

(Q) Relatively Speaking (1/2) [15 Points]

Niuean is a Polynesian language spoken by nearly 8,000 people around the world. It is the official language of Niue, a self-governing island in the Pacific, although most speakers of Niuean live in other countries, such as New Zealand.

Below are some sentences in Niuean. For each one, we have also listed one possible translation into English; some sentences have additional possible translations that are not shown. Note that **ā** and **ū** are long vowels, and that **g** represents the *ng* sound in *sing*.

Niuean	English
1 Kua kai noa a au.	<i>I have only eaten.</i>
2 Kua fai fakatino foki ne tā e ia.	<i>There have also been pictures that he drew.</i>
3 Muhu moa tūmau.	<i>There are always plenty of birds.</i>
4 Ne fai faiaoga e kāmuta.	<i>The carpenter had teachers.</i>
5 Kua kitia e ia a au.	<i>He has seen me.</i>
6 To kai he moa ka holoholo e au e ika.	<i>The bird that I will wash will eat the fish.</i>
7 Ne totou a Sione.	<i>Sione read.</i>
8 Tā tūmau e Mele e fakatino.	<i>Mele is always drawing the picture.</i>
9 Ne kai e ika ne takafaga he tama	<i>The fish that the child caught ate.</i>
10 To holoholo foki he tama e vaka ne tā he kāmuta.	<i>The child will also wash the canoe that the carpenter built.</i>
11 To muhu ika a Mele.	<i>Mele will have plenty of fish.</i>
12 Muhu tama foki e faiaoga ka kitia he moa.	<i>The teacher also has plenty of children that the bird will see.</i>
13 Fai vaka a Sione ne holoholo e au.	<i>Sione has canoes that I washed.</i>

Q1. Translate the following sentences into English. For sentence (c), there are two possible translations; give them both.

(a) **Fai moa noa.**

(b) **Kua holoholo foki he faiaoga ne takafaga e au a ia.**

(c) **To muhu vaka e tama ka holoholo he moa.**



(Q) Relatively Speaking (2/2)

Q2. Translate the following sentences into Niuean.

(a) *He will also read.*

(b) *Sione has only had fish that the teacher will eat.*

(c) *The teacher that Mele saw built the canoe.*

(d) *There have always been plenty of carpenters.*

Q3. Describe what you have observed about Niuean grammar from the data in this problem.

