

To Walter Winckler, Word Wizard

Challenging Chomsky

The Generative Garden Game

Rudolf P. Botha

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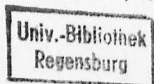
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This setting of human beings to kill one another in public, for entertainment, is by far the nastiest blood-sport ever invented.

Michael Grant, *Gladiators*, p. 8

‘I was hoping that you, at least, would understand the appeal of the thing [i.e., the pitting of man against man in a maze]’, he said at length. ‘However . . .’ He paused again. ‘To be honest,’ he went on slowly, ‘I’m not sure I wholly understand – myself – the deep attraction of the Game . . . I suppose the Game gives us the feeling of getting close to the roots of our profession . . . getting down to the fundamentals. . . .’

Jon Manchip White, *The Garden Game*, p. 102

The perceived need to outdo Chomsky has led him to be the most attacked linguist in history.

Newmeyer, ‘Has there been a “Chomskyan revolution” in linguistics?’

Chomsky has rarely been defeated in argument on his own ground . . .

Gardner, *The Mind’s New Science*, p. 214

The first essay [in *Rules and Representations*] and indeed much of the book provides us with critical examples illustrating the subtly controlled aggressive component of Chomsky’s rhetoric and style . . .

Brame, ‘Universal word induction vs Move α ’

Bloodsports, it is generally believed, are on the wane. But not so The Generative Garden Game.

Anonymous





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