

Problem 4 (20 marks)

To Xenia Guiliarova

Below you see phrases in the Yoruba language⁴ (in phonetic transcription) and their literal English translations:

1. [aʒɔ ɔkɔ] the husband's dog
2. [ìlé elu] the stranger's city
3. [igi ìyá] the mother's tree
4. [ɔka àjé] the witch's husband
5. [ìfó owó] the love of money
6. [ɛbó ori] the vicinity of the head (*i.e., near the head*)
7. [iyá ale] the house's mother (*i.e., mistress of the house, elder wife*)
8. [àjé èlú] the city's witch (*i.e., the city witch*)
9. [àké egi] the axe of the tree (*i.e., a wooden axe*)
10. [owó ole] the money of the house (*i.e., rent*)
11. [ìlú ùfé] the city of love
12. [orá aʒá] the dog's head
13. [igo ɔkɔ] the husband's tree

Assignment 1. Translate into English:

14. [owá àké]
15. [ɛbá àlú]
16. [ɔkɔ òyá]
17. [aʒé elu]

Assignment 2. Translate into Yoruba:

18. the head of the tree (*i.e., the top of the tree*)
19. the witch's city
20. the house of love (*venue of the creation of the first human beings in Yoruba mythology*)
21. the husband's axe

Note. ɿ and y are specific consonants, ε and ɔ are specific vowels of the Yoruba language (similar to e and o, respectively). The marks «'» and «`» indicate the so-called tones (a higher or lower level of the voice during the pronunciation of the syllable).

⁴ The *Yoruba* language belongs to the Kwa branch of the Niger-Congo language family. It is spoken by more than 20 million people in Nigeria and the neighbouring countries.