

# (O) Don't Sell the House! (1/2)

This problem involves the Nung language of northeastern Vietnam, spoken by about a million people and related to the Thai, Lao, Isan, Shan, and Zhuang languages of Southeast Asia in the Tai-Kadai family. It is not related to Chinese, Vietnamese, Khmer, Hmong, Malay, or Burmese, so far as we know. In this problem, the Nùng Phạn Slinh variety of Nung will be used. In Nùng Phạn Slinh as seen here, word order is fixed: that is, for every sentence containing certain words, there is only one way to properly order those words.

Here is a list of sentences in Nung and their English translations. Find the sentences without English or Nung equivalents and write down the missing translation on the next page. Note: The marks above vowels indicate tone and the length of the vowel. đ and sl are consonants. You do not need to know how to pronounce Nung in order to solve the problem.

Nung	English
Cáu ca vǚhn nhahng kíhn.	I was about to continue to eat it.
Cáu cháhn slòng páy mi?	Do I truly want to go?
Cáu mi slày kíhn.	I don't have to eat it.
Cáu ngám hěht pehn té.	I did it like that just now.
Cáu tan đohc hǎhn mưhng.	I only saw you.
Cáu vǚhn nhahng bô sạhm tǎhng hěht hơn.	I also continue to build the house alone.
Da kíhn!	Don't eat it!
Da khái hơn!	Don't sell the house!
Mưhn chóng ca cháhn fải khái.	Then she truly was about to have to sell it.
Mưhn mi cháhn đày non.	She truly can't sleep.
Mưhn náhc-thày chóng bô sạhm kíhn.	Then she also just previously ate it.
Mưhng náhc-thày slòng tǎhng páy.	You wanted to go alone just previously.

- O1. Cáu cháhn đày non.
- O2. Da páy non!
- O3. Mưhn bô sạhm mi slòng hěht hơn mi?
- O4. Mưhn ngám bô sạhm páy hơn.
- O5. I wasn't about to eat it just previously.
- O6. She didn't have to eat it alone like that just now.
- O7. The house truly can't eat you.
- O8. Then were you also about to go just previously?



## (O) Don't Sell the House! (2/2)

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