

***ēnu** Runic: 𐌸𐌹𐌺 Pronunciation: /'ɛ:.nu/

preposition

Meanings

without (with accusative)

Etymology

([Dunkel 2014](#)) reconstructs Proto-Indo-European **énu* ('along, after') for Gothic, and lengthened grade **ēnu* for North and West Proto-Germanic and notes that a construction with an initial laryngeal is unnecessary. Cognate with Vedic Sanskrit अनु- (*ánu-*) (ánu-, 'after, along, alongside'), which is especially informative in its use in negative compounds, such as अनानुकृत्य (anānukṛtyá), meaning 'inimitable, unparalleled, not to be done again'. The Proto-Germanic reflexes continue a similar semantic shift from 'along/following' to a privative sense in negative constructions: 'not following, not accompanied by' → 'without'.

Descendants

ānu (Proto-West Germanic)

***āna** (Old Dutch)

ane, an, on (Middle Dutch)

ane dancs, ondancs (Middle Dutch)

ondanks (Dutch)

óndanks, óndanx (Limburgish)

ānu (Proto-West Germanic)

ōne, ōni (Old Frisian)

ānu (Proto-West Germanic)

āna, āne, āno, ānu (Old High German)

āne, ān (Middle High German)

ooni, ohni, ouni (Alemannic German)

ohne (German)

װױס (on) (Yiddish)

ānu (Proto-West Germanic)

āna, āne, āno, ānu (Old High German)

āne, ān (Middle High German)

ohne, ohni, ohnt (Central Franconian)

ouni (Luxembourgish)

ānu (Proto-West Germanic)

āno (Old Saxon)

āne (Middle Low German)

ahn (Low German)

***𐌱𐌴𐌹𐌺 (*anu)** (Proto-Norse)

án, ón (Old Norse)

ón (Faroese)

án (Icelandic)

𐌹𐌺𐌴 (inu), 𐌹𐌺𐌴𐌹 (inuh) (Gothic)

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