

## Re: Fr/lat/ru tu-vous/tu-vos/ - : etymology ?

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On Oct 2, 3:56 am, Bart Mathias <[math...@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:math...@xxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

benli...@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

[...]

Just out of curiosity, I've been wondering: Does anyone know of any \_real\_ language in which "left eye" and "right eye" have completely separate lexical items?

I don't think so. Probably a matter of entropy.

Nowadays even languages that differentiate between "right hand" and "left hand" are in the minority (Japanese "hikide" and "yunde" are obsolete, and even they were compounds), even though handedness is usually considered much more important than eyedness.

Simply having those words is magnificent proof of the antiquity of Magdalenian.

Gives me an idea for a new bumpersticker.

I missed the question by Ross Clark. I don't know of any language that has different words for the right eye and the left eye, which makes my Magdalenian claim non-trivial: there were different words for the right and left eye, right and left arm, right and left hand, right and left leg, right and left foot. Much to my surprise I learned from the Proceedings of the Seventeenth (?) Annual UCLA Indo-European Conference that in IE the left and right side of the horse had different names! (I shall look up that volume next week when I return home). Why using different