

Lucretius On The Development of Language

Post by "Godfrey" of October 23, 2019 at 8:46 PM

I'm thinking there are two issues: the issue of origin and the issue of use.

Lucretius seems to be describing origin when he speaks of the urge to communicate and debates against one person coming up with language and teaching it to others. From the origin, languages then could almost be considered like species as they would arise differently under different circumstances and continue to develop from those specific circumstances.

The issue of use is what I think Epicurus is referring to in the "first mental image" excerpt. If I may, I'd like to try to examine the subject with two specific instances to discuss, neither of which is part of the literature and both of which are contemporary to us. Question: what is your first mental image associated with

1) "door"

2) "light"