



Comment

Rejoinder to Daniel Everett

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My piece (Enfield 2013) wasn't a review but a commentary on what I'm reading, using Everett's book in the light of related work to articulate three fundamental questions in the anthropology of language today. The author is unhappy, but it's no good berating a commentator for representing his own view, or trying to discredit a critic by asserting that he's ignorant. Nor does it make sense to suggest that I might be unaware of the actuation problem when an entire section of my essay was devoted to it. The issue of the causal anatomy of cultural diffusion – as reviewed, for example, in Rogers' monumental *Diffusion of innovations* (2003) – is as close to settled as anything we have.

REFERENCES

- ENFIELD, N.J. 2013. Language, culture, and mind: trends and standards in the latest pendulum swing. Daniel Everett, *Language: the cultural tool*. London: Profile, 2012 [What I'm reading]. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* (N.S.) **19**, 155-69.
- ROGERS, E.M. 2003. *Diffusion of innovations* (Fifth edition). New York: Free Press.

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