

Make Your Own Language: Intro to Conlanging and Linguistics Splash 2021

Steps to Create a Conlang

Step	Details	Resources
Purpose	Determine goals/aims in constructing a language Note types of conlangs: engelang, auxlang, artlang Who is the intended audience? Yourself, friend group, conworld, international use, niche field, etc. Major features that contribute to purpose	Conlang types (https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Conlang/Types) Examples of conlangs from Reddit (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nQOVNKXkHyqfr8pkGp-zGv3iwve4JMv_iTcO6X8sJl0/edit#gid=844152522)
Context	Design conworld Create proto-language or language family	Types of sound change (http://grammar.ucsd.edu/courses/ling150/lgchng.pdf) Index Diachronica (https://chridd.nfshost.com/diachronica/) Sound Changer (http://www.zompist.com/sca2.html)
Phonology	Choose phonemic inventory and fill out IPA chart Keep in mind your desired aesthetic and audience; in general, stick to sounds you can pronounce	IPA Chart (https://web.uvic.ca/ling/resources/ipa/charts/IPALab/IPALab.htm) Example phonemic inventories (https://www.asha.org/practice/multicultural/Phono/)
Morphology	Choose morphological type What information will be codified in inflections? Create affixes (prefixes, suffixes, infixes, etc.)	Greenberg's Linguistic Universals (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenberg%27s_linguistic_universals)
Grammar	Pronouns Table of correlatives Articles Adjectives, numbers Questions/negation Other parts of speech	Greenberg's Ling. Univ's (see above) Language grammars (https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B9QDHej9UGAdcDhWVEIIMzJBSEk) Valency classes (http://www.arthaey.com/conlang/valency-verbs.html)
Orthography	Determine how sounds match up to graphemes	Complex orthography for conlangs (http://aveneca.com/cbb/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=4126)
Lexicon	Reference vocabulary lists Translate literary materials	Swadesh list (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swadesh_list) Thematic word lists (http://www.enchantedlearning.com/wordlist/) Universal Language Dictionary (http://www.uld3.org/) Conlanger's Thesaurus (http://fiatlingua.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/fl-000024-00.pdf) Polyglot (software) (http://fiatlingua.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/fl-000024-00.pdf)
Syntax	Relative clauses Word order Syntax test cases	Greenberg's Ling. Univ's (see above) Syntax test cases (http://www.potterpcs.net/gsfa/)
Semantics/ Pragmatics	Naming Semantic metaphors Registers of speech Idioms Standard interactions (e.g. greetings, farewells)	Personal naming conventions (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Personal_name) Language registers (http://www.genconnection.com/English/ap/LanguageRegisters.htm)
Writing system	If your language is set in a conworld, decide on their writing technology Create standard letter forms and writing rules Create handwritten or cursive forms Make a personalized font for your language	How to design a script (http://cbb.aveneca.com/viewtopic.php?f=31&t=4502) How to create fonts (https://www.reddit.com/r/conlangs/comments/2d6zxf/a_guide_to_highquality_fonts_for_conlangs/) Calligraphr (https://www.calligraphr.com/en/)
Testing, usage, and sharing	Try translating more complex source documents Begin writing your own material in your language to gain practice Attempt to teach other people or write instructional materials	Leipzig Glossing Rules (https://www.eva.mpg.de/lingua/resources/glossing-rules.php) Translation exercises (http://www.arthaey.com/conlang/translationex.html) Lingua Descriptive Questionnaire (http://www.eva.mpg.de/lingua/tools-at-lingboard/questionnaire/linguaQ.php)

Other Resources

Conlang subreddit (www.reddit.com/r/conlangs)
The Language Construction Kit, M. Rosenfelder
Advanced Language Construction, M. Rosenfelder
The Art of Language Invention, David J. Peterson

Zompist (www.zompist.com/kit.html)
 Youtube Channels: Artifexian, David Peterson, LangFocus, The Ling Space, NativLang, Tom Scott, The Virtual Linguistics Campus, Xidnaf