

Nineteenth International Linguistics Olympiad

Castletown (Isle of Man), 25–29 July 2022

Individual Contest Problems

Rules for writing out the solutions

Do not copy the problems. Write down your solution to each problem on a separate sheet or sheets. On each sheet indicate the number of the problem and your surname. If you do not do this, your work may be mislaid or misattributed.

Unless stated differently, you should describe any patterns or rules that you identified in the data. Otherwise your solution will not be awarded full marks.

Problem 1 (20 points). Here are some forms of the Ubykh verb *to give* and their English translations:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| 1. wəš'tʷən | — | <i>we give you_{sg} to him</i> |
| 2. sawtʷən | — | <i>you_{sg} give me to them</i> |
| 3. awəstʷən | — | <i>I give them to you_{sg}</i> |
| 4. wəsənətʷən | — | <i>they give you_{sg} to me</i> |
| 5. šʷəstʷən | — | <i>I give you_{pl} to him</i> |
| 6. š'antʷən | — | <i>he gives us to them</i> |
| 7. awəš'tʷən | — | <i>we give him to you_{sg}</i> |
| 8. səš'əntʷən | — | <i>he gives me to you_{pl}</i> |
| 9. aš'əstʷən | — | <i>I give him to you_{pl}</i> |

(a) The last of the nine forms above can actually be translated into English in two ways. What is its other translation?

(b) Translate into English:

10. **aš'əntʷən**
11. **səš'əntʷən**
12. **š'əwənətʷən**

(c) Translate into Ubykh:

13. *they give you_{pl} to me*
14. *you_{pl} give him to me*
15. *you_{sg} give us to him*
16. *we give you_{sg} to them*
17. *he gives them to us*

△ Ubykh belongs to the Abkhaz–Adyghe family. Until 1864, several tens of thousands of people spoke it in the area of the present-day city of Sochi, Russia. Tevfik Eseng, who was considered the last fully proficient native speaker of Ubykh, died in Turkey in 1992.

ə is a vowel; š', šʷ, tʷ are consonants.

—Peter Arkadiev