



## **Heka** ḥkꜣ (Egyptian magic)

Ritual language that followed prescribed formulae and that was uttered by someone of moral authority was said to be *heka* in ancient Egyptian liturgical contexts. *Heka* words ‘magically’ bring about the realities of which they speak and they are characterized as divine language. The magical efficacy of *heka* utterances lay in their conformity to what was seen as the ordained natures and true names of things [see *maat*].

**Kevin DeLapp**

### **Literature:**

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