

On this thinksheet I've underlined what are for us, in studying our religious "roots," the most important I-E languages. Most important are the two languages circled. Next, those underlined twice. Least, those underlined once. For Sanskrit roots, see #677. For an illustration, see the "How digamma enters English" section of #767.

INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES

BRANCH	GROUP	LANGUAGES AND MAJOR DIALECTS ¹			PROVENIENCE
		ANCIENT	MEDIEVAL	MODERN	
GERMANIC	East North		<i>Gothic</i> <i>Old Norse</i>		eastern Europe Iceland Faeroese islands Norway Sweden Denmark
	West		<i>Old High German</i> <i>Middle High German</i> <i>Old Saxon</i> <i>Middle Low German</i> <i>Middle Dutch</i> <i>Middle Flemish</i> <i>Old Frisian</i> <i>Old English</i> <i>Middle English</i>	<u>German</u> Yiddish Low German Dutch Afrikaans Flemish Frisian English	Germany, Switzerland, Austria Germany, eastern Europe Northern Germany Netherlands So. Africa Belgium Netherlands, Germany England
CELTIC	Conti- nental	<i>Gaulish</i>			Gaul
	Brythonic		<i>Old Welsh</i> <i>Middle Welsh</i> <i>Old Cornish</i> <i>Middle Breton</i>	Welsh Cornish Breton	Wales Cornwall Brittany
	Goidelic		<i>Old Irish</i> <i>Middle Irish</i>	<u>Irish Gaelic</u> <u>Scottish Gaelic</u> <u>Manx</u>	Ireland Scotland Isle of Man
ITALIC	Osc- Umbrian	<i>Oscan, Sabellian</i> <i>Umbrian</i>			ancient Italy
	Latinian or Romance ²	<i>Venetic, Faliscan</i> <i>Louissian, Proenestine</i> <i>Latin</i>	<i>Old Provençal</i> <i>Old French</i> <i>Middle French</i>	Portuguese Spanish Judeo-Spanish Catalan Provençal <u>French</u> Haitian Creole Italian Rhaeto-Romanic Sardinian <i>Dalmatian</i> Romanian	Portugal Spain Mediterranean lands Spain (Catalonia) southern France France, Belgium, Switzerland Haiti Italy, Switzerland Switzerland, Italy Sardinia Adriatic coast Romania, Balkans ancient Italy Balkans Asia Minor
Scantly recorded and of uncertain affinities within Indo-European		<i>Ligurian, Messapian</i> <i>Ilyrian, Thracian</i> <i>Phrygian</i>			
	Albanian			Albanian	Albania, southern Italy
	<u>Greek</u>	Greek	Greek	Greek	Greece, the eastern Mediterranean
	Baltic		<i>Old Prussian</i>		East Prussia Lithuania Latvia
SLAVIC	South		Old Church Slavonic	Slovene Serbo-Croatian Macedonian Bulgarian	Yugoslavia Yugoslavia Macedonia Bulgaria
	West		<i>Old Czech</i>	Czech, Slovak Polish, Kashubian Wendish, <i>Polabian</i>	Czechoslovakia Poland Germany
	East		<i>Old Russian</i>	Russian Ukrainian Belorussian	Russia Ukraine White Russia
IRANIAN	Armenian		Armenian	Armenian	Asia Minor, Caucasus
	West	<i>Old Persian</i>	<i>Pahlavi</i> Persian	Persian Kurdish Baluchi Tajiki	Persia Persia (Iran) Persia, Iraq, Turkey West Pakistan central Asia
	East	Avestan	<i>Sogdian</i> <i>Khotanese</i>		ancient Persia central Asia central Asia Afghanistan, West Pakistan Caucasus
INDIC	Dard			Shina, Khowar, Kafiri Kashmiri	upper Indus valley Kashmir
	Sanskritic	<u>Sanskrit</u> , <u>Pali</u> <u>Prakrits</u>	<i>Prakrits</i>	Lahnda Sindhi Panjabi Rajasthani Gujarati Marathi Konkani Oriya Bengali Assamese Bihari Hindi Urdu Nepali Sinhalese Romany	India western Punjab Sind Punjab Rajasthan Gujarat western India western India Orissa Bengal Assam Bihar northern India Pakistan, India Nepal Ceylon uncertain
	Tocharian		<i>Tocharian A</i> <i>Tocharian B</i>		central Asia
The following is sometimes considered as another branch of Indo-European, and sometimes as coordinate with Indo-European, the two together constituting Indo-Hittite					
	Anatolian	<i>Hittite, Lydian, Lycian</i> <i>Luwian</i> <i>Palaic</i> <i>Hieroglyphic Hittite</i>			ancient Asia Minor

¹Italics denote dead languages. Listing of a language only in the ancient or medieval column but in roman type indicates that it survives only in some special use, as in literary composition or liturgy
²Romance is normally applied only to medieval and modern languages; Latinian is normally applied only to ancient languages