

Worksheet 2.1 Common words in PIE languages

Can you figure out which languages are related?

- Take one language and write out the words and language that are most similar.
- Once you see the languages that are related, what have you learned about the similarities/differences. Solutions on the Historical Linguistics slides.

Note: Some languages that are related may not have similar words for these 4 words and others, that are not from the same linguistic family, may have similar looking words, as these are such common words. Indeed, some languages listed are not related to any other language and are known as a 'language isolate'. Also, words might be pronounced the same or differently, despite their spelling.



Linguistics: Topic 2 Historical Linguistics

Basque	Catalan	Czech
Ama Aite Bat Bi	Mare Pare Un Dos	Matka Otec Jeden Dva
Danish	Dutch	Breton
Mor Far Én To	Moeder Vader Een Twee	Mamm Tad Unan Daou
French	German	Scottish Gaelic
Mère Père Un Deux	Mutter Vater Eins Zwei	Máthair Athair Aon Dhá
Irish	Italian	Latin
Máthair Athair Aon Dó/Dhá	Madre Padre Uno Due	Mater Pater Unum Duo
Latvian	Lithuanian	Norwegian
Māte Tēvs Viēns Divi	Motina Tėvas Vienas Dù	Mor Far Ett To
Portuguese	Romanian	Russian
Mãe Pai Um Dois	MamăT Tată Unu Doi	Мать Отец Одін Dva
Spanish	Swedish	Polish
Madre Padre Uno Dos	Mor Far En vå	Matka Ojciec Jeden Dwa

Linguistics: Topic 2 Historical Linguistics

Ukrainian	Welsh	English
Мати батько Ody'n Dva	Mam Tad Yek' Dui:	Mother Father One Two

1. Complete this table by writing out the related words and languages. Add new rows and columns as necessary.

Latin	e.g. Italian				
Mater Pater Unum Duo					

German					
Mutter Vater Eins Zwei					

Gaelic					

Polish					

Latvian					



Solutions to worksheet 2.1 Common Words in PIE languages

Romance/Italic Branch

Latin	Italian	French	Spanish	Catalan	Romanian	Portuguese
Mater	Madre	Mère	Madre	Mare	Mamă	Mãe
Pater	Padre	Père	Padre	Pare	Tată	Pai
Unum	Uno	Un	Uno	Un	Unu	Um
Duo	Due	Deux	Dos	Dos	Doi	Dois

Germanic Branch

German	Dutch	English	Danish	Swedish	Norwegian
Mutter	Moeder	Mother	Mor	Mor	Mor
Vater	Vader	Father	Far	Far	Far
Eins	Een	One	Én	En	Ett
Zwei	Twee	Two	to	Två	To

Celtic Branch

Scottish Gaelic	Irish	Welsh	Breton		
Máthair	Máthair	Mam	Mamm		
Athair	Athair	Tad	Tad		
Aon	Aon	Yek'	Unan		
Dhá	Dó	Du:i:	Daou		

Slavic Branch

Polish	Czech	Ukrainian	Russian		
Matka	Mtka	Мати	Мать		
Ojciec	Otec	батько	отец		
Jeden	Jeden	Ody'n	Odín		
Dwa	Dva	Dva	Dva		

Baltic Branch

Language Isolate

Latvian	Lithuanian		Basque
Māte	Motina		Ama
Tēvs	Tévas		Aite
Viēns	Vienas		Bat
Divi	Dù		Bi