

Re: Related languages (Re: A China–Sumer connection)

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From: Comm (*no_at_spam.com*)

Date: 03/30/05

Date: Wed, 30 Mar 2005 00:50:34 GMT

"Peter T. Daniels" <grammatim@worldnet.att.net> wrote in message
news:4249CCE3.5AB5@worldnet.att.net...

> *Comm wrote:*

>>

>> *"Peter T. Daniels" <grammatim@worldnet.att.net> wrote in message*

>> *news:42495693.11F3@worldnet.att.net...*

>> > *Comm wrote:*

>> >>

>> >> <phippmartin@hotmail.com> wrote in message

>> >> *news:1111969728.210792.209440@l41g2000cwc.googlegroups.com...*

>> >> > *Comm wrote:*

>> >> >> *Lee Sau Dan wrote:*

>> >> >> > *That means you're ignorant.*

>> >> >>

>> >> >> *Ah, now ya did it. No, it proves you are ignorant*

>> >> >

>> >> > *Comm, I've read a lot of Mr. Lee's posts and this is the first time*

>> >> > *he*

>> >> > *stooped to insults. Perhaps he didn't realize you would take*

>> >> > *"ignorant" to mean "stupid". Perhaps he should have said*

>> >> > *"uninformed"*

>> >> > *or, better yet, "insufficiently familiar with the subject matter".*

>> >> >

>> >> > *Oh, and by the way, we do we tones in English. Right14? Right41!*

>> >>

>> >> *HAAAAAA – no that's not what I ever understood to be "a tonal
language."*

>> >> *I*

>> >> *mean, ma ma ma ma ma? NO matter what tone I put on it, it means*

>> >> *"mother."*

>> >

>> > *In English, it does. In Chinese it does not.*

>>

>> *I understand that. But in English, whether you apply tone, emphasis or*

>> *say*

>> *it completely flat like a robot in B movies, ma ma ma ma still means the
>> same thing in English. In Chinese it means different things 100%
>> DEPENDENT
>> on tone. English has no such thing. Some people do speak in flat
>> monotones
>
> I don't see why you keep harping on this. It's a fact; everyone knows
> it; and you claim you can't distinguish among the four words that have
> consonant /m/ and vowel /a/.*

If a Chinese person speaks making a sentence from it, all tonal, sure I hear the difference.

>
> *And as a result, you say nasty things like "Chinese sounds like cats
> meowing and Vietnamese sounds worse." If you don't see that that's
> racist, you need to do some serious introspection.*

That's not racist at all. It's purely subjective – as when everyone that ever saw my ethnic group said we LOOK like cats – or wolves. Some people look like birds. That's not racist at all. It's a purely subjective impression. Stop being so god damned sensitive. It's sickening – it stifles FREE SPEECH too. Yes, Chinese sounds like cats. English often sounds like dogs barking, if they use a lot of monosyllabic words. SO? Grow some skin, man. You personally insult the shit out of people on here, calling me a slut and crack addict? That's LIBEL you damned moron. LIBEL. And you are bitching about something as TAME as subjective opinions on how languages sound?

>
>> *(gah, I hate hearing it). Others do not. But "I object to that object
>
> You can find people who like unpitched speech?*

Yeah, people who speak like that obviously like it. I've known a few.

>
>> *being in the room. I do not feel I should be subject to queries
>> regarding
>> that subject" said in a 100% flat robot monotone – is 100% understandable
>> in
>> English. No tones, no emphasis required at all. "Do you object to that
>> object being in your room?" spoken with flat robot monotone, no raising
>> voice to show it's a question – is STILL understandable. The "Do you"
>> tells
>> us it's a question.
>
> Except that, in conversation, no one actually says "Do you"; that would
> be said in this pathological case in compensation for the inability to
> use the question–intonation that communicates the fact that it's a
> question.*

Translation – it's pathological because it completely refutes what's being said on here. The fact is, English can be 100% understood when spoken in

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that way. Chinese MUST have tones. And considering Chinese is monosyllabic, some words are literally like the person is singing the one syllable word. As I said, like a meow. Take out the consonants then. Record Chinese woman speaking and eliminate all consonants. Do same with English. English sounds like dogs barking. Chinese sounds like meows.

> --

> *Peter T. Daniels* grammatim@att.net