

**From:** "jeffrey E." <jeevacation@gmail.com>

**To:** Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Re:

**Date:** Fri, 12 Aug 2016 04:06:19 +0000

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Lion over gazelle , gazelle over another animal , maybe it's gazelles all the way down

On Thursday, 11 August 2016, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Great term. Can I plagiarize it?

I guess one could say that a lion and a gazelle have competing powers, but it somehow seems misleading. All living systems? How about Valeria and I furnishing our apartment together (I became an expert on rugs)? Or Morris and I writing a book together?

Interestingly, I finished off the brisket and pretty much the corned beef but am saving the pastrami. Great mustard and bread too. The only problem is that the dog goes berserk unless I give her little pieces. Must have Jewish genes.

On Thu, Aug 11, 2016 at 9:53 PM, jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

I will now credit you with the derivation. Do a new term. - Dubes Data usage based enthusiasts

On Thursday, August 11, 2016, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Every act is is power in some small way. But the sense relevant to those who write about power -- Morgenthau, Russell, etc. -- is coercive power. Like my telling my dog right now that I can't play with her.

How about putting an animal with a human auditory and visual system in the same room as a human infant -- a chimp for example. And see if it can learn speech or sign the way the infant does. Acquisition of speech and sign are remarkably similar. And we know that even with huge training efforts, which the infant doesn't need at all, results for the chimp will be zero. But interestingly, the facts as usual have no interest to the data-processing usage-based enthusiasts.

On Thu, Aug 11, 2016 at 8:48 PM, jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

Even if far it could act as a North Star . , power has many properties those might me some . Is the ability to care for many Power? Is the ability to find new medicines power .

How about a challenge that says put a thing in a room and see if can learn a language .?

On Thursday, August 11, 2016, Noam Chomsky <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Thinking about it. Keep realizing that I'm not Hilbert, and linguistics isn't 20th century math. The exciting problems I can think of are either too far from current understanding, or too theory-internal for the general significance to be easily perceived.

Meanwhile, ran across a nice definition of "power," thinking about an earlier letter that you may have forgotten. From Hans Morgenthau: Power in the international context is "that untamed and barbaric force which finds its laws in nothing but its own strength and its sole justification in its own aggrandizement."

On Thu, Aug 11, 2016 at 8:50 AM, jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

five questions in language. the chomsky challenge. . 50k in prizes. ? use the internet to reach the brightest minds ? why not?

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