

(F) The Wiles of Reptiles (1/3) [15 Points]

Here are eight sentences in Dime.¹ The first seven are given along with their English translations.

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| 1. <i>guurafis kénim šuiftin</i> | The crocodiles deceived them. |
| 2. <i>ʔaté goštú gúdúmubim ʔóllóχ kúbit</i> | I carried a tall man slowly. |
| 3. <i>wúdúr čək'k'ind s'áámisim yefin</i> | A small girl saw the eagle. |
| 4. <i>guuru bášmubis ʔeftafim gáʔin</i> | The fearful crocodile bit birds. |
| 5. <i>zimaʔ daxidis zití s'anubim ʔóllóχ maddin</i> | The strong chiefs helped a black ox quickly. |
| 6. <i>kété ʔámzi kitimindim kóχin</i> | They loved a selfish woman. |
| 7. <i>goštáf koχsimid s'ááme koχsimubisim šiʔin</i> | Pleasant men washed the pleasant eagle. |
| 8. <i>ʔámzaf gúdúmidis zime bášmubim kúbin</i> | |

Notes:

In this problem, an accent above a vowel (e.g., in “kété”) indicates that the vowel has high tone. Unmarked vowels have low tone. A consonant or vowel written twice in a row (e.g., in “guurafis”) is pronounced for a longer time by the speaker. An apostrophe following a consonant (e.g., in “s'anubim”) indicates that the consonant is pronounced ejectivesly (i.e., with air pressure produced in the throat instead of the lungs).

F1. Translate the eighth sentence into English:

The six sentences below were uttered by a linguist who had been trying to learn Dime. Unfortunately, only three of them were fully understood by native speakers; the other three were deemed incorrect, meaning they contained mistakes or were not understood at all.

F2. For each of the following six sentences, choose from the options provided to convert it into a grammatically correct Dime sentence. (Remember that three of the sentences are already grammatically correct — for these three sentences, you should choose option W.) For every sentence, only one option will successfully produce a grammatically correct sentence. Circle the correct option.

F3. Translate the corrected versions (or the original versions, for the sentences that were already correct) of the following six sentences into English. Write your translation in the box below each set of options.

¹ Dime is an Afroasiatic language spoken in Ethiopia. Estimates of the number of speakers of Dime vary from a few hundred, on the low end, up to a few thousand; all studies agree, however, that the number of speakers is decreasing, and the language is threatened with extinction. Dime speakers live in a series of farming communities located along a mountain range and have relatively little contact with outside groups. The speakers are skilled metal producers, with techniques for extracting and smelting ores forming an important part of their traditional cultural knowledge.



(F) The Wiles of Reptiles (2/3)

(a) *ʔaté s'ááme s'anubim kóχin*

- W. The sentence is correct as is (change nothing).
- X. Change “*kóχin*” to “*kóχit*”.
- Y. Change “*s'anubim*” to “*s'anudim*”.
- Z. Change “*s'ááme*” to “*s'áámaj*”.

Translation:

(b) *wúdúraf gúdúmid zime kitimubisim ʔóllóχ šuiŋtin*

- W. The sentence is correct as is (change nothing).
- X. Change “*wúdúraf gúdúmid*” to “*wúdúrid gúdúmaj*”.
- Y. Change “*šuiŋtin*” to “*šuiŋtit*”.
- Z. Change “*ʔóllóχ*” to “*ʔámzi*”.

Translation:

(c) *goštú zitáfisim koχsim yefin*

- W. The sentence is correct as is (change nothing).
- X. Change “*goštú zitáfisim*” to “*goštáfis zitáfid*”.
- Y. Change “*zitáfisim*” to “*zitidim*”.
- Z. Change “*zitáfisim koχsim*” to “*zitáf koχsimidisim*”.

Translation:

(d) *wúdúris guuru s'anisubim maddin*

- W. The sentence is correct as is (change nothing).
- X. Change “*s'anisubim*” to “*s'anindisim*”.
- Y. Change “*s'anisubim*” to “*s'anubisim*”.
- Z. Change “*s'anisubim*” to “*s'anisim*”.

Translation:



(F) The Wiles of Reptiles (3/3)

(e) *goštú čək'k'ubis kénim šiʔin*

- W. The sentence is correct as is (change nothing).
- X. Change “čək'k'ubis kénim” to “čək'k'im kété”.
- Y. Change “goštú čək'k'ubis” to “goštaf čək'k'idis”.
- Z. Change “šiʔin” to “šiʔit”.

Translation:

(f) *kété s'áame bášmubisim ʔólóχ gáʔin*

- W. The sentence is correct as is (change nothing).
- X. Change “ʔólóχ” to “ʔámzi”.
- Y. Change “s'áame” to “s'áámim”.
- Z. Change “bášmubisim” to “bášmidisim”.

Translation:

