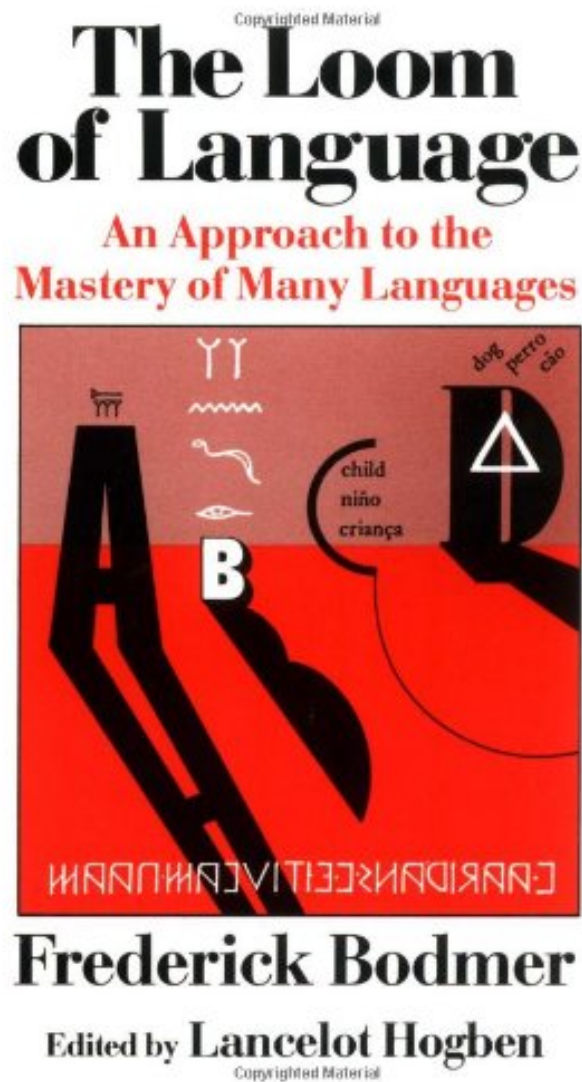


[Read download] The Loom of Language: An Approach to the Mastery of Many Languages

# The Loom of Language: An Approach to the Mastery of Many Languages

Frederick Bodmer

*\*Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#404744 in Books 1985-10-17 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.40 x 1.90 x 5.001, 1.35 #File Name: 039330034X720 pages | File size: 63.Mb

**Frederick Bodmer : The Loom of Language: An Approach to the Mastery of Many Languages** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Loom of Language: An Approach to the Mastery of Many Languages:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Worth the time! By the\_shed\_man The loom of language A scholarly yet practical treatise on Western languages and how to learn them with a deeper knowledge of how and why they are

as they are. The benefit is gained in an understanding of the origins and mutations of languages as they developed which makes learning related languages easier and intuitive. Its only shortcoming for the 21st century is that it takes a fair bit of effort to research the linguistics terminology Bodmer so casually uses, apparently in the expectation that all readers will be familiar with them...as I was not! I know a lot more about language now, though, and found the time and effort necessary to gain an understanding of his thesis well worth the expenditure. 63 of 67 people found the following review helpful. Still interesting, still relevant

By TCA good reason exists why *The Loom of Language*, first published in 1944, is still in print. It remains one of the best overviews of Indo-European and Near East languages to date. While a basic grasp of linguistic tools will help, the reader essentially only needs an understanding of English grammatical rules to get through the book. The explicit goal of *The Loom of Languages* is to introduce readers to a broad range of languages, language timelines, language roots and the tools necessary to understand a wide variety of linguistic patterns so as to learn new languages. The greatest asset of *The Loom of Language* is that it never strays off track. The authors carefully, consistently marry one chapter to the next. This is no dry linguistic workbook either; the authors take the time to explore the history and culture behind various languages, peppering the work with colorful anthropological anecdotes. If one fault could be listed with *The Loom of Languages* it would be that a muddied xenophobia trickles into some of the chapter as witnessed by this comment concerning the lack of Greek and Latin language influence in the Eastern Europe of antiquity: "The comparatively late appearance of loan words in the Slavonic lexicon faithfully reflects this retardation of culture contact with more progressive communities (page 419)." Modern day readers unaccustomed to the cultural proclivities of earlier linguists and anthropologists may find the repetitive use of words like "Aryan" or "high culture" unsettling. That said, the nitty-gritty of the data (with a few exceptions) in *The Loom of Languages* remains unadulterated and essentially informative. Recent discoveries by linguists and anthropologists now contradict some of TLOL findings, but not enough to undermine the goals of the book. A highly recommended book for budding linguists or those with a curiosity about the link between language and history.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An indispensable reference guide

By Patricia F. This is a classic if you are interested in the history of languages or in comparative linguistics. I have bought these old copies many times to give as gifts to other language lovers and they are always a big hit.

Here is an informative introduction to language: its origins in the past, its growth through history, and its present use for communication between peoples. It is at the same time a history of language, a guide to foreign tongues, and a method for learning them. It shows, through basic vocabularies, family resemblances of languages Teutonic, Romance, Greek helpful tricks of translation, key combinations of roots and phonetic patterns. It presents by common-sense methods the most helpful approach to the mastery of many languages; it condenses vocabulary to a minimum of essential words; it simplifies grammar in an entirely new way; and it teaches a language as it is actually used in everyday life. But this book is more than a guide to foreign languages; it goes deep into the roots of all knowledge as it explores the history of speech. It lights up the dim pathways of prehistory and unfolds the story of the slow growth of human expression from the most primitive signs and sounds to the elaborate variations of the highest cultures. Without language no knowledge would be possible; here we see how language is at once the source and the reservoir of all we know.

Rewarding and delightful . . . for everyone who has the slightest curiosity or ambition in self expression, this is a book that contains months or years of pleasurable profit. - Christopher Morley

Makes language study more hopeful and exciting than anything I have read before. - Lewis Gannett

From the Back Cover

Here is an informative introduction to language: its origins in the past, its growth through history, and its present use for communication between peoples. It is at the same time a history of language, a guide to foreign tongues, and a method for learning them. It shows, through basic vocabularies, family resemblances of languages -- Teutonic, Romance, Greek -- helpful tricks of translation, key combinations of roots and phonetic patterns. It presents by common-sense methods the most helpful approach to the mastery of many languages; it condenses vocabulary to a minimum of essential words; it simplifies grammar in an entirely new way; and it teaches a language as it is actually used in everyday life.

About the Author

Frederick Bodmer is a distinguished Swiss philologist.