

(Q) What to Wear? (1/2) [5 Points]

Muklom is a language spoken by a few thousand people in Northeast India, a linguistic hotspot that harbors languages from four different families: Sino-Tibetan, Austroasiatic, Tai-Kadai, and Indo-European. Muklom belongs to the Sino-Tibetan family.

The Muklom people have a rich mythology and oral history that has been transmitted from generation to generation in spoken form and in songs. The language has not historically been written. Or, according to the traditional stories, the ancestors of the Muklom people actually did once have a writing system and they wrote their stories on animal skins; however, one time, when the ancestors were very hungry, they ate all the skins so that nothing remained of the written language. Since there is no standardized writing system for Muklom, the examples below are presented using a preliminary spelling.

Below are some sentences in Muklom, with their English translations (given in order). Study these examples and then answer the questions on the next page. See the end of the problem for pronunciation notes.

	Muklom	English
1	khat sàa nang aa.	She wears a skirt.
2	níing kho pok pok aa.	She wears their hat.
3	khat sam koq i.	We give a blanket.
4	kho pok pok aa.	She wears a hat.
5	baa naa tsong tsong aa.	She wears your(singular) earrings.
6	í khat sam huq aa.	She steals our blanket.
7	naa tsong hún aa.	She makes earrings.
8	khat sam sám aa.	She wears a blanket.
9	i kho pok qhat aa.	My hat falls down.
10	khat sàa qhot ang.	I wash a skirt.
11	jàa qhòng bì íin.	You(plural) search for shoes.
12	naa tsong tsong aa.	She wears earrings.
13	nìim jàa qhòng kap aa.	She finds your(plural) shoes.
14	u khat sàa lak chak aa.	She forgets her skirt.
15	kho pok rí u.	You(singular) buy a hat.
16	jàa qhòng qhòng aa.	She wears shoes.



(Q) What to Wear? (2/2)

Q1. Fill in the blank cells in the following table:

	Muklom	English
17	jàa qhòng qhòng ang.	(a)
18	u kho pok pok u.	(b)
19	í jàa qhòng kap íin.	(c)
20	baa kho pok lak chak u.	(d)
21	(e)	Your(singular) hat falls down.
22	(f)	We buy your(singular) earrings.
23	(g)	I forget our shoes.
24	(h)	I forget my shoes.

Pronunciation notes:

- The letter **q** is pronounced as a glottal stop, the sound in the middle of English *uh oh*
- The combination **qh** is pronounced like the last two letters in the name of the composer Bach in German
- The accents on the Muklom words represent different tones—put simply, the accent [´] stands for a high pitched syllable, and [`] stands for a low pitched syllable.

