THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION

THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION: CRAFTING NEW WORLDS THROUGH WORDS

THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION IS A FASCINATING AND DEEPLY CREATIVE PURSUIT THAT COMBINES LINGUISTICS, STORYTELLING, AND IMAGINATION. WHETHER YOU'RE A WRITER LOOKING TO BUILD IMMERSIVE WORLDS, A LINGUIST INTRIGUED BY THE STRUCTURE OF COMMUNICATION, OR SIMPLY SOMEONE CAPTIVATED BY THE IDEA OF CREATING A NEW MEANS TO EXPRESS THOUGHT, LANGUAGE INVENTION OFFERS ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES. CREATING A NEW LANGUAGE—ALSO KNOWN AS A CONLANG (CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGE)—IS NOT JUST ABOUT STRINGING RANDOM SOUNDS TOGETHER; IT INVOLVES CAREFULLY CRAFTING PHONETICS, GRAMMAR, SYNTAX, AND VOCABULARY TO FORM A COHERENT SYSTEM THAT CAN CONVEY MEANING AND EVOKE CULTURE.

EXPLORING THIS RICH CRAFT REVEALS MUCH ABOUT HOW HUMAN LANGUAGES FUNCTION AND HOW FLEXIBLE LANGUAGE CAN BE AS A TOOL OF EXPRESSION. LET'S DIVE INTO THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION AND UNCOVER THE ELEMENTS, TECHNIQUES, AND MOTIVATIONS BEHIND THIS UNIQUE CREATIVE ENDEAVOR.

WHAT IS LANGUAGE INVENTION?

LANGUAGE INVENTION REFERS TO THE DELIBERATE CREATION OF AN ARTIFICIAL LANGUAGE, DESIGNED FROM SCRATCH OR ADAPTED FROM EXISTING LANGUAGES. UNLIKE NATURAL LANGUAGES, WHICH EVOLVE ORGANICALLY OVER TIME WITHIN COMMUNITIES, CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES ARE INTENTIONALLY CRAFTED BY INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS. THESE LANGUAGES CAN SERVE A RANGE OF PURPOSES—FROM FICTIONAL WORLD-BUILDING IN LITERATURE AND FILM TO FACILITATING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION OR EVEN AS PERSONAL CREATIVE OUTLETS.

Some well-known examples of invented languages include J.R.R. Tolkien's Elvish tongues (Quenya and Sindarin), the Klingon language from Star Trek, and Esperanto, a language created to foster global understanding. Each of these languages reflects the creator's goals, cultural inspirations, and linguistic preferences.

THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF LANGUAGE INVENTION

INVENTING A LANGUAGE IS BOTH A SCIENCE AND AN ART, REQUIRING ATTENTION TO SEVERAL KEY COMPONENTS. UNDERSTANDING THESE FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS WILL HELP YOU APPRECIATE HOW CREATORS BREATHE LIFE INTO THEIR LINGUISTIC INVENTIONS.

PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY: THE SOUNDS OF YOUR LANGUAGE

EVERY LANGUAGE HAS A UNIQUE SOUND SYSTEM MADE UP OF PHONEMES—THE SMALLEST UNITS OF SOUND. DECIDING WHICH SOUNDS YOUR LANGUAGE WILL USE IS THE FIRST STEP IN LANGUAGE INVENTION. WILL IT HAVE HARSH GUTTURAL CONSONANTS LIKE GERMAN, MELODIC VOWELS LIKE ITALIAN, OR PERHAPS CLICK SOUNDS SIMILAR TO SOME AFRICAN LANGUAGES?

CREATING A PHONETIC INVENTORY INVOLVES SELECTING CONSONANTS, VOWELS, AND POSSIBLE TONES OR STRESS PATTERNS. IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THESE SOUNDS BE PRONOUNCEABLE BUT ALSO DISTINCT ENOUGH TO GIVE YOUR LANGUAGE A UNIQUE FLAVOR. PHONOLOGY THEN GOVERNS HOW THESE SOUNDS INTERACT AND COMBINE, SHAPING THE RHYTHM AND FLOW OF YOUR LANGUAGE.

GRAMMAR AND SYNTAX: THE RULES THAT SHAPE MEANING

Grammar forms the backbone of any language. It dictates how words relate to each other and how meanings are constructed. When inventing a language, you'll need to decide on parts of speech, verb conjugations, noun cases, word order, and agreement rules.

FOR INSTANCE, WILL YOUR LANGUAGE FOLLOW A SUBJECT-VERB-OBJECT (SVO) ORDER LIKE ENGLISH, OR SOMETHING LESS COMMON LIKE OBJECT-SUBJECT-VERB (OSV)? WILL IT USE GENDERED NOUNS OR RELY ON CLASSIFIERS? HOW WILL TENSE, MOOD, AND ASPECT BE EXPRESSED? THESE DECISIONS NOT ONLY INFLUENCE HOW SPEAKERS COMMUNICATE BUT ALSO IMPACT THE CULTURAL NUANCES EMBEDDED IN THE LANGUAGE.

LEXICON: CREATING A VOCABULARY THAT SPEAKS

A LANGUAGE'S LEXICON IS ITS COLLECTION OF WORDS. CRAFTING VOCABULARY CAN BE ONE OF THE MOST ENJOYABLE PARTS OF LANGUAGE INVENTION, ALLOWING YOU TO INVENT TERMS THAT REFLECT THE CULTURE, ENVIRONMENT, AND WORLDVIEW OF YOUR LANGUAGE'S SPEAKERS.

Vocabulary creation often involves deriving words from roots, blending sounds in consistent ways, or borrowing elements from real-world languages. Some inventors create entire dictionaries, ensuring each word fits within the phonological and morphological rules established earlier. Others prefer to develop key words and phrases, leaving room for organic growth.

WHY DO PEOPLE CREATE LANGUAGES?

THE MOTIVATIONS BEHIND LANGUAGE INVENTION VARY WIDELY, REVEALING MUCH ABOUT HUMAN CREATIVITY AND COMMUNICATION.

WORLD-BUILDING FOR FICTION

One of the most popular reasons for inventing languages is to add depth and realism to fictional worlds. Authors and screenwriters often use conlangs to give their characters and cultures a distinct identity. Tolkien, a philologist by training, is a prime example of how language invention can intertwine with narrative to create immersive storytelling.

WHEN A LANGUAGE FEELS AUTHENTIC—COMPLETE WITH ITS OWN IDIOMS, EXPRESSIONS, AND CULTURAL REFERENCES—IT ENRICHES THE AUDIENCE'S EXPERIENCE AND HELPS SUSPEND DISBELIEF.

EXPERIMENTS IN LINGUISTICS

Some language inventors are fascinated by linguistic theory and use conlangs as experimental tools. They might create languages with unique grammatical structures, phonetic systems, or semantic frameworks to explore how language shapes thought and communication.

THESE CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES CAN PROVIDE INSIGHT INTO HOW LANGUAGE FUNCTIONS COGNITIVELY, HOW PEOPLE PROCESS COMPLEX GRAMMAR, OR HOW NEW LINGUISTIC FEATURES MIGHT EVOLVE.

CREATING A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE

Another motivation is the desire to facilitate communication across linguistic boundaries. Esperanto, for example, was designed to be an easy-to-learn, politically neutral language to promote peace and international understanding. Though it never became a global lingua franca, it remains a testament to the potential of language invention to bridge cultures.

TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR OWN LANGUAGE

IF YOU'RE INTRIGUED BY THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION AND WANT TO TRY YOUR HAND AT CREATING A CONLANG, HERE ARE SOME PRACTICAL TIPS TO GUIDE YOUR JOURNEY:

- START SMALL: BEGIN WITH BASIC SOUNDS AND SIMPLE GRAMMAR BEFORE EXPANDING COMPLEXITY. FOCUS ON CORE VOCABULARY AND COMMON PHRASES.
- Use Phonetic Consistency: Develop a set of sounds that feel natural and stick to consistent pronunciation rules to avoid confusion.
- THINK ABOUT CULTURE: CONSIDER THE SPEAKERS' ENVIRONMENT, HISTORY, AND VALUES. THIS WILL INFLUENCE VOCABULARY CHOICES AND LANGUAGE STYLE.
- **DOCUMENT YOUR WORK:** KEEP DETAILED NOTES ON GRAMMAR RULES, VOCABULARY, AND PHONOLOGY. THIS HELPS MAINTAIN COHERENCE AND SERVES AS A REFERENCE.
- PRACTICE SPEAKING AND WRITING: USE YOUR LANGUAGE REGULARLY TO TEST ITS FLOW AND IDENTIFY AREAS THAT NEED REFINEMENT.
- **DRAW INSPIRATION:** STUDY NATURAL LANGUAGES, BOTH FAMILIAR AND EXOTIC, TO UNDERSTAND DIFFERENT STRUCTURAL POSSIBILITIES.

THE CHALLENGES AND REWARDS OF INVENTING A LANGUAGE

CREATING A LANGUAGE IS A COMPLEX UNDERTAKING THAT REQUIRES PATIENCE AND DEDICATION. IT CAN BE EASY TO GET OVERWHELMED BY THE SHEER AMOUNT OF DETAIL INVOLVED IN PHONOLOGY, GRAMMAR, AND LEXICON DEVELOPMENT. SOME INVENTORS STRUGGLE WITH BALANCING CREATIVITY AND LINGUISTIC REALISM.

HOWEVER, THE REWARDS ARE EQUALLY SIGNIFICANT. INVENTING A LANGUAGE SHARPENS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW LANGUAGES WORK, ENHANCES COGNITIVE FLEXIBILITY, AND PROVIDES A UNIQUE OUTLET FOR ARTISTIC EXPRESSION. IT CAN ALSO FOSTER COMMUNITY, AS MANY CONLANG ENTHUSIASTS SHARE THEIR CREATIONS ONLINE OR COLLABORATE ON PROJECTS.

COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION

THE INTERNET HAS TRANSFORMED THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION BY CONNECTING CREATORS WORLDWIDE. DEDICATED FORUMS, SOCIAL MEDIA GROUPS, AND WEBSITES ALLOW CONLANGERS TO EXCHANGE IDEAS, CRITIQUE EACH OTHER'S WORK, AND COLLABORATE ON SHARED LANGUAGES OR PROJECTS.

THIS COMMUNAL ASPECT ENRICHES THE CREATIVE PROCESS AND HELPS KEEP MOTIVATION HIGH. PLUS, FEEDBACK FROM FELLOW INVENTORS CAN DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF LINGUISTIC PRINCIPLES AND INSPIRE NEW DIRECTIONS.

LANGUAGE INVENTION AS A GATEWAY TO CREATIVITY

Ultimately, the art of language invention is a celebration of human creativity. It invites us to explore the fundamental ways we communicate and challenges us to imagine entirely new possibilities. Whether you're crafting a language for a fantasy epic, designing a secret code, or experimenting with linguistic theory, the process reveals the beauty and complexity of human expression.

BY ENGAGING WITH LANGUAGE INVENTION, YOU NOT ONLY BUILD NEW SYSTEMS OF COMMUNICATION BUT ALSO CONNECT MORE DEEPLY WITH THE LIVING, EVOLVING PHENOMENON THAT IS LANGUAGE ITSELF. IT'S A JOURNEY THAT CAN TRANSFORM THE WAY YOU THINK ABOUT WORDS, CULTURE, AND THE POWER OF STORYTELLING.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS 'THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION' ABOUT?

'The Art of Language Invention' is a book by linguist David J. Peterson that explores the process of creating constructed languages (conlangs), covering linguistic principles, grammar, phonetics, and the cultural aspects of language creation.

WHO IS DAVID J. PETERSON AND WHY IS HE SIGNIFICANT IN LANGUAGE INVENTION?

DAVID J. PETERSON IS A PROFESSIONAL LANGUAGE CREATOR KNOWN FOR DEVELOPING LANGUAGES FOR TV SHOWS LIKE GAME OF THRONES AND MOVIES SUCH AS DUNE. HE IS SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE HE POPULARIZED LANGUAGE INVENTION AND MADE IT ACCESSIBLE THROUGH HIS BOOK AND WORKSHOPS.

WHAT ARE SOME COMMON STEPS INVOLVED IN INVENTING A LANGUAGE ACCORDING TO 'THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION'?

COMMON STEPS INCLUDE DEFINING THE PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY, CREATING A WRITING SYSTEM, DEVELOPING GRAMMAR RULES, BUILDING VOCABULARY, AND CONSIDERING THE CULTURAL CONTEXT THAT SHAPES THE LANGUAGE.

HOW CAN LEARNING ABOUT LANGUAGE INVENTION IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF NATURAL LANGUAGES?

STUDYING LANGUAGE INVENTION ENHANCES AWARENESS OF LINGUISTIC STRUCTURES, GRAMMAR, AND PHONETICS, DEEPENING ONE'S APPRECIATION OF NATURAL LANGUAGE DIVERSITY AND THE COGNITIVE PROCESSES BEHIND COMMUNICATION.

ARE THERE COMMUNITIES OR PLATFORMS WHERE LANGUAGE INVENTORS SHARE THEIR WORK?

YES, COMMUNITIES LIKE THE LANGUAGE CREATION SOCIETY, REDDIT'S R/CONLANGS, AND VARIOUS ONLINE FORUMS PROVIDE PLATFORMS FOR LANGUAGE INVENTORS TO SHARE, COLLABORATE, AND RECEIVE FEEDBACK ON THEIR CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION: CRAFTING NEW WORLDS THROUGH WORDS

THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION REPRESENTS A FASCINATING INTERSECTION OF CREATIVITY, LINGUISTICS, AND CULTURAL EXPRESSION. IT INVOLVES THE METICULOUS CRAFTING OF NEW LANGUAGES—KNOWN AS CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES OR CONLANGS—DESIGNED EITHER FOR FICTIONAL STORYTELLING, ENHANCED COMMUNICATION, OR EXPERIMENTAL LINGUISTIC PURPOSES. THIS PRACTICE, WHILE NICHE, HAS GAINED CONSIDERABLE POPULARITY BOTH WITHIN LITERARY CIRCLES AND AMONG LANGUAGE ENTHUSIASTS WORLDWIDE. EXPLORING THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION REVEALS NOT ONLY THE COMPLEXITIES BEHIND BUILDING NEW LINGUISTIC SYSTEMS BUT ALSO THE PROFOUND IMPACT THESE LANGUAGES HAVE ON CULTURE, IDENTITY, AND MEDIA.

UNDERSTANDING THE FOUNDATIONS OF LANGUAGE INVENTION

Language invention is far more than simply inventing new words; it demands a comprehensive understanding of phonetics, grammar, syntax, and semantics. Constructed languages often begin with the creator's vision—whether to develop a realistic tongue for a fictional civilization or to design an efficient auxiliary language for international communication. The art of language invention inherently balances imaginative freedom with linguistic plausibility.

PRIMARILY, LANGUAGE INVENTORS CONSIDER SEVERAL LINGUISTIC COMPONENTS:

- PHONOLOGY: THE SOUND SYSTEM OF THE LANGUAGE, INCLUDING WHICH SOUNDS ARE PRESENT AND HOW THEY INTERACT.
- GRAMMAR: RULES GOVERNING SENTENCE STRUCTURE, VERB CONJUGATIONS, AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN WORDS.
- LEXICON: THE VOCABULARY, WHICH MAY DERIVE FROM EXISTING LANGUAGES OR BE ENTIRELY ORIGINAL.
- SEMANTICS: THE MEANINGS OF WORDS AND PHRASES AND HOW THEY RELATE TO ONE ANOTHER.

THESE ELEMENTS MUST COALESCE INTO A COHERENT SYSTEM THAT CAN BE LEARNED, SPOKEN, AND POTENTIALLY WRITTEN. THE SOPHISTICATION OF THE LANGUAGE VARIES WIDELY, FROM SIMPLE CODES OR CIPHERS TO FULLY DEVELOPED TONGUES WITH RICH HISTORIES AND DIALECTS.

THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT OF CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES

Language invention is not a modern phenomenon. Historically, constructed languages have served various purposes, from secret communication to philosophical experimentation. One of the earliest recorded examples is Esperanto, created in 1887 by L. L. Zamenhof with the goal of fostering international understanding through a neutral, easy-to-learn language. Esperanto's design emphasizes regular grammar and a simplified vocabulary, highlighting one of the practical ambitions behind language invention: facilitating cross-cultural communication.

In contrast, the 20th and 21st centuries have seen a surge in artistic language invention, especially within speculative fiction. J.R.R. Tolkien's Elvish languages (Quenya and Sindarin) stand as monumental achievements in the art of language invention, blending linguistic depth with mythological storytelling. Similarly, languages like Klingon from Star Trek and Dothraki and Valyrian from Game of Thrones have pushed conlangs into mainstream media, illustrating how language invention enriches world-building and audience immersion.

WHY CREATE A NEW LANGUAGE?

THE MOTIVATIONS BEHIND INVENTING A LANGUAGE ARE MULTIFACETED:

- 1. ARTISTIC EXPRESSION: WRITERS AND CREATORS USE CONLANGS TO ADD REALISM AND TEXTURE TO FICTIONAL WORLDS.
- 2. **CULTURAL IDENTITY:** LANGUAGE CAN SERVE AS A MARKER OF GROUP IDENTITY, EVEN WITHIN FICTIONAL SETTINGS.
- 3. **Communication Efficiency:** Some constructed languages aim to improve clarity or reduce ambiguity in communication.
- 4. **INTELLECTUAL CHALLENGE:** LINGUISTS AND HOBBYISTS ENJOY THE COMPLEXITY AND CREATIVITY INVOLVED IN LANGUAGE DESIGN.

THESE DIVERSE INTENTS RESULT IN LANGUAGES THAT RANGE FROM HIGHLY FUNCTIONAL SYSTEMS TO PURELY AESTHETIC CONSTRUCTS.

TECHNICAL ASPECTS: DESIGNING A LANGUAGE THAT WORKS

AN ESSENTIAL ASPECT OF THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION LIES IN ENSURING THAT A NEW LANGUAGE IS INTERNALLY CONSISTENT AND USABLE. THIS REQUIRES DECISIONS ABOUT PHONETIC INVENTORY, WRITING SYSTEMS, AND GRAMMAR COMPLEXITY.

PHONETICS AND PHONOLOGY

Choosing the sounds a language will use influences its character and accessibility. For example, Esperanto includes sounds common across many European languages, supporting its goal as an international auxiliary language. On the other hand, the guttural and harsh sounds of Klingon contribute to the alien and warrior-like aura of the fictional species.

GRAMMAR AND SYNTAX CHOICES

Grammar is often the most challenging part of language invention. Creators decide whether to adopt features such as noun cases, verb tenses, and word order. Languages like Tolkien's Quenya exhibit complex inflectional morphology, while others like Toki Pona prioritize minimalism with limited vocabulary and simplified grammar.

LEXICON AND VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

BUILDING A LEXICON CAN INVOLVE BORROWING FROM EXISTING LANGUAGES, CREATING ENTIRELY NOVEL ROOTS, OR COMBINING BOTH STRATEGIES. A RICH VOCABULARY REQUIRES ATTENTION TO SEMANTIC FIELDS, IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS, AND ETYMOLOGICAL COHERENCE WITHIN THE INVENTED LANGUAGE'S INTERNAL LOGIC.

THE IMPACT OF LANGUAGE INVENTION ON POPULAR CULTURE AND SOCIETY

THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION EXTENDS BEYOND ACADEMIC CURIOSITY AND ARTISTIC PROJECTS; IT HAS TANGIBLE CULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL INFLUENCES. MEDIA FRANCHISES THAT INCORPORATE CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES OFTEN SEE INCREASED FAN ENGAGEMENT AND EVEN ACADEMIC INTEREST.

FOR EXAMPLE, THE INTRODUCTION OF NA'VI IN JAMES CAMERON'S "AVATAR" LED TO THE CREATION OF A COMMUNITY OF SPEAKERS AND LEARNERS, COMPLETE WITH COURSES AND DICTIONARIES. THIS PHENOMENON ILLUSTRATES HOW LANGUAGE INVENTION FOSTERS NOT JUST FICTIONAL IMMERSION BUT REAL-WORLD SOCIAL CONNECTIONS.

Moreover, Language invention encourages linguistic diversity and creativity, challenging the dominance of natural languages in digital and cultural spaces. It also raises questions about language preservation, evolution, and the role of artificial languages in future communication technologies.

CHALLENGES AND CRITICISMS IN LANGUAGE INVENTION

DESPITE ITS ALLURE, THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION FACES CRITICISMS AND PRACTICAL LIMITATIONS:

- LEARNING CURVE: COMPLEX CONLANGS CAN BE DIFFICULT TO LEARN, LIMITING THEIR ADOPTION.
- ARTIFICIALITY: SOME ARGUE CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES LACK THE ORGANIC EVOLUTION AND CULTURAL DEPTH OF NATURAL LANGUAGES.
- LIMITED USE CASES: MANY CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES REMAIN CONFINED TO NICHE COMMUNITIES OR FICTIONAL SETTINGS.

Nonetheless, these challenges have not deterred enthusiasts who appreciate the creativity and intellectual rigor involved.

THE FUTURE OF LANGUAGE INVENTION

ADVANCEMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING, ARE SHAPING NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR LANGUAGE INVENTION. TOOLS FOR AUTOMATED GRAMMAR CHECKING, VOCABULARY GENERATION, AND VOICE SYNTHESIS MAKE IT EASIER FOR CREATORS TO DEVELOP AND DISSEMINATE NEW LANGUAGES.

ADDITIONALLY, THE GROWING INTEREST IN VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY ENVIRONMENTS MAY INCREASE DEMAND FOR IMMERSIVE LANGUAGES, ENABLING USERS TO EXPERIENCE COMMUNICATION IN UNPRECEDENTED WAYS. AS GLOBALIZATION CONTINUES TO INFLUENCE LINGUISTIC LANDSCAPES, CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES MIGHT OFFER ALTERNATIVE MODES OF INTERACTION THAT BRIDGE CULTURAL DIVIDES OR CREATE EXCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES.

ULTIMATELY, THE ART OF LANGUAGE INVENTION REMAINS A TESTAMENT TO HUMAN INGENUITY—AN EVOLVING CRAFT THAT BLENDS SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE WITH ARTISTIC VISION TO EXPAND THE BOUNDARIES OF COMMUNICATION AND STORYTELLING.

The Art Of Language Invention

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the art of language invention: The Art of Language Invention David J. Peterson, 2015-09-29 An insider's tour through the construction of invented languages from the bestselling author and creator of languages for Legendary's Dune, the HBO series Game of Thrones and the Syfy series Defiance From master language creator David J. Peterson comes a creative guide to language construction for sci-fi and fantasy fans, writers, game creators, and language lovers. Peterson offers a captivating overview of language creation, covering its history from Tolkien's creations and Klingon to today's thriving global community of conlangers. He provides the essential tools necessary for inventing and evolving new languages, using examples from a variety of languages including his own creations, punctuated with references to everything from Star Wars to Janelle Monáe. Along the way, behind-the-scenes stories lift the curtain on how he built languages like Dothraki for HBO's Game of Thrones and Shiväisith for Marvel's Thor: The Dark World, and an included phrasebook will start fans speaking Peterson's constructed languages. The Art of Language Invention is an inside look at a fascinating culture and an engaging entry into a flourishing art form—and it might be the most fun you'll ever have with linguistics. The Art of Language Invention includes a new chapter on phrases, specifically, word order, negation, question formation, pragmatic

concerns, relativization, and subordination, providing a complete introduction to language creation and linguistics. Invented languages featured in the book now include Chakobsa from Legendary's Dune, Trigedasleng (or Grounder) from The 100, Méníshè language from Motherland: Fort Salem and Ravkan from the Netflix series Shadow and Bone.

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