The picture on the cover consists of two lines. The underlying grey line depicts the tongue in rest position, and its assumed subparts (from left to right): the tip, the blade, the tongue middle, and the tongue back. This and the movements on these subparts on the vertical axis are given again in the following figure, from my dissertation (Hamann 2003: 162, Fig. 5.10):

On top of this grey line is a black line, which illustrates the tongue position during a retroflex articulation: a raised (and slightly retracted) tongue tip, which requires a slightly raised blade, a lowered tongue middle and a retracted (and/or raised) tongue back (Hamann 2003: 164, Fig. 5.11).

N.B. Some incorrect guesses by colleagues, friends, family were:
- two worms
- a degenerate chromosome
- an instruction for an exercise
- a camel standing up and bending down to drink
- an emu