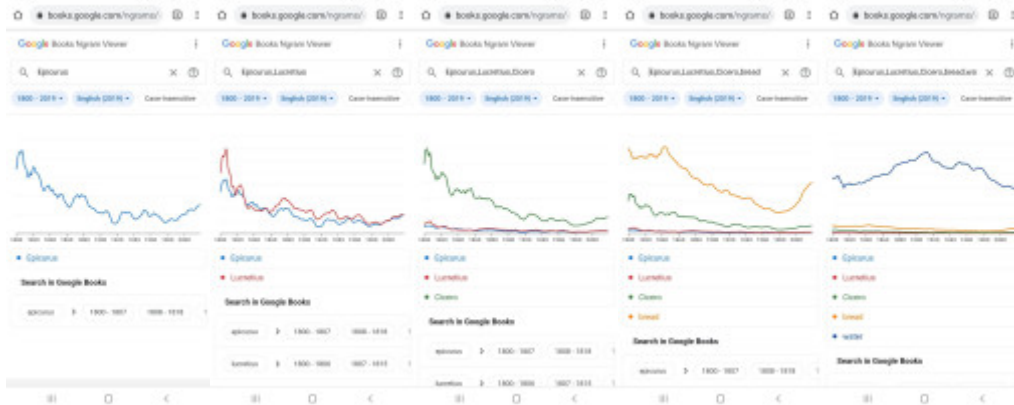


# A Sobering Look at Google Ngrams

Post by “Joshua” of February 18, 2021 at 10:32 PM

I sometimes use Google's "Ngrams" feature to dredge up old writings on Epicureanism. Today I decided to do a few comparative searches.

Here's how this works; you enter a search term, and google scans through an enormous quantity of digitized books and newspapers published over the last two hundred years. The data is then plotted on a line graph. I don't know how much we can really glean from this data, since it's plagued by inevitable errors (text-scanning a photocopy is hideously inaccurate), and also inevitable omissions and biases (presumably works still under copyright are excluded, for



Post by “Don” of February 18, 2021 at 11:01 PM



I couldn't resist 😊

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## Post by “Cassius” of February 19, 2021 at 6:35 AM

I have never heard of this -- thank you! Another sad one would probably be Epicureanism vs Stoicism.

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## Post by “Don” of February 19, 2021 at 7:46 AM

### [Quote from Cassius](#)

I have never heard of this -- thank you! Another sad one would probably be Epicureanism vs Stoicism.

I did that one but felt one depressing ngram view from me + [Joshua](#) 's was sufficient for one day 😊

Here's the direct link for anyone curious to explore <https://books.google.com/ngrams>

I will admit that it's fun to explore with that resource.

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## Post by “Don” of February 19, 2021 at 8:40 AM

I don't know what this means, but here's food for thought:

