

# Twenty-first International Linguistics Olympiad

Brasília (Brazil), 23–31 July 2024

## Individual Contest Solutions

### Problem 1. Structure of the verb form:

1. subject (t- 1st person sg, mət- 1st person du/1st person pl, Ø- 2nd person sg, ne- 3rd person du=3rd person pl)
2. ə materialises here if and only if needed to avoid a cluster of two consonants word-initially or word-finally, or a cluster of three consonants in any position.
3. tense (ku- present, je- future, Ø- past)
4. ine-: direct object = 1st person sg (subject = 2nd person du/2nd person pl)
5. verb root
6. -la: subject/direct object = 1st person pl/2nd person pl
7. tense (-ŋ present/future, -Ø past)
8. ə materialises here if and only if needed to avoid a cluster of two consonants word-initially or word-finally, or a cluster of three consonants in any position.
9. -tək: subject = 2nd person du/2nd person pl (direct object = 1st person sg);  
direct object (-tək 2nd person du/2nd person pl, -n 3rd person sg, -net 3rd person du, -new 3rd person pl)

### Sound changes:

1. the final vowel of a prefix is lost before another vowel;
2. t+j > cc, t+l > ll, t+n > nn, t+ŋ > ŋŋ;
3. if a is present, all e/i/u in the word become a/e/o, respectively.

- |     |     |   |                                     |
|-----|-----|---|-------------------------------------|
| (a) | 19. | kulleŋən  | you <sub>(sg)</sub> lead him        |
|     | 20. | jinejgun̄tək                                      | you <sub>(du)</sub> will bite me    |
|     | 21. | tekminnew   | I caught them <sub>(pl)</sub>       |
|     | 22. | təjohallaŋtək                                     | I will wait for you <sub>(pl)</sub> |
|     | 23. | mətkonŋevlaŋən                                    | we <sub>(pl)</sub> send him         |
| (b) | 24. | you <sub>(sg)</sub> will see them <sub>(du)</sub> | jelhuŋnet                           |
|     | 25. | we <sub>(pl)</sub> bit him                        | mətəjgolan                          |
|     | 26. | you <sub>(pl)</sub> catch me                      | kenakmellaŋtək                      |
|     | 27. | they send you <sub>(du)</sub>                     | nekunŋivŋətək                       |
|     | 28. | you <sub>(du)</sub> led me                        | inelletək                           |