

Ninth International Olympiad in Linguistics  
Pittsburgh (United States of America), July 24–31, 2011

Individual Contest Solutions

**Problem #1.** The Menominee verb forms have the following structure:

<b>ne-</b> I <b>ke-</b> we <sub>1+2</sub> <b>—</b> he	<b>kaw</b> down <b>ket</b> out <b>kēsk</b> through <b>pahk</b> off <b>pāhk</b> open <b>pīt</b> hither <b>taw</b> pierce <b>wack</b> around <b>wāp</b> begin	<b>-āhpe</b> laughing <b>-ānæhkæ</b> digging <b>-eqta</b> — <b>-ohnæ</b> walking	<b>-m</b> I <b>-q</b> we <sub>1+2</sub> <b>-w</b> he
intransitive verb:			
transitive verb:			
<b>-ah</b> by tool <b>-aht</b> by mouth <b>-en</b> by hand <b>-es</b> cutting			
<b>-an</b> I <b>-æq</b> we <sub>1+2</sub> <b>-am</b> he			

If both first vowels in the word are short, the second becomes long (**e** > **āe**).

- (a) • **kekēskahæq**: we<sub>1+2</sub> chop it through, break it through by tool
  - **nepāhkenan**:
    - I open, uncover it by hand ( $\sqrt{\text{pāhk}}$ ),
    - I break it off, tear it off by hand ( $\sqrt{\text{pahk}}$ )
  - **wāpāhpew**: he begins laughing
- (b) • I begin to eat it: **newāepahtan**
  - we<sub>1+2</sub> lay it flat by hand: **kekāwenæq**
  - he digs a hole: **tawānæhkæw**
  - he walks out: **ketōhnæw**

**Problem #2.**

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|--|---|
| (a) <b>bøga</b> [bø:va]<br><b>knoðar</b> [knor:ar]<br><b>kvøða</b> [kvø:a]<br><b>løgur</b> [lø:vur]<br><b>plága</b> [pløava]<br><b>skaði</b> [skeají]<br><b>toygur</b> [tɔijur]<br><b>trúgi</b> [trøuwi] | (b) In the first syllable <b>a</b> [ɛa], <b>á</b> [ɔa], <b>e</b> [e:], <b>ei</b> [ai], <b>ey</b> [ei], <b>i</b> [i:], <b>o</b> [o:], <b>oy</b> [ɔi], <b>ó</b> [ɔu], <b>u</b> [u:], <b>ú</b> [u:], <b>ø</b> [ø:].  Between vowels <b>ð</b> = <b>g</b> . The first applicable rule is applied: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>ð/g</b> [w]   [u(:)] __;</li> <li>2. <b>ð/g</b> [j]   [i(:)] __ or __ [i(:)];</li> <li>3. <b>ð/g</b> [v]   __ [u(:)];</li> <li>4. <b>ð/g</b> [v] in a noun, [Ø] in a verb.</li> </ol> |
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**Problem #3.** Rules:

1. Adjectives follow their nouns.
2. A noun (or the adjective if there is one) gets the marker -é, unless it is inalienably possessed (body part, kinship term); in the latter case it is preceded by the possessor.
3. Alienable possession is expressed by á between the possessor and the possessed.
4. In compound nouns the last syllable has low tone (“˘”).

- (a) mÙsÙé á gbòmÙé: the woman’s fish  
     léj kÙndÚé á nyÌmÌé: the short child’s snake  
     gbòmÙ-lÈndÈ kÙndÚé: the short boat
- (b) kÁndò-lÈndÈ lÒdÉ: the small airplane
- (c) the eagle’s snake: kòánjàé á nyÌmÌé  
     the small child’s eye: léj lÒdÉ já  
     the tall man’s sister: kÀí jÀgÉ lÒd-mÙsÙ  
     the small baby-snake: nyÌmÌ-lÈnÉ lÒdÉ

**Problem #4.** In compound nouns the left-hand part modifies the right-hand one. A noun gets the ending *-tl/li* unless it has one of the suffixes *-capil* (dimin.), *-huah* ‘one who has ...’, *-tlah/lah* ‘place of many ...’, or *-tzintli* ‘revered ...’ (*-li* and *-lah* after *l*, otherwise *-tl* and *-tlah*).

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|-----|---|---|--|
| (a) | <i>a-cal-huah</i>                         | canoe owner ( <i>a-cal-li</i> canoe, “water house”) |  |
|     | <i>a-chil-li</i>                          | water pepper  |  |
|     | <i>a-tl</i>                               | water   |  |
|     | <i>cal-lah</i>                            | village   |  |
|     | <i>cal-huah</i>                           | master of house                                     |  |
|     | <i>chil-a-tl</i>                          | chili water   |  |
|     | <i>chil-li</i>                            | chili   |  |
|     | <i>col-li</i>                             | grandfather/ancestor                                |  |
|     | <i>col-tzintli</i>                        | revered grandfather/ancestor                        |  |
|     | <i>cone-huah</i>                          | mother, “one who has child(ren)”                    |  |
|     | <i>cone-huah-capil</i>                    | mom(my)   |  |
|     | <i>cone-tl</i>                            | child   |  |
|     | <i>oquich-cone-tl</i>                     | boy, male child                                     |  |
|     | <i>oquich-huah</i>                        | wife, “one who has a husband”                       |  |
|     | <i>oquich-totol-tzintli</i>               | revered turkey-cock                                 |  |
|     | <i>te-huah</i>                            | possessor of stones                                 |  |
|     | <i>te-tlah</i>                            | stony ground  |  |
|     | <i>totol-te-tl</i>                        | turkey egg  |  |
| (b) | house: <i>calli</i>                       | stone: <i>tetl</i>                                  | possessor of water: <i>ahuah</i>         |
|     | revered man/husband: <i>oquichtzintli</i> |   |  |
| (c) | <i>cacahua-tl</i> : cocoa                 |   | <i>cacahua-te-tl</i> : cocoa bean        |
|     | <i>cacahua-a-tl</i> : cocoa drink         |   | <i>cacahua-huah</i> : possessor of cocoa |