

Episode 227 - Cicero's OTNOTG - 02 - Velleius Begins His Attack On Traditional Views Of The Gods

Post by "Don" of June 10, 2024 at 11:26 PM

[Quote from Cassius](#)

If eyes are processing light and ears are processing sound, what are prolepses processing?

The subtle eidolon/films only able to be picked up by the mind?

It still seems to me that prolepseis are the mind's ability to discern patterns - a faculty of pattern recognition - from the cacophony of incoming sensations and to make sense of the senses. We're bombarded by sensations - literally swimming in an abundance of sensations. The prolepseis are the mind's ability to "make sense" of that and pick out.. "Oh, that's significant. I've sensed that pattern before. It must be important because it's repeating. It stands out from the background 'noise'." Same way for visual senses, et al. Same way for the mental sense. It seems to me that Epicurus treats the mind similar to the way he does the other sensation-sensing faculties of the body. The mind just picks up on the most subtle of eidola incoming.

[Henry George Liddell, Robert Scott, A Greek-English Lexicon, πρό-ληψις](#)

"preconception, mental picture or scheme into which experience is fitted" This would fit the idea of "pattern-recognition."

I *think* [Bryan](#) had a good list of all the -lepsis words (pro-, hypo-, etc.) and his interpretation of them.