

Ob-sub-jectives

Just to shed some light on jectives i.e. ob-jectum and sub-jectum:

If by *ob-jective* one means “considered in relation to its object”, and *ob-ject* means “something perceived or presented to the senses” then the some-thing is the *ob-jectum* as the “thing put before the mind or sight”, which involves the action of *obicere* (*ob-jacere*) in the meaning “presenting the thing” (*objectum*), or even opposing it or “casting in the way of”, or simply then as throwing against (the perceiving mind).

But note that here it is *not* the perceiving mind that does the job but the very thing being perceived!

With the same rationale one can link *sub-jective* to the idea of “throwing under”, or “placing under”, or simply being under the influence of.

And what might this “of” refer to? It is the very phenomenon being observed, that is perceived, the ob-ject being thrown against the perceiving mind.

Thus, ob-ject and sub-ject are related and not irreducibly made different and separated as the contemporary meanings want us to believe: one can say that *the object subjects*.

Note that for an irreducible difference between them to operate there need not be related at all: absolute difference or rather indifference between them, which would render the very idea of *science* (to cut, to divide, to distinguish) obsolete!

DrZ (26.10.2009)