-Saxon pronunciation of the letter *j*, and its fixed Franco-English word order would prove troublesome to most Europeans." The prominent linguist Otto Jespersen was a proponent of Ido before he designed the language Novial. His (1918/1921:36-38) views on the relative advantages of Esperanto and Ido were: "... for Esperanto there is only to be said its greater number of adherents ... Everything else tells in favor of Ido. It is not the product of a single person, and for that reason it is free from the caprices, fancies and individual preferences which a single person can with difficulty avoid. [...] Ido has a



vocabulary more extensive and worked out more exactly; it has in general a better conscience in all respects."

Collinson (1924) is a defense of Esperanto in response to criticism from proponents of Ido and in turn brings up what he sees as shortcomings of Ido; these will be mentioned in appropriate parts of the present book, but his general view is:

In important particulars Ido is retrograde, and careful examination of both languages does not lend support to the view that, as a whole, Ido represents an advance upon Esperanto. From the point of view of the International Language movement generally the launching of Ido and the manner of its presentment to the public have been a psychological blunder of the first magnitude. Until something much better than Ido comes their way, Esperantists will not be tempted to desert a language for which they have conceived a real affection and which they have learned to handle with skill, grace, and power.

Talmey (1938:177) judged Ido to be "vastly superior to any previous project", although he thought Ido was an "absurd name" (ibid.).<sup>6</sup> Bodmer (1944:472) says, "In some ways Ido is better [than Esperanto], but it has the same defective foundations as Esperanto. [...] The system of derivative affixes has been pruned of some glaring absurdities, but inflated by a fresh battery based on quasi-logical pre-occupations". Monnerot-Dumaine (1960:105) states that "L'Ido est agréable à parler. Il est plus facile à traduire que l'Esperanto, pour des Européens." Large (1985:137) states, "Anyone seeking the way to an ideal world through a shared language is likely to be attracted by the more successful Esperantist movement; Ido is likely to appeal only to those who believe that a real or supposed linguistic superiority over Esperanto outweighs its numerical insignificance in terms of supporters." An interesting comparison of Esperanto and Ido (and one that is perhaps more objective than some of those made in the past) is that by Barandovská-Frank (1993), who examines Esperanto, Ido, some other artificial languages, and Latin with respect to 36 criteria of several types: "Komunika kapablo" (ibid.:89), for example "Bona akustika diferencigo de sonoj" (ibid.), "Estetika akcepteblo" (ibid.:90), "Rilato al etnaj lingvoj" (ibid.), "Neŭtraleco" (ibid.), "Lerneblo" (ibid.), Teknika uzeblo", Gobbo (2005) looks at the potential of Esperanto, Ido, Interlingua, Latin, and English for use by the European Union and comes to the following view of Ido:

Ido has discarded the delicate equilibrium of Esperanto grammar in favor of a clearer but narrower direction: occidentalization. Its grammar may prove unsatisfactory to many EU citizens, as well as speakers of Slavic and Germanic languages, except English. However, most speakers of the Romance group (even if it may 'sound bad', especially to Italians) may be satisfied as there is a certain degree of familiarity at first glance, more than with Esperanto.

<sup>6</sup> Talmey was involved in the Ido movement, but became disillusioned with it and designed a revised version of Ido. In fact, he had previously been a proponent of Esperanto but "abandoned it ... having convinced myself of its fitness even for the rôle of the IL [International Language]" (Talmey 1938:177).

It is interesting, given the hostility towards Ido by many adherents of Esperanto, that Jordan (1987:110) believes that Esperanto may owe its current status partly to Ido: "Esperanto might not have succeeded without the Volapük and Ido movements. [...] Ido probably drew reformists out of Esperanto, leaving the movement loyalists it required. Without Volapük to set the stage and Ido to draw away perfectionists, Esperanto might have collapsed."

There is a large amount of material about and/or in Ido, including a *Bibliographio di Ido* (Carlevaro and Haupenthal 1999). I have gotten most of my information about the details of the language from the extensive grammar by de Beaufront (1925/2005).

#### 1.14 Intero

Marq Thompson and Jonathan Moore designed Intero, which dates from 2004. Thompson (2007a) describes the origin of the language as follows: "We both speak Esperanto, both agree that Esperanto has flaws, and both agree that Ido did a poor job of reforming Esperanto. Thus, we began discussing the flaws of Esperanto and before long, we were creating (yet another) clone of it. We decided to call it Intero while we worked on it, and the name stuck. Intero gets its name from the Esperanto preposition inter meaning 'between'." By "between" he means "between Esperanto and Ido" (ibid.), but Thompson does not have a positive view of Ido, since he says (ibid.), "Intero seeks to improve Esperanto as Ido failed to do" and "Intero shall not be a disaster similar to Ido." Thompson (ibid.) also states, "Intero shall not deviate from Esperanto any further than is judged necessary" and "Intero shall be no more than a dialect of Esperanto". There is a feature of Intero which is "not a necessary deviation from Esperanto" (ibid.), the indefinite article, but one is not required to use it. To my knowledge material on this language is only available on the internet; my main source for it is Thompson (2007a).

#### 1.15 Linguna

Linguna stands out among the languages discussed in this book in the sense that in several ways it is considerably more complicated than Esperanto. Some other daughters of Esperanto add complications to some part of the grammar, but Linguna to my knowledge is the most complex language derived from Esperanto, and after looking at it one might wonder whether its designer, Hans Dieter Wilhelm Goeres, seriously intended it to be used. The following passage (Goeres n.d.) shows that Linguna was seen as a descendant of Esperanto and gives an idea of what Goeres thought about his language (including the surprising assertion about its simplicity):

Die neutral angelegte Völkerständigungssprache LINGUA ist eine kosmopolitische und internationale Sprache, aufgebaut auf neueste linguistische und etymologische Erkenntnisse. Die Natürlichkeit beachtend, als Fortentwicklung von Esperanto und Esperanto Moderna, ist sie logisch, klar und einfach zu erlernen. [...]

Sie ist dabei weit einfacher als z.B. Englisch oder andere stark verbreitete Sprachen wie Spanisch oder Chinesisch, u.s.w.; einfacher noch als alle Sprachen der Welt.



In writing about Lingua I have made use of some of the large amount of information on it that Goeres has placed on the internet.

### 1.16 Modern Esperanto

Modern Esperanto was designed by Teddy Hagner,<sup>7</sup> who, in his (n.d.) work on his language, calls himself by "the Esperanto translated name Teodoro Lahago, of being a citizen of the city of The Hague" (p. 51)). In Lahago (n.d.) he sometimes refers to his language as "Moderna Esperanto", which is what the name would be in that language, or in Esperanto, which he (e.g. n.d.:15) calls "Old Esperanto".

In Lahago (n.d.:51-54) he provides information about himself, writing in the 3rd person (e.g. that he "was born at The Hague, on May 16, 1929, 9 PM. [sic] summertime" (p. 51)), including his discovery of Esperanto and his thoughts on the prospects for such a language (pp. 53-4):

During those five years in Europe [in the 1950s], Lahago lived also for about two months in Antwerp, Belgium, to open a bookstore of scientific books, but because of the high rent and not enough capital was evicted from the store. At this place, he got his first contact about Esperanto, by finding one day some leaflet about Esperanto in his mail-box, instead of book-orders, and he remembers the terrible cold and hunger, because of being so broke. In his sorry not being able to fulfill his dreams of a bookstore, Lahago found this leaflet being his heaven to peace of mind [sic] and the future, and started the study of Esperanto in the following years, with the result of Moderna Esperanto now. Creating again many disillusion among old time Esperantists. But time only will tell the truth, if Modern Esperanto was a waste or a creative creation. Growing and changing it will, according the demand of the users of an international language.

Teodoro saw the many possibilities of one international uniform language, instead of the so many languages and dialects in existence now in the world, creating only hate and isolism [sic]. [...]

This is the way Esperanto and may be Moderna Esperanto will spread out and slowly conquer the world of knowledge. An international language promoting unity among nations with the help of the native languages, in this universe. The time is not far off. Already is the seed laid for its great spread, and can you hear the flow of its music through the air, over the land and the seas. Time will only tell and that is indefinite, without no beginning and no end [sic].

Lahago's efforts met with some disapproval; he states (n.d.:19):

In earlier attempts of my publications of Modern Esperanto I did received [sic] boxes full of mail with all kinds of critics [sic], hateful letters and postcards, and even an attempt of a lawsuit by an attorney out of Washington D.C., because according his statements [sic], was Esperanto a patented invention by its creator Dr. Zamenhof. If Zamenhof still could

<sup>7</sup> This name is the English version of his original Dutch name Teddy Hagenaar.

defend himself, he would may be had [sic] approved the new reforms of Modern Esperanto and it fully supported ... [...] That attorney never admitted that he himself was a big parasite and degenerate to live of [sic] the creation of a deceased person, instead of helping to promote the Esperanto movement in a creative and educ[a]tional manner. It is those kind of Esperantists who misuse the name of Esperanto for its promotion, but only give to themselves big titles of being some kind of a delegate. The so called "white collar workers" with an empty head, but just following, to be along [sic], because of not having any other ideals except destroying unconsciously the evolution of progress.

However, he also says that he got letters with positive opinions about his work. Monnerot-Dumaine (1960:183) says that this language is "sans grande originalité".

### 1.17 Mondezo

Medrano (2002) introduces his modified version of Esperanto as follows:<sup>8</sup>

Esperanto is an easy enough language to learn and it is a beautiful language. But, in fact, it could be made even simpler to learn. Attempts like Ido, a reformed Esperanto, have been made in the past, but they were radical and perhaps less aesthetically pleasing than Esperanto. Perhaps, there is room in this big world for a **dialect** of Esperanto that is even easier than Traditional Esperanto. Perhaps, some are looking for **minimalist** change. Mondezo is such a change.

Medrano, more than a dozen other languages, later gave up on Mondezo and "went back to being a patriotic Esperantist" (Medrano 2007).

### 1.18 Mondlango

In the *Questions and Answers* page of the Mondlango website (anon. n.d. c) there is the following answer to the question "Why can't Mondlango be called 'Reformed Esperanto'?" (ibid.):

Mondlango has absorbed many good points from Esperanto, but the differences between them are great in terms of alphabet and grammar. The First Universal Congress of Esperanto adopted "The Manifesto of Esperanto" which stipulated that every Esperantist must conform to the grammar laid down in the book "The Foundation of Esperanto". No Esperantist will ever have the right to modify this book. That is why many Esperantists know of some shortcomings in Esperanto, but they fail to correct them. The tradition of Esperanto doesn't recognize "Reformed Esperanto". If the Constitution of the United States could never have been amended, then Americans could not have abolished slavery. So Mondlango is an independent language, not a "Reformed Esperanto".

<sup>8</sup> The text of this webpage (my main source for the language) is in English and Esperanto. Interestingly, there is a webpage, apparently created by a Lucas Larson, which is quite similar, the major difference being that the text is only in English. The URL of that page is <<http://mondezo.lucaslarson.net/>>.



However, earlier in the same webpage Mondlango is called "a new international language, which inherits the good points of Esperanto and overcomes its defects". Further, (Mifsud n.d. a) states that "Its author/s ... based it on Esperanto". Consider also the remarks of Boyan Lalov (n.d.) in the page "Zamenhof Would Have Approved Mondlango [sic]":

Mondlango is the logical continuing of the international language Esperanto created by the great linguist Ludwig Zamenhof ... [...] ...the whole range of language and pedagogical discoveries of Zamenhof are preserved in the lexicology and the grammatical structure of Mondlango. [...] ... the changes are so subtle and logical that the millions of Esperanto followers all over the world will appreciate them. They can use and understand Mondlango without effort and without having to learn it in a special way. [...] Yafu and his team are not negating but continuing the deed of Zamenhof. [...] Mondlango appeared at the beginning of the new millennium and it is an honorable heir of Esperanto. [...] Mondlango, carrying the pedagogical and humane spirit of Zamenhof can be reasonably accepted as the New Esperanto.

There is another name for Mondlango, *Ulango*, which comes from *La Universa Lango* 'The Universal Language'. The language "was born in July 2002" (anon. n.d. c), He Yafu being its "major founder" (ibid.). The list of "other founders" (ibid.) includes David Curtis and Oscar Mifsud. In the home page of the Mondlango website (anon. n.d. a) is the statement, "Mondlango is the common possession of the whole human race, therefore the author of Mondlango has resigned all copyrights to Mondlango. Anyone is permitted to copy any of the contents in the Mondlango website freely". My information on Mondlango comes from the pages in the website for the language, which contains grammatical information, texts, and Mondlango-English and English-Mondlango dictionaries.

### 1.19 Mondlingvo

This language is not to be confused with the language Mond-lingvo (or Mondlingvo) designed by Josef Weisbart. The Mondlingvo to be discussed in this book was designed by H. Trischen and presented in a work by him published in 1906. My source for this language is the short chapter on it in Couturat and Leau (1907/1979), who say (p. 87) that it "est, de l'aveu même de son auteur, un Esperanto réformé".

### 1.20 Neo

Neo was created by Arturo Alfandari. The description of it in Monnerot-Dumaine (1960:185) indicates that it underwent changes over time: "D'abord, en 1937, espérantide avec un conjugaison très synthétique comportant une finale pronominale artificielle, et des modes réfléchi, passif, continu, synthétiques. A partir de 1948 le Néo, réformé, s'éloigne de l'Esperanto; certaines racines raccourcies deviennent méconnaissables...". The title of Svendsen's (n.d.) webpage on the language is *Neo – et volapükisert esperanto* ('Neo – a volapükized Esperanto'). I shall be describing the

version of the language presented in Alfandari (1961). At the beginning of this book (p. 9) Alfandari states, "Cet ouvrage est avant tout un message de paix".

### 1.21 Novesperant

The designer of Novesperant is Michael Cartier. Not much information on it is publicly available: my only substantive sources for it are a short internet web page (Cartier n.d.) and an e-mail message from Cartier. In the latter he says that Novesperant "is an attempt to make Esperanto easier to learn & speak". The only textual material given in Cartier (n.d.) is the following two sentences:

(2a) mi ne pov trovi mi automobil.  
I not can find my car  
'I cannot find my car.' (MT)

(2b) ji est en la automobileesc.  
it is in the garage  
'It is in the garage.' (MT)

Cartier (ibid.) says, "Note this is a work in progress, if you would like to contribute ideas, do so".

### 1.22 Olingo

Olingo was created by R. Stewart Jaque. I was uncertain whether to include it in this book. Jaque (1944:24) states that "Olingo is basically Neo-Latin and Anglo-Saxon with roots and words selected from all of the major languages of both the Western and Eastern Hemispheres" and to my knowledge nowhere does he say that his language is a modification of Esperanto or borrows heavily from it. However, an examination of Olingo indicates that it apparently has a debt to Esperanto: the endings for nouns, adjectives, and adverbs are the same in both languages (i.e. -o, -a, and -e respectively) as are a fair number of derivational affixes, including *bo-*, *ge-*, *-an-*, *-ej-* (*-ey-* in Olingo orthography), *-er-*, *-et-*, *-estr-*, and *-ul-*, and the suffix which forms fractions, *-on-*. In addition, the stress rule is the same in Olingo as in Esperanto and Olingo, like Esperanto, marks *yes-no* questions with a clause-initial particle, although the particles are partly different in form (Olingo *qu*, Esperanto *ĉu*). According to Monnerot-Dumaine (1961:172), Globaĉo, the revised version of Olingo designed by Jaque and Goerge Arnsby Jones, "a beaucoup emprunté" from Esperanto.<sup>9</sup> One could thus justify the coverage of Olingo in the present book as it seems to be partly descended from Esperanto.

Jaque (ibid.:62) made considerable claims for his language:

Olingo is more than a language ... it is an enjoyable recreation and an inspiring lifetime hobby. Its use removes needless linguistic tension and builds healthy, steady nerves. This neutral tongue also offers you the rare opportunity of dynamic, new professions, since Olingo needs teachers,

<sup>9</sup> Albani and Buonarroti (1994:297) say that Olingo is "di derivazione esperantista" but (ibid.:168) that Globaĉo is "di derivazione esperantista ... e idista".



writers, editors and translators throughout the world. Olingo builds for understanding fellowship, racial happiness! It is the ideal medium for bringing about world tolerance and peace.

At the top of this page is the heading "BE SUPREMELY HAPPY IN WORLD SERVICE THE NEW OLINGO WAY". Earlier in this book (p. 23) Jaque says, "World thought at last has wings ... unified word speech is now a factual accomplishment! [...] Easy to learn, beautiful in form and musical in sound, Olingo ... is the world language that all humanitarians have longed for since the dawn of history."<sup>10</sup> Aside from Globaço, Jaque designed another project, Gloneo, which was also based at least to some extent on Esperanto, but which I have very little information on.

### 1.23 Perio

Perio was presented in a work published in (1904) whose author was given as Mannus Talundberg, but Couturat and Leau (1907/1979:3) say that this "est manifestement un pseudonyme"; in addition, according to them, the editor of the work, M. K. Wasserloos, apparently contributed much to it, since what he was given was far from being a completed text. Carlevaro (n. d.) is of the opinion that "Mannus Talundberg" was in fact Wasserloos. I had doubts about including Perio in this book: Couturat and Leau describe it in the section on *a priori* languages of their (1907/1979) book, and the title of Talundberg's book is *Perio, eine auf Logik und Gedächtniskunst aufgebaute Weltsprache*. However, Monnerot-Dumaine (1960:191) states that it has "[n]ombreuses imitations de l'Esperanto, en particulier le tableau des particules corrélatives", and there are many features that the two languages have in common including the ending -o marking nouns (although in Perio there are some types of nouns which do not have this suffix), the markers of adjectives and derived adverbs (-a and -e respectively), the accusative suffix -n, the pronouns *mi* 'I' and *li* 'he', and the infinitive suffix -i. Esperanto is not an *a priori* language, and so Perio may be evidence that, as Monnerot-Dumaine (ibid.:83) says, "Une langue appartenant à une certaine catégorie peut ... avoir pris nombreuses caractéristiques à une langue d'une autre catégorie" since "Le Perio ne peut pas être classé, en effet, avec l'Esperanto" (ibid.).<sup>11</sup> I have gotten most of my information on Perio from Couturat and Leau (1907/1979).

### 1.24 Perilo

Perilo was apparently designed by Róbert Horváth. In his webpage describing the language (Horváth n.d.) he calls it "the new simplified Esperanto". This webpage, which is in Slovak and Hungarian, is my main source on the language. It is fairly

<sup>10</sup> Apparently not all of Jaque's readers agreed. In the copy of this work from which I made my photocopy (in the University of Minnesota) someone wrote "garbage" beside the paragraph in which these sentences appeared.

<sup>11</sup> However, I did not cover Perio in my (2000) book on *a priori* languages, probably because I thought it was not sufficiently *a priori*. Janton (1993:7) gives Perio as an example of the class of "Mixed languages using both ethnic and nonethnic roots" (ibid.:6) (which in turn for him is a type of a posteriori language), more specifically, as an example of the group of "Schematically derived languages ... with both artificial and ethnic roots" (ibid.:6-7).

short, and thus not all details on the language may be brought up, but from what is there, Perilo seems only slightly different from Esperanto.

### 1.25 Reformed Esperanto

Within a relatively short time after the first publication on Esperanto ideas about modifying it started to appear. In response to this climate, Zamenhof (unenthusiastically) created a reformed version of Esperanto, details of which were published in six (1894) issues of the journal *La Esperantisto*. Those who subscribed to this journal then were able to vote on whether to accept this reformed Esperanto, either with or without further modifications, or to carry out other modifications, or not to modify the language. The last choice won, and so Zamenhof's Reformed Esperanto did not replace the previous version of the language.<sup>12</sup> According to Couturat and Leau (1903/1979:35) Reformed Esperanto "présente ... un mélange déconcertant de qualités et de défauts, d'améliorations sérieuses et de détériorations graves". The judgement of Monnerot-Dumaine (1960:103) is: "Ce projet ... comportait d'excellent réformes, mais d'autres étaient facheuses". I have gotten most of my information on Reformed Esperanto from Gacond and Gacond (1967) and Couturat and Leau (1907/1979:28-35).

### 1.26 Romániço

The designer of Romániço is Mike Morales. From the home page of the website on this language (Morales n.d. a) one would not conclude that it is derived from Esperanto:

Romániço is a reconstruction of this lost common tongue [Vulgar Latin], streamlined for use in our own era. Created in 1991 from the source roots of modern French, Italian, Spanish, and the Latin vocabulary of English, it harkens back to the Vulgar Latin that still united the West before it diverged into the modern Romance languages.

It's also a bridge between other, past constructed languages, spanning the historical gap between the naturalism and recognizability of languages like Interlingua and the uniformity and simplicity of languages like Esperanto — and striking a balance between the two.

However, the section of the *Romániço Frequently Asked Questions* page of this website (Morales n.d. b) entitled "Where did Romániço come from?" indicates that it has its origin in Esperanto:

Romániço began as an attempt to teach Esperanto to friends, all of whom were native English speakers. Unfortunately, certain features of the language proved to be unsurmountable hurdles for many of them: [...] To deal with these and other difficulties, I began introducing various "house rules" to the language. At first, the accusative case was simply ignored. Then, little by little, other minor adjustments were made to make the

<sup>12</sup> However, according to Couturat and Leau (1907/1979:34-5) l'Esperanto réformé de 1894 a inspiré les auteurs de l'*Idiom Neutral*. Large (1985:82) says of the latter language, "Although formally based on Volapük, the new project in fact differed quite fundamentally from its ill-fated parent".



language more immediately usable for people who had little time to spend on it, until what began as Esperanto became so different that it needed its own written grammar and dictionary, and was dubbed, at different stages of its development, “Romanico”, “Romániĉo”, and “Romániczo”, from the Latin *romanice* “in the manner of the Romans”, which later became, in English, *romance*.

Further, in the last section of this page, “How is Romániĉo different from Esperanto?”, appears the statement, “Those familiar with Esperanto ... will no doubt notice a good deal of similarity between it and Romániĉo. Indeed, Romániĉo, like most planned languages that came after Esperanto, is largely based on that language; it might even be thought of as an Esperanto dialect”. In his website on Romániĉo Morales gives extensive information about his language, including an English-Romániĉo (Morales 2008a) and a dictionary with equivalents in English (and usually in French and/or and other languages) of Romániĉo words (Morales 2008b).

### 1.27 Sen:esepera

Sen:esepera was the work of Jefferey Henning. He says (1995a), “I designed *Sen:esepera* as a dramatic reform of Esperanto, which I felt was difficult for speakers of non-European languages (especially Asian languages such as Japanese and Chinese) to pronounce. The primary design goal was to reduce the complexity of Esperanto’s phonology ... Secondary design goals were to further simplify Esperanto’s grammar and vocabulary.” Sen:esepera is not meant for actual use: Henning (1995a) stated, “I explicitly am not interested in proposing that *Sen:esepera* ... be adopted as an international language; the creation of this language is purely an intellectual pursuit.” He also indicated (ibid.) that the language was a work in progress.

### 1.28 Snifferanto

One might think from its name that Snifferanto was not a serious project, and indeed this was the opinion expressed on the page *Vikipediista diskuto:Yekrats/Arkivo 3* (at URL <[http://eo.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vikipediista\\_diskuto:Yekrats/Arkivo\\_3](http://eo.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vikipediista_diskuto:Yekrats/Arkivo_3)>): “por mi tio estas esperantan ‘dialekton’, kiun tute ne estos grava”. However, the following passage (Aitai 2006): gives the impression that the language may not be an entirely frivolous creation:

Finna esperantisto kiun oni konas lau la kromnomo Snifi (posedanto de la babilejo Snifejo) kreis novan planlingvon. Li jam longe insistis por radikalaj reformoj de esperanto kaj ecx planis perfortan forigon de la supersignoj de supersignaj literoj de esperanto-literaro en lia babilejo. Mi sugestis al li ne nomi siajn reformojn kiel “plibonigo” de esperanto (cxar tion ne eblas nomi plibonigo) kaj deklari ke ekestas nova lingvo ekzemple sniferanto... Nun li tiel faris kaj fakte oni povas konsideri ke denove estas inventita biciklo. Kiu kaj kial uzu Snifferanton estas neklara, sed tio ne gravas, cxar cxiu persono en libera lando rajtas ne nur krei kantojn aux krukvortenigmojn sed ankaux lingvojn..

Further, an e-mail message to me from the designer of the language, Jarmo Hietala, indicates some serious intent behind it.<sup>13</sup> My main sources for Snifferanto are the webpages *Gramatiko de Snifferanto* (Hietala 2006a) and *Lernolibro de Snifferanto* (Hietala 2006a). According to the former, Snifferanto’s “[n]askitago” (‘date of birth’) was February 22, 2006. In general, it is quite close to Esperanto, with e.g. the same adjectival, adverbial, tense, plural, and accusative suffixes. The main differences involve the lexicon and forms of words in it and follow from the elimination of letters with diacritics, and will be discussed in Chapter 3. In Hietala (2006a) it is stated, “La gramatiko ne estas finfarita, vekloj eblas” (‘The grammar is not finished, changes are possible’).<sup>14</sup>

### 1.29 UTL (Universal Translation Language)

Sabarís (2003) introduces this language as follows:

The Universal Translation Language is an artificial language intended to express any kind of linguistic content in an unambiguous and computer-tractable way. Using this language in combination with the corresponding translation software would make it possible for users to write in languages they don’t know. UTL is based on Esperanto, a language which due to its simple and regular grammar is quite friendly to automated analysis and machine translation. In fact, UTL can be described as variant of Esperanto where a few modifications have been introduced to optimize its performance in this regard.

UTL is very close to Esperanto, differing only in allowing foreign words and having some features which reduce ambiguity. My main sources for UTL are the short webpage Sabarís (2003) and the conference paper Sabarís et al. (2001).

### 1.30 Virgoranto

Virgoranto was created by Dorothea Winkelhofer, who introduces her language as follows (Winkelhofer 2007a):

So jetzt wird es Zeit für meine zweite Plansprache. VIRGORANTO bedeutet soviel wie “jungfräuliches Esperanto”. Das heißt ich versuche Esperanto auf seinen grammatischen Kern zu reduzieren. Die Virgoranto Grammatik paßt bequem auf ein DIN-A4 Blatt und kann von jedem in circa 15 Minuten beherrscht werden. Damit steht Virgoranto im krassen Gegensatz zu manchen Plansprachen, die allein über Dutzende von Wortbildungssuffixen verfügen. [...] Virgoranto ersetzt im Wortschatz viele lateinische und romanische Wörter durch Wörter aus germanischen Sprachen, vor allem Deutsch und Englisch.

<sup>13</sup> In this message Hietala states, “The name of the language will be changed then [after he finishes another project]. Snifejo [the chat room] and Snifferanto are just names people have given to chat and language while lacking a better name”.

<sup>14</sup> In October 2008 I was informed by Hietala that Snifferanto is now called *Eonido*. There is a website devoted to Eonido at URL <<http://www.eonido.org/>>, but I have not made use of it for this book..



Oberstes Prinzip von Virgoranto: Nichts komplizierter machen als nötig!

Virgoranto seems to be more different from Esperanto than some of the languages that I am dealing with, but there are some major features which are the same, e.g. the word class endings for nouns, adjectives, and adverbs, the infinitive suffix and the vowels in the present, past, and future tense suffixes (though the consonant is different). My information on this language comes from webpages by Winkelhofer, which include brief grammatical descriptions in German (Winkelhofer 2007a) and in English (Winkelhofer 2007b), and German-Virgoranto-English and Virgoranto-German-English glossaries (Winkelhofer 2008a and b respectively).

### 1.31 Languages Not Discussed

There are some languages which I have very little information on, and so I shall not treat them in this book. These include Esperanto sen Chapeloj (designed by Louis Couturat), Esperantuisho,<sup>15</sup> Latin-Esperanto,<sup>16</sup> Mez-Voio, Nepo, Ortologia Esperanto (created by Magnus Sondahl), the Reform-Esperanto of Hugon, and the Reform-Esperanto of Rodet. In general I do not have much interest in artificial languages which are clearly non-serious in purpose (such as fictional and personal languages). Therefore I shall not be dealing with Texperanto or Matthias Liszt's Esperan; the former apparently was created for humorous purposes.<sup>17</sup> I also shall not discuss Vivling, which in terms of its lexicon has Esperanto as a parent, but has Mandarin as a parent from the point of view of syntax, and draws on propositional logic. Cornelius (2002) says of it: "It started mainly as an exercise to further my vocabulary in my Esperanto studies, as well as to help me understand Mandarin better. However, the more I work on it the more life it seems to have which defines it [sic] from the root languages."

Esperanto has become a native language of some people and this "Native Esperanto" (Bergen 2001:575) shows some changes from the standard language. I shall not discuss this version of Esperanto here as I am concerned with modifications to the language that were consciously made.<sup>18</sup> I shall not describe the version of Esperanto (called eXperanto) used in the second language acquisition research reported on in de Graaff (1997). I also shall not treat Poliespo<sup>19</sup>, Riismo,<sup>20</sup> Gregg

<sup>15</sup> Esperantuisho was the work of Jaro Zelezny of Czechoslovakia and dates from 1951. Monnerot-Dumaine (1961:170) gives the following sample of the language, which indicates how its creator viewed it: "Esperantuisho ne esas nova lingvo. Ji esas Esperanto sen la defektos, kiuj montriĝis kom penumbro por la universala akcepto de Esperanto en la mondo ey ankaw che la UNO ey la UNESCO, kien esis taxata kom «lingvo montresa»."

<sup>16</sup> This language was designed by Giuliano Vanghetti and dates from 1911. Monnerot-Dumaine (1960:178) says of it, "Vocabulaire de base emprunté à l'Interlingua de Peano; grammaire de l'Esperanto".

<sup>17</sup> May (2006) states: "Texperanto is an artificial language invented in 1886 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Texican Revolution by Dr. Lazarus ("Lou") Zamenhof of the Douglass University Medical School at Port-au-Prince, Haiti. [...] It became an official language of Texas, along with Spanish, English, French, Haitian Creole, and Cherokee in 2004. ... by 2100, it was the most widely spoken language on Earth, Luna, Mars, and the Asteroid Belt. It went on to become the lingua franca of the Galaxy."

<sup>18</sup> For details about Native Esperanto v. Bergen (2001).

<sup>19</sup> Poliespo ('polysynthetic Esperanto') was designed by N. I. Sequoya and according to Gant (1997) is "based on Cherokee" and contains features taken from Esperanto.

Shorthand for Esperanto,<sup>21</sup> or Signuno, although at least the last three of these were created with a serious communicative purpose in mind.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Riismo corrects the supposed sexism of Esperanto with a small number of changes. *Li* and *ŝi* are removed from the language, with the new pronoun *ri* being used instead of them. The suffix *-iĉ-* is required for nouns denoting males, parallel to Esperanto's *-in-* for nouns denoting females; nouns with neither of these suffixes are not specified for sex (i.e. there are no default assumptions about the sex of the entities that they refer to). Thus, for example, *patro* means 'parent' and not 'father', for 'father' one is must use *patriĉo*. To make it very clear that a noun is not specified for sex, one can add the prefix *ge-* to it, e.g. *gepatro* 'parent'. For Riismo v. Grimley Evans et al. (1994).

<sup>21</sup> This did involve some changes to the language; for example the adverbial suffix *-e* was done away with. V. Jackson (1918).

<sup>22</sup> Several projects only came to my attention at a late stage in the writing of this book and there I have not discussed them. These include Esperajo, designed by Dana Nutter.