

***-ist** Runic: | ʒ ↑ Pronunciation: /ist/

suffix · forms adverbs

Function

forms the superlative of certain adverbs

Etymology

From the Proto-Indo-European formation: **-is-to-*, from an elative suffix **-yos-* ~ **-is-* + **-tó-* (Meier-Brügger 2003: 220–22). It was the inherited adverbial superlative suffix corresponding to comparative **-is* and was commonly used with adverbs based on *i-*, *u-*, and *ja-*stems. Beside it, Proto-Germanic developed **-ōst*, corresponding to comparative **-ōz*, chiefly used with adverbs derived from *a-*stem adjectives. Note that the distribution of **-ist* and **-ōst* in adverbs based on *a/ō-*stem adjectives was lexical and analogical and not fully predictable (Fulk 2018: 219–20, 239–40).

Descendants

***-ist** (Proto-West Germanic)

-ist (Old Dutch)

-st (Middle Dutch)

-st (Dutch)

***-ist** (Proto-West Germanic)

-est (Old English)

-est (Middle English)

-est (English)

-est (Scots)

***-ist** (Proto-West Germanic)

-st (Old Frisian)

-st (Saterland Frisian)

-st (West Frisian)

***-ist** (Proto-West Germanic)

-ist (Old High German)

-est (Middle High German)

-st (German)

***-ist** (Proto-West Germanic)

-ist (Old Saxon)

-est (Middle Low German)

-st (Low German)

-st (Old Norse)

-st (Danish)

-st (Faroese)

-st (Icelandic)

-st (Norwegian)

-st (Swedish)

-IST (-ist) (Gothic)

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