

Problem 4

The modifier (the possessor) follows the head (the possessed) in the Yoruba phrases. If the second word begins with i, this sound assimilates to the final vowel of the first word, whatever it is; if the second word does not begin with i but rather with another vowel (a, ε, e, o, ɔ), the final vowel of the first word assimilates to this sound. All tones remain intact.

(No word ever begins with u in Standard Yoruba; in those dialects where initial u does occur, however, it behaves exactly as i.)

Assignment 1.

[owá àké]	the money of the axe <i>(i.e., the price of the axe)</i>	[ɔkɔ òyá]	the mother's husband
[èbá àlú]	the vicinity of the city <i>(i.e., near the city)</i>	[aʃé elu]	the stranger's dog

Assignment 2.

the head of the tree	[orí igi]	the witch's city	[ìlá àʃé]
the house of love	[ìlé èfɛ]	the husband's axe	[àkó ɔkɔ]