

In *The Origin of Language*, Nicholas Wade explores numerous theories and points of view on linguistics. Perhaps the most interesting, at least to me, is the study of the geneticists at the University of Oxford in England. First, separate from anything to do with language, the fact that we can identify what each gene does, and then trace it back through generations and make discoveries based on the findings is simply amazing. Second, from someone like myself who actively lives, and works in a digital world where troubleshooting and diagnostics of digital equipment is commonplace, I have a deep appreciation for the kind of work that the geneticists did to determine the cause of the language deficiencies in the KE family. Studying 29 members of the same family, identifying where they differ, where they overlap, and then discovering the cause of the differences and similarities is specifically fascinating to me. The identification of the FOXP2 gene as the cause of the language problems is incredible. What will be most interesting is to see what geneticists can do in the coming years, decades, and centuries with modifying FOXP2 to help improve language efficiency, and possibly even eliminate language deficiencies.