

***tēkana** Runic: ᚦᚲᚱᚱᚱᚱ Pronunciation: /'tɛ:.ka.nã/

verb · Strong class 7d

Meanings

1. to touch
2. to grasp; to take

Etymology

From an apparent Proto-Indo-European **deh₁g-* ('to touch'), with the only formal cognate being Tocharian B *täk-* ('to touch, feel (with the hand); to fetch'), *cešäm* ("touches; takes", 3sg.pres.). Ringe suggests that either pre-Germanic or pre-Tocharian borrowed the word from the other.

Several authors have noted the similarity of this root to Proto-Indo-European **teh₂g-* ('to touch, take (by the hand)') (whence **þakkōna* ('to touch lightly, tap'), Latin *tangō* ('I touch'), Ancient Greek *τεταγών* (*tetagōn*), but the two cannot be reconciled by traditional means, as the "unshifted" Germanic **t* is not expected to come from PIE **t* in this phonetic environment, nor should Germanic **ē* (as in the Gothic descendant only) have developed from PIE **eh₂*, and Tocharian short **ä* cannot continue PIE **eh₂* under normal conditions. However, the stop consonant in Germanic can be explained if it developed from a cluster **dg* with voicing assimilation from earlier **tg*. According to the hypothesis by Mottausch, the reduplicated form **te-th₂g-* (as in Latin *tetigi* ('have touched'), Ancient Greek *τεταγών* (*tetagōn*)) regularly lost its laryngeal in pre-Germanic, and so the resulting **te-tg-* would have required voicing assimilation to **te-dg-*, which was subsequently back-formed to **de-dg-* to restore the normal pattern of reduplication, resulting in the unshifted Germanic /t/. Additionally, the pre-form **deh₁g-* that resulted in the long vowel in Germanic can be maintained, if it is assumed that the second stop in this pre-Germanic **dedg-* underwent dissimilation to glottalic **h₁* = [ʔ]. Kroonen upholds this derivation, though he notes its great difficulties. For a partial alternative, he suggests a back-formation of **tēkana* from iterative **þakkōna* (cf. his similar derivation of **slēpana* from **slapp/bōna*).

Conjugation

Present active

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive	Imperative
1st singular	tēkō	tēkaų	—
2nd singular	tēkizi	tēkaiz	tēk
3rd singular	tēkidi	tēkai	tēkadau
1st dual	tēkōz	tēkaiw	—
2nd dual	tēkadiz	tēkaidiz	tēkadiz
1st plural	tēkamaz	tēkaim	—
2nd plural	tēkid	tēkaid	tēkid
3rd plural	tēkandi	tēkain	tēkandau

Present passive

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	tēkai	—
2nd singular	tēkazai	tēkaizau
3rd singular	tēkadai	tēkaidau
1st dual	—	—
2nd dual	—	—
1st plural	tēkandai	tēkaindau
2nd plural	tēkandai	tēkaindau
3rd plural	tēkandai	tēkaindau

Past

Person	Indicative	Subjunctive
1st singular	tetōk	tetōkĭ
2nd singular	tetōht	tetōkĭz
3rd singular	tetōk	tetōkī
1st dual	tetōkū	tetōkīw
2nd dual	tetōkudz	tetōkīdz
1st plural	tetōkum	tetōkīm
2nd plural	tetōkud	tetōkīd
3rd plural	tetōkun	tetōkīn

Non-finite Forms

Infinitive	Present Participle	Past Participle
tēkanaȝ	tēkandz	tēkanaz

Descendants

***takan** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***takan** (Old Dutch)

tāken (Middle Dutch)

taken (Dutch)

take (Limburgish)

***takan** (Proto-West Germanic)

 ***takan** (Old Saxon)

tacken, tācken (Middle Low German)

tacken (German Low German)

taka (Old Norse)

tāgǫ (Elfdalian)

taka (Faroese)

taka (Icelandic)

ta (Jamtish)

taka (Norn)

taka, ta, tåkå, tå (Norwegian Nynorsk)

taka (Old Gutnish)

taka (Old Norse)

taka, taghæ (Old Danish)

tâga (Scanian)

taka (Old Norse)

taka, taghæ (Old Danish)

tage (Danish)

ta (Norwegian Bokmål)

taka (Old Norse)

tacan (Old English)

taken (Middle English)

take (English)

tyek (Geordie)

tak, ta (Scots)

taake (Yola)

taka (Old Norse)

taka, tagha (Old Swedish)

taga, ta (Swedish)

𐌲𐌵𐌿𐌸 (**tēkan**) (Gothic)

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