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Indo-European Language and Culture

An Introduction

Benjamin W. Fortson IV

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Guide to the Reader

A. Abbreviations

abl.	ablative	Luv.	Luvian
accus., acc.	accusative	masc.	masculine
act.	active	MÉ	Middle English
adj.	adjective	Mod.	Modern
Alb.	Albanian	neut.	neuter
Anat.	Anatolian	nomin., nom.	nominative
aor.	aorist	OAv.	Old Avestan
Arm.	Armenian	OCS	Old Church Slavonic
Av.	Avestan	OE	Old English
B.-Sl.	Balto-Slavic	OHG	Old High German
Celt.	Celtic	OHitt.	Old Hittite
Class.	Classical	OIr.	Old Irish
Cz.	Czech	OLith.	Old Lithuanian
dat.	dative	ON	Old Norse
du.	dual	OPers.	Old Persian
Du.	Dutch	OPruss.	Old Prussian
Eng.	English	OS	Old Saxon
fem.	feminine	Osc.	Oscan
fut.	future	pass.	passive
Gaul.	Gaulish	PIE	Proto-Indo-European
genit., gen.	genitive	pl.	plural
Gk.	Greek	Pol.	Polish
Gmc.	Germanic	pres.	present
Goth.	Gothic	Russ.	Russian
Hitt.	Hittite	sing., sg.	singular
Icel.	Icelandic	Skt.	Sanskrit
IE	Indo-European	Slav.	Slavic
imperf.	imperfect	Toch.	Tocharian
Indo-Ir.	Indo-Iranian	Umbr.	Umbrian
instr.	instrumental	Ved.	Vedic
Lat.	Latin	voc.	vocative
Latv.	Latvian	W.	Welsh
Lith.	Lithuanian	YAv.	Younger Avestan
loc.	locative		

B. Symbols

- * denotes a reconstructed form, not preserved in any written documents
- < “comes from” or “is derived from”
- > “turns into” or “becomes”
- indicates morpheme boundary, or separates off that part of a word that the reader should focus on
- () encloses part of a word that is not relevant to the discussion, or that is an optional part
- ~ separates pairs of examples or forms

C. Spelling Conventions

All linguistic forms are written in *italics*. The only exceptions are inscripational forms in Italic dialects (such as Oscan and Umbrian) that are not written in the Latin alphabet; these, following standard convention, are given in **boldface**. See chapter 13. For Latin, *i* and *u* are used for both the vowels and the glides (instead of *j* and *v*).

D. International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

Phonetic transcriptions using the IPA are enclosed in square brackets. The symbols used for American English sounds are:

Consonants				Vowels	
b	bell	p	pat	a	father
d	dim	r	roof	æ	hat
ð	this	s	silver	e	care
f	fail	ʃ	shelf	ɛ	pet
g	go	t	tin	ə	about
h	heal	θ	thin	i	beat
j	yarn	v	vat	ɪ	bit
k	coal	w	well	o	bore
l	light	z	zero	ɔ	bought
m	magic	ʒ	measure	u	boot
n	near			ʊ	book
ŋ	sing			ʌ	but