

Re: Is language development evolutionary, or designed by the culture?

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- *From:* "Ken Shackleton" <ken.shackleton@xxxxxxx>
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Brian M. Scott wrote:

> On Wed, 15 Jun 2005 16:47:33 +0000 (UTC), "David Wright Sr."
> <dwrightsr@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in
> <news:Xns96768221CAFA7nokvamli@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> in sci.lang:
>
> [...]
>
>> My primary professor had spent considerable time in the
>> south of Germany and Austria and thus I found many years
>> later that I could understand Germans from those areas
>> much better than I could those from the north.
>
>> I studied Russian at the Army Language School in a
>> one-year intensive course. When I visited my old German
>> professor, he said that I was speaking German with a
>> distinct Slavic accent. He was very familiar with that
>> because he had worked with displaced Slavs of all sorts
>> in the post-war years.
>
> [...]
>
>> [...] while in Bloomington, my wife and I had two very
>> close friends from California and spoke and talked with
>> them daily for over two years. When they returned to
>> California, they were kidded about the Southern accent
>> that they had come home with.
>
>> We lived in Arizona for three years and when returned to
>> North Georgia where we currently live, everyone here
>> spoke very funnily and we were told the same about the
>> way we spoke. After a few months, everyone had stopped
>> speaking that way and so did we.
>
>> The point of all of this is to make my point that
>> whenever a speaker of a language finds himself in a
>> different linguistic environment, even when the

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- > > languages are the *same*, he will adapt his linguistic
- > > habits to facilitate communication, because d