

Vernaculars vs. Latin

Generally new attitude towards vernacular languages, starting in the south (Italy, Spain)

Competition with Latin requires new considerations →

Vernaculars vs. Latin

(1) The language needs *cultivation* in order to become a fit medium of literary and scholarly expression.

- It was by now understood that even Latin and Greek had needed it in Antiquity

(2) Great writers (Cicero for Latin) play a key role in *ennobling* the language

- Italians had Dante, Boccaccio, Petrarch, but how about the others?

Vernaculars vs. Latin

(3) *Copia verborum*, wealth of lexical resources (words) is needed.

- Extensive borrowing begins; English reported in 1555 to be incomprehensible to man in the street because of the many Latinate loanwords

(4) The language needs to be *regulated* with rules; if it has rules, it is equal to Latin

- Rules were believed to save language from barbarousness and its exposure to constant change; *lingua regulata*

Vernaculars vs. Latin

Publication of Dante's *De vulgari eloquentia* in 1529 (written more than 200 years earlier) causes great stir in Italy

It discusses the relation between Latin and the vernaculars in very unusual terms (especially unusual for his own time)

→ see handout

Example: Hegendorff's Rudimenta (1527)

Rudimenta grammatices Donati

- Christof Hegendorff
- printed in Cracow, 1527
- elementary Latin grammar with Polish, German and Hungarian additions
- Hungarian probably by János Sylvester (see later)

Example: Hegendorff's Rudimenta (1527)

Q V I D N O M E N

Nomen est pars orationis, significans rem, ut arbor, lapis.

D I V I S I O N O M I N I S .

¶ Proprium tuff nam Etæſne ymhe, Vno
| garie Tulaydon new, ut Petrus Paulus. g
Nomen < Appellatum cyn gemeyner nam poſſolyt,
| ymhe, Vng. Bery new. ut urbs cyn ſtade.
| miaſto. Vnga. Daates. Plumbum bley,
C o l o r . . V n g . G o n

Example: Hegendorff's Rudimenta (1527)

Substantiuū, cui nō potest addi man, weyb, dingē
mag, nyewyasta, r̄ec̄, Vng. Magas
nat̄ allo new. ut gutturnū cyn handtfaß.
handtfaß, Vng. Moido Euangelium.

Nomen < Adiectiuum, cui potest addi man, weyb, dingē.
mag, nyewyasta, r̄ec̄, Vng. Magswat
allo new. ut cordatus cyn beherczt man. mag
dy, Vng. io slun yew / auagh. io emle
ezethew. sobrus niicher, t̄ēj̄wy, Vng.

Joan A ij Accidens

Example: Gábor Pesti's *Nomenclatura* (1538)

Cap. 17. De mercatoribus & artificibus

Lataynisch	Welsch	Frantzösisch	
Capitulum 17. de Mercatoribus & artificibus.	Il. 17. Ca. de mercanti et artificibus.	Le. 17. capi. de mercans & des artisans et mestiers.	
Molendinarius	Mugnaio	Mouner	1
Molendinum	molin	molin	2
Pistor	fornaio	fournier	3
Pistoric	fornair	fourniers	4
Furnus	il forno	le four	5
Aurifaber	ozuere	orfeure	6
Faber bracteari	battiloro	bateudoro	7
Stannarius	stagnaio	potier desian	8
Sutor	calzolaio	cordougnier	9
Sartor	sartore	parmentier	10
Faber	fabro	feure	11
Textor	testore	tisseran	12
Pellio	pellizziaio	pellicier	13
Subductura	fodra	fodre	14
Faber lignarius	maestrada legna	menuisier	15
Sculptor	scultore	taielleur & pietre	16
Murarius	muratore	masson	17
Lapicida	taglia pietra	tallieu de pierres	18
Figulus	fomaziao	seullie	19
Tinctor	tintore	tinteur	20
Pictor	dipinctore	pintr	21
Lonfor	barbiero	barbier	22
Balneator	stufatuolo	estruier	23
Ligulatus	stringaio	egulletier	24
Medicus	medico	medecin	25

De mercatoribus & artificibus cap. 17.

Behemisch	Hungerisch	Teütsch
Cap. 17. wo zemesniz vch gegich nadobach	Ca. 17. az atos emberetwol es mjesetwol.	Wz 17. ca. von de handwerck vnd strem zenge.
1 Mlynarz	Molnar	Müllner
2 mlyn	malom	die müel
3 petarz	siwtew	beck
4 petarzka	siwtewazon	beckin
5 petz	temencze	der ofen
6 zlatnik	owues	goldschmids
7 zlatotepetz	aranuereu	goldschlager
8 konwarz	ontanagifarto	zyngieffer
9 Swetz	warga	schuester
10 kretyz	yabo	schneider
11 konwarz	konach	schmid
12 tkadletz	takach	weber
13 koziffnik	zewch	kürffner
14 podffnik	foldozo	fütter
15 refarz	alch	symmetman
16 refak	keepsarago	schmitzer
17 sednik	keuako	maurer
18 kamanik	keuago	steinmetz
19 bintyrtz	fazetgijarho	hafner
20 barwitz	festew	ferber
21 malitz	kepifto	maler
22 barwitz bolitz	barbel	scherer
23 lazebnik	ferordew	badet
24 stubarz	higijatto	nestler
25 letarz	otwos	artzer

Example: Gábor Pesti's *Nomenclatura* (1538)

De mercatoribus & artificibus cap. 17.

	Behemisch	Hungerisch	Teütsch
	Cap. 17. von zemesnütz vch a gegich nadobach	Ca. 17. az atos emberetrew ees müesetrew.	Wz 17. ca. von dē handtwerckē vnd frem zenge.
1	Mlyn arz	Molnar	Müllner
2	mlyn	malom	die müel
3	pet arz	siwtew	beck
4	pet arzka	siwtew azon	beckin
5	petz	temencze	der ofen
6	zlatniē	gotues	goldschmids
7	zlatotepetz	aranuerew	goldschlager
8	konwarz	onkánagifarto	syngießet
9	Sfwarz	warga	schneſter
10	ſreytzē	ſabo	ſchneidet

Example: Sylvester's *Grammatica* (1539)

- *Grammatica Hungarolatina*, by János Sylvester (educated in Cracow, Wittenberg)
- Basically a grammar of Latin in Latin with extensive comparisons, examples, definitions and a few lengthy detours in/on Hungarian
- first grammatical work on Hungarian, some features discussed in detail
- Printed in Sárvár (Nádasdy castle), 1539
- completely forgotten, one copy surfaced in late 18th century

Example: Sylvester's *Grammatica* (1539)

A **word** is an articulated vocal form with meaning, of which sentences can be constructed and into which a sentence can be broken down.

DICTIO.

Dictio est uox articulata cum aliqua significatione ex qua instruitur oratio & in quam res soluitur. *Az ighe semmi nem egéb, ha nem olk' so melket meg irhatnaé, es ualamit iegez, melk' sobol sobesid lißen, es melk' soba az sobesid esmeglen el ostatik.*

Example: Sylvester's *Grammatica* (1539)

A sentence is (a unit of) speech that consists of words.

ORATIO.

Oratio est Sermo que dictionibus constat.
sz fobesid semmi nem egéb ha nem oll be
pillis melt ighitböl uagon.

Example: Sylvester's *Grammatica* (1539)

There are eight parts of speech: noun, pronoun, verb, adverb, participle, conjunction, preposition, interjection.

Partes orationis sunt octo.
Nomen, Pronomen, Verbum, Aduerbium,
Participium, Coniunctio, Præpositio, Interiectio.
I. Nomen, Nomen virtualo, Besid, Besidhezualo,
Sêlrisuiuô, Eggbesoglalo, Elôl uetô, Rôzbe
uetô.

Example: Sylvester's *Grammatica* (1539)

These are the parts of grammar: orthography, prosody, etymology (=the parts of speech, accidents), syntax

Recensentur

Grammaticae

'partes ubi.

Orthographia. Igaz irásnae tudománia.

Prosodia. Ineklishez ualo tudomán.

Etymologia. Igbienek igaz tulayadonságatul ualo tudomán.

Syntaxis. Besidnek eggbe ferizisul ualo tudomán.

The variety of languages; empirical approach



Leonard Fuchs: *De Historia Stirpium*, Basel, 1542

The variety of languages; empirical approach

New approach to natural phenomena:

- variety appreciated
- empirical observation
 - also in art, e.g. perspective discovered in late 15th c.
- collection of specimens, systematisation
 - minerals
 - plants, seeds, pressed flowers
 - exotic animals brought to Europe, menageries
 - collections of languages!
 - usually the Lord's Prayer, a few words, some info on people

The variety of languages; empirical approach

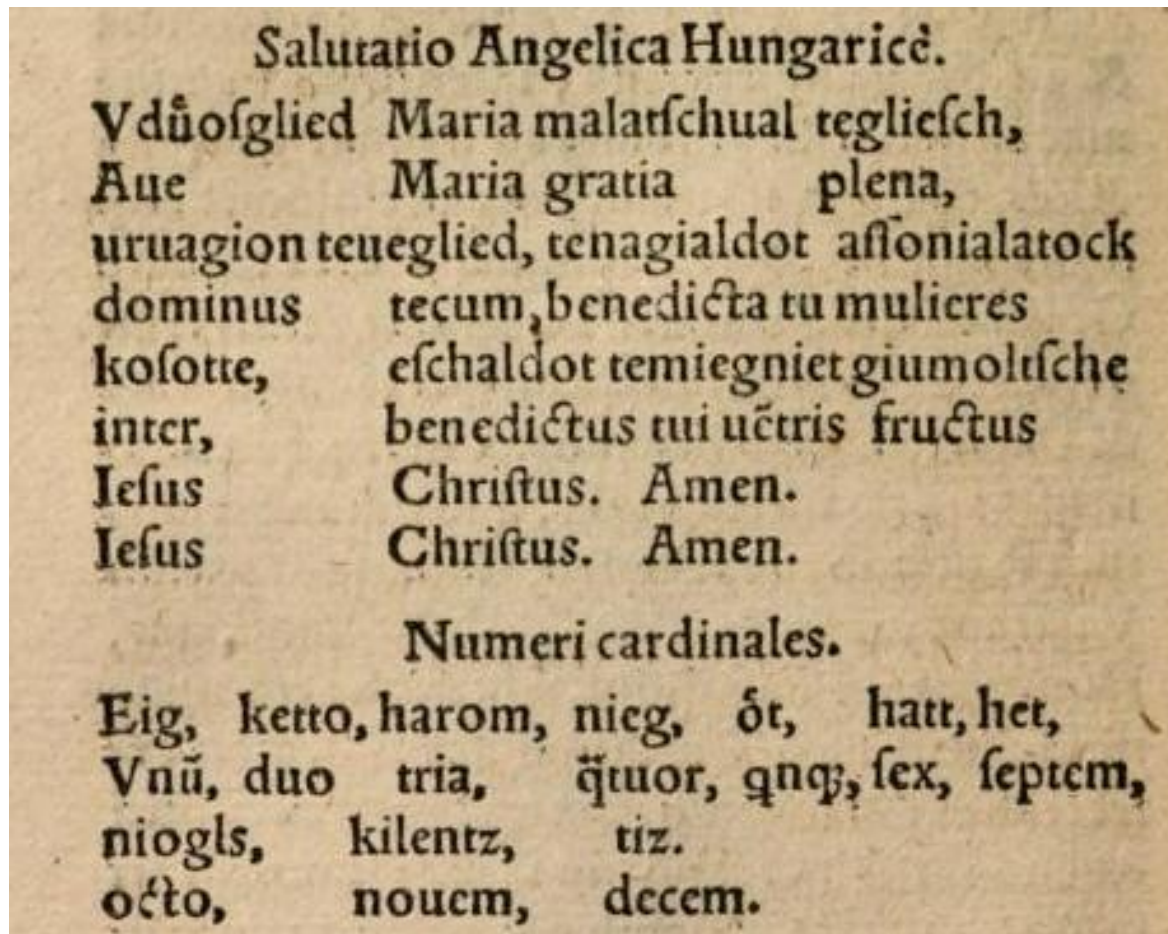
Conrad Gessner (Swiss scientist, 1516–1565)

- *Mithridates* 1555, collection of 22 languages, e.g. Polish, Hungarian, Welsh, Armenian



The variety of languages; empirical approach

Hail Mary and numbers in Hungarian in Gessner's *Mithridates*



The variety of languages; empirical approach

Other collections after Gessner's *Mithridates*:

1593 Jerome Megiser: *Specimen quadraginta...*

- 40 lang's, incl. Lapp, Turkish, Chinese

1680 Andreas Müller: *Orationis Dominicae versiones...*

- ~ 90 lang's, incl. Breton, Basque, Malay

1715 John Chamberlayne: *Oratio Dominica...*

- ~ 150 lang's, incl. Manx, Albanian, Thai

1787 Lorenzo Hervás y Panduro: *Saggio pratico...*

- 300+ lang's, incl. Tibetan, Cheremis, Vietnamese

The new "philosophical" approach

A family of loosely related approaches

Fashionable in late 17th and 18th centuries esp.
in Northern Europe & France

A kind of backlash to variety, wealth of data &
reduction in role of Latin

Enlightenment, new philosophical interest

To a certain extent, a back-to-past movement
of a different kind; resembles Priscianic and
speculative grammar

The new "philosophical" approach

Realisations:

- Artificial languages ("characters")
- Abstract/formulaic approaches to natural languages
- Theories of the origins of language
- Classifications of languages, typologies

Often combined in particular discussions

(In some ways these were present earlier too)

Artificial languages

- Why?
 - Latin on the retreat; common language of science and philosophy needed
 - Enlightenment idea of clear and unambiguous expression, ideal relation bw language & reality & concepts is isomorphic
 - Natural sciences and mathematical sciences develop their own formal languages
 - Chinese writing (actually misunderstood)
 - Enhanced role of cryptography in wars

Artificial languages

Examples:

- Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz (1646–1716): *Characteristica universalis* (never described in detail, Kurt Gödel later suspects great conspiracy)
- George Dalgarno (†1687): *Ars signorum, vulgo Character universalis* (also works out a sign systems for the deaf)
- John Wilkins (1614–1672) *An Essay towards a Real Character and a Philosophical Language* (see handout, also →)

Wilkins' *Real character*

Transcend.	{	General	Animals	{	Exanguious	Action	{	Spiritual	}
		Rel. mixed			Fish			Corporeal	
		Rel. of Action			Bird			Motion	
		Discourse		Beast			Operation		
		God	Parts	{	Peculiar				
		World		{	General				
		Element	Quantity	{	Magnitude	Relation	{	Oecon.	}
		Stone			Space			Posses.	
		Metal			Measure			Provis.	
Herb confid. accord. to the	{	Leaf	Quality	{	Power Nat.			Civil	
		Flower			Habit			Judicial	
		Seed-vessel			Manners			Military	
		Shrub			Quality sensible			Naval	
		Tree			Disease			Ecclef.	

Wilkins' *Real character*

The Differences are to be affixed unto that end which is on the left side of the Character, according to this order;



The Species should be affixed at the other end of the Character according to the like order.



Wilkins' *Real character*

Adjectives should be expressed by a *Hook* at the right end of the Character in { Genus's or Differences, thus —
} Species — ʹ — ʹ

Adverbs (being very near of kin to adjectives) may be expressed by a *Loop* in the same { Genus's and Diff. —
} place. In } Species — ʹ — ʹ

Abstracts may be expressed by a *Hook* at the left end of the Character. In { Genus's —
} Differences and Species — ʹ — ʹ

The *Active* and *Passive* voice may be expressed, one of them by a *Hook*, and the other by a *Loop*, at the left end of the Character, after this manner, in { Genus's { Active —
} } Passive —
} Differences or Species { Active ʹ — ʹ — ʹ
} } Passive ʹ — ʹ — ʹ

Wilkins' *Real character*

These *Grammatical Particles* are here contrived to such a kind of distinct suitability, so as each of the several kinds of them, hath a several kind of Character assigned to them.

1. The *Copula*, by the mark of (°)

2. *Pronouns*, by Points. (· · · ·)

3. *Interjections* by upright Lines streight or hooked; (|) (/) (\) ()

4. *Prepositions*, by small curved Figures { U N C }
{ W N B E }
{ A N S R }

5. *Adverbs*, by a right angled Character { J L T T }
{ T L T L }
{ + }

Wilkins' *Real character*

Transcend.	{ General	Bα	Animals	{ Exanguious	Zα	Action	{ Spiritual	Cα
	{ Rel. mixed	Ba		{ Fish	Za		{ Corporeal	Ca
	{ Rel. of Action	Be		{ Bird	Ze		{ Motion	Ce
	Discourse	Bi		{ Beast	Zi		{ Operation	Ci
	God	Dα	Parts	{ Peculiar	Pα	Relation	{ Occop.	Co
	World	Da		{ General	Pa		{ Posses.	Cy
	Element	De	Quantity	{ Magnitude	Pe		{ Provis.	Sc
	Stone	Di		{ Space	Pi		{ Civil	Sa
	Metal	Do		{ Measure	Po		{ Judicial	Se
	Herb confid. accord. to the	{ Leaf	Gα	Quality	{ Power Nat.		Tα	{ Military
{ Flower		Ga	{ Habit		Ta		{ Naval	So
{ Seed-vessel		Ge	{ Manners		Te	{ Ecclef.	Sy	
Shrub		Gi	{ Quality sensible		Ti			
Tree	Go		{ Disease	To				

Wilkins' *Real character*

The *Differences* under each of these *Genus's*, may be expressed by these Consonants ζ B, D, G, P, T, C, Z, S, N.
in this order ; ζ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7.8 9.

The *Species* may be expressed by putting one of the seven Vowels after the Consonant, for the Difference ; to which may be added (to make up the number) two of the Diphthongs, according to this order

ζ α , a, e, i, o, γ , y, yi, γ .
 ζ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9.

For instance, If (De) signifie *Element*, then (Deb) must signifie the first difference ; which (according to the Tables) is *Fire* : and (Deba) will denote the first Species, which is *Flame*. (Det) will be the fifth difference under that Genus, which is, *Appearing Meteor* ; (Det α) the first Species, viz. *Rainbow* ; (Deta) the second, viz. *Halo*.

Artificial languages

Fundamental assumptions:

- The totality of reality and our knowledge of it can be exhaustively described as a huge construct of items ordered by strictly hierarchical relations (taxonomy – beginnings of the age of Encyclopedias!)
- Language as well as our concepts are *ideally* isomorphic to reality (but only ideally, this is why artificial languages are needed)