

Re: Invention of the Alphabet

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.lang/2005-08/msg00329.html>

- *From:* "Peter T. Daniels" <grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 04 Aug 2005 13:24:31 GMT
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Lee Sau Dan wrote:

>
> >>>>> "Peter" == Peter T Daniels <grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> writes:
>
> >> My next question: A chinese sentence is written without
> >> spacing. So, the whole sentence is one single word?
>
> Peter> You're beginning to look like gilgames.
>
> Peter> Chinese has no spacing. Therefore spacing has no
> Peter> significance in Chinese.
>
> So, you lack a common yardstick to define the notion of "word" for
> Chinese in a way consistent with English.
>
> And your previous yardstick of "one entry in a *foreigner language*
> dictionary" also turned out to be useless because that would make the
> English term "train station" one word as it has its own entry in a
> French dictionary ("gare") or German dictionary ("Bahnhof").

I can only handle one gilgames at a time.

Fortunately, they tend to appear only one at a time (and I won't name any names lest they be summoned from the vasty deep).

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Peter T. Daniels grammatim@xxxxxxx

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- *Follow-Ups:*
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 - ◇ *From:* Des Small
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 - ◆ ***Invention of the Alphabet***
 - ◇ *From:* Dennis
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 - ◇ *From:* Peter T. Daniels

Re: Invention of the Alphabet

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- ◆ **Re: Invention of the Alphabet**
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◇ From: Alan
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