

SCHLEICHER'S FABLE IN PROTO-INDO-EUROPEAN AND ITS MAIN PROTO-LANGUAGES (Version 8, 07/3/2008)

« *The Sheep and the Horses. • A sheep that had no wool • saw horses, • one pulling a heavy wagon, • one carrying a big load, • and one carrying a man quickly. • The sheep said to the horses: • “My heart pains me, • seeing a man driving horses”. • The horses said: “Listen, sheep, • our hearts pain us when we see this: • a man, the master, makes the wool of the sheep • into a warm garment for himself. • And the sheep has no wool”. • Having heard this, the sheep fled into the plain. »*

It is written here in the different reconstructible PIE dialects for comparison. The immediate parent dialect of each proto-language is enclosed in parentheses.

	Indo-Hittite (IE I), 3500 BC	Common Anatolian (PAN), 2500 BC	Europe's IE (IE IIb), 2500 BC	
1	H ₃ owis h ₁ ekwōs-k ^w e.	Howis ekwōs-k ^w e.	Owis ekwōs-k ^w e.	1
2	H ₃ owis, k ^w esjo w ₁ h ₁ neh ₂ ne h ₁ est,	Howis, k ^w esjo w ₁ neh ne est,	Owis, k ^w esjo w ₁ nā ne est,	2
3	h ₁ ekwoms spekét,	ekwoms spekét,	ekwoms spekét,	3
4	h ₁ oinom ç ₃ h ₃ úm wog ^h om wég ^h ontm ₁ ,	oikom ç ₃ rúm wogom wégontm ₁ ,	oinom ç ₃ rúm wog ^h om wég ^h ontm ₁ ,	4
5	h ₁ oinom-k ^w e megeh ₂ m b ^h orom,	oikom-k ^w e megehm borom,	oinom-k ^w e megām b ^h orom,	5
6	h ₁ oinom-k ^w e d ^h h ₁ g ^h monm ₁ h ₁ oh ₁ ku b ^h érontm ₁ .	oikom-k ^w e dgmonm ₁ oku bérontm ₁ .	oinom-k ^w e d ^h g ^h monm ₁ ōkú b ^h érontm ₁ .	6
7	H ₃ owis nu h ₁ ékwo ^h b ^h jos weuk ^w ét:	Howis nu ékwobos wūk ^w ét:	Owis nu ékwob ^h os weuk ^w ét:	7
8	“K ₃ rd h ₂ ég ^h nutoi h ₁ moí,	“K ₃ rd xégnutor moí,	“K ₃ rd ág ^h nutoi moí,	8
9	h ₁ ekwoms h ₂ é ^h ontm ₁ wih ₁ rom wíd ^h ntei”.	ekwoms xé ^h ontm ₁ wirom wíd ^h ntē”.	ekwoms ágontm ₁ wīrom wíd ^h ntei”.	9
10	H ₁ ekwōs tu weuk ^w ónt: “Klud ^h í, h ₃ owi!	Ekwōs tu weuk ^w ónt: “Klud ^h í, howi!	Ekwōs tu weuk ^w ónt: “Klud ^h í, owi!	10
11	k ₃ rd h ₂ ég ^h nutoi ŋsméi wíd ^h nt ^h b ^h jos:	k ₃ rd heg ^h nutor ŋsmē wíd ^h nt ^h bos:	k ₃ rd ág ^h nutoi ŋsméi wíd ^h nt ^h b ^h jos:	11
12	h ₂ ner, potis, h ₃ owjom- ₁ w ₁ h ₁ neh ₂ m	hner, potis, howjom- ₁ w ₁ nehm	ner, potis, owjom- ₁ w ₁ nām	12
13	sweb ^h i g ^w hermóm westrom k ^w neuti”.	swebi cermóm wéstrom k ^w neuti”.	sebh ^h i g ^w hermóm westrom k ^w neuti”.	13
14	H ₃ owjom-k ^w e w ₁ h ₁ neh ₂ ne h ₁ esti.	Howjom-k ^w e w ₁ neh ne esti.	Owjom-k ^w e w ₁ nā ne esti.	14
15	Tod kékluwos h ₃ owis h ₂ egrom b ^h ugét.	Tod kékluwos howis hegrom bugét.	Tod kékluwos owis agrom b ^h ugét.	15

	Proto-Indo-Iranian (IE IIIa), 2500 BC	Proto-Greek (IE IIIa), 2500 BC	Proto-Celtic (EIE), 1000 BC	
1	Awis a ₁ kwās-ka.	Owis ekwoi-k ^w e.	Owis ekwoi-k ^w e.	1
2	Awis, kasja w ₁ nā na āst,	Ówis, k ^w eho w ₁ nā ne ēst,	Owis, k ^w esjo wlānā ne est,	2
3	akwams spa ₁ kát,	ekwos spekét,	ek ^w os spekét,	3
4	aikam ç ₃ rúm wag ^h am wág ^h antm ₁ ,	oiwom k ^w h ₃ rúm wok ^h om wek ^h ontm ₁ ,	oinom barúm woxom wéxontam,	4
5	aikam-ka mag ^h am b ^h aram,	oiwom-k ^w e megām p ^h orom,	oinom-k ^w e megam borom,	5
6	aikam-ka g ^h ámanm ₁ āku b ^h arantm ₁ .	oiwom-k ^w e k ^h t ^h ómonm ₁ ōku p ^h érontm ₁ .	oinom-k ^w e dxoniom āku berontam.	6
7	Awis nu ákwab ^h jas áwaukat:	Ówis nu ékwop ^h os éweuk ^w et:	Owis nu ékwob ^h os weuk ^w ét:	7
8	“K ₃ rd ág ^h nutai mai,	“K ₃ rd ák ^h nutoi moi,	“K ₃ rd áxnutor mai,	8
9	a ₁ kwams a ₁ gantam wīram wíd ^h ntai”.	ekwoms ágontm ₁ wīrom wíd ^h ntei”.	ek ^w os ágontom wīrom wídanti”.	9
10	Ákwās tu áwawkant: “K ₃ rud ^h í avi!	Ékwoi tu éwewek ^w ont: “K ₃ lut ^h í, owi!	Ek ^w oi tu wewek ^w ónt: “K ₃ lut ^h í, owi!	10
11	k ₃ rd ág ^h nutai ŋsmái wíd ^h nt ^h b ^h jas:	k ₃ rd ág ^h nutoi ŋsméi wíd ^h nt ^h b ^h os:	k ₃ rd áxnutor ansméi wídant ^h b ^h jos:	11
12	nar, patis, awjam- ₁ w ₁ nām	anér, potis, owjom- ₁ w ₁ nām	ner, potis, owjom-ar wlānām	12
13	swab ^h i g ^h armám wastram k ₃ neuti”.	sebh ^h i k ^w hermóm westrom k ^w neuti”.	sebh ^h i g ^w ermóm westrom k ^w arneuti”.	13
14	Awjam-ka w ₁ nā na asti.	Owjom-k ^w e w ₁ nā ne esti.	Owjom-k ^w e wlānā ne esti.	14
15	Tat k ₃ ak ₃ ruwas awis a ₁ gram áb ^h ugat.	Tot kékluwos owis agrom ép ^h ugat.	Tod kéklowos owis agrom bugét.	15

	Proto-Italic (EIE), 1000 BC	Pre-Proto-Germanic (EIE), 1000 BC	Common Tocharian (PToch), 1000 BC	
1	Owis ekwoi-k ^w e.	Awiz exwaz-x ^w e.	Owi jukweñ-ke.	1
2	Owis, k ^w esjo wlānā ne est,	Awiz, h ^w es wulnō ne est,	Owi, kuse wlānā ne es,	2
3	ekwos spekét,	ehwanz spexét,	jukwes spākāt,	3
4	oinom ç ₃ rāwúm woxom wéxontem,	ainan karún wagan wéganðun,	enem karām wak ₃ m wākantām,	4
5	oinom-k ^w e megam çorom,	ainan-x ^w e mekon baran,	enem-ke mākām parm,	5
6	oinom-k ^w e xomonem ōku çerontem.	ainan-x ^w e gúmanan āxu bérandun.	enem-ke tkamnam ākā pārantām.	6
7	Owis nu ékwop ^h os weuk ^w ét:	Awiz nu éxwamaz weux ^w éd:	Owi nā júkwebos wukāt:	7
8	“Kord axnutor mei,	“Hurt ág ^h nuðai mei,	“Kārt ág ^h nātai me,	8
9	ekwos ágontom wīrom wíd ^h ntei”.	exwanz ákanðun weran wítanðī”.	jukwes ākantān wīrem witsante”.	9
10	Ekwoi tu wewek ^w ónt: “K ₃ lut ^h í, owi!	Exwaz wewx ^w ant: “H ₃ lut ^h í, awi!	Jukweñ tā wukant: “K ₃ lut ^h í, owi!	10
11	kord axnutor ensméi wíd ^h nt ^h b ^h os:	hurt ák ^h nuðai unsmí wítunðmaz:	kārt āk ^h nete ansme wítāntbe:	11
12	ner, potis, owjom-or wlānām	ner, fapiz, awjan-aur wulnōn	nār, pats, owjāp-ār wlānām	12
13	seç ^h i g ^h ermóm westrom k ^w orneuti”.	sibi warmán westhran h ^w urneup ^h i”.	sāpi sārman wāstram kārnuti”.	13
14	Owjom-k ^w e wlānā ne esti.	Awjan-x ^w e wulnō ne isti.	Owjāp-ke wlānā nā esti.	14
15	Tud kékluwos owis agrom çugít.	Pat héxluwaz awiz akran bukép.	Tā kāk ^h lewe owi ākre bekāt.	15

	Proto-Armenian (?), 1 AD	Proto-Slavic (EIE), 500 AD	Proto-Baltic (EIE), 500 AD	
1	Hovih ēšwuh-k ^h e.	Ovis esvū-če.	Avis ašvai-ke.	1
2	Hovih, k ^h ehjo gálana ne ēs ^(th) ,	Ovis, česo vlina ne jazit,	Avis, kaso vilno ne ašt,	2
3	ēšwoh sp ^h ek ^h e ^(th) ,	esva speset,	ašvus spekít,	3
4	enam erkúm wo ₁ žá wé ₁ jonā,	inū žarūō vozū wézōtē,	ainam gārū wažam wéžantim,	4
5	enam-k ^h e mekā borā,	inū-če meža borū,	ainam-ke megam baram,	5
6	enam-k ^h e zmonā usū béronā.	inū-če žmonū asū bérōtē.	ainam-ke zmonam uoku bérantim.	6
7	Hovih nu ēšwoboh égojk ^h e ^(th) :	Ovis nū ésvomū vjučēt:	Avis nu ašvamas vjaukít:	7
8	“Sart égnut ^h e me,	“S ₃ rd áznutē mē,	“Š ₃ rd ág ^h nutai mai,	8
9	ēšwuh ákont ^h ā garā gítant ^h i”.	esvū ágōtū virū wídētī”.	ašvai ágantim vīram wídintei”.	9
10	Ēšwoh t ^h u égojk ^h ō: “Ludí, hovi!	Esva tu vjučōt: “Sludí, ove!	Ašvus tu vjaukant: “Š ₃ lut ^h í, avi!	10
11	Sart égnut ^h oi asmí gítan ^(th) bos:	s ₃ rd áznutē ēsmí wídēt ^h mū:	š ₃ rd ág ^h nutai insméi wídintmas:	11
12	a(n)ír, p ^h ot ^h is, owjā-ar gálanam	ner, podis, óvjemí-rí vlīnō	ner, pats, avjam-ir vilnom	12
13	(k)ilbi žermā gesthrā k ^h ar ^h nojt ^h i”.	sēbi germū vestrū č ₃ rinjutī”.	sebi garmām vestrām kirnjauti”.	13
14	Hovjā-k ^h e gálana ne est ^h i.	Óvjemí-če vlina ne jázitī.	Avjam-ke vilno ne ašti.	14
15	Da k ^h ék ^h lugah hovih akrā ébuke ^(th) .	To sés ^h l ^h uvū ovīs agrū bugít.	Ta šés ^h l ^h uv ^h as avis agram bugít.	15

Carlos Quiles, Fernando López-Menclero & others. Following the works of August Schleicher (1868), Hermann Hirt (1939), Winfred Lehman & Ladislav Zgusta (1979), Douglas Q. Adams (1997), Frederik Kortlandt (2007). Thanks to those who sent minor and anonymous corrections to the [Indo-European Language Association](#).

Please send any corrections to the [latest version of this paper](#) to the [Indo-European Language Association](#) using the contact form, or edit it directly in the [Indo-European Wiki](#).