

Problem 2

We can see from the statement of the problem that some things named by one English word take a two-word phrase to say in Lango. Let us try to represent the English nouns as phrases, too, or better, as combinations of meanings. Thus the meaning 'house' is contained in the concepts *roof*, *floor* and *restaurant*, 'top' or 'head' in *roof* and *hat*, 'bottom' in *floor* and *sole*; furthermore *hat* contains the meaning of *garment*, and *eyeball*, perhaps, of *grain*.

We also determine the order of the words in the Lango phrases: possessed+possessor (hat = gìn wìc 'garment of the head' but roof = wìc òt 'head of the house').

Assignment 1. dyè òt – floor ('bottom of house'), dyè tyèn – sole of foot ('bottom of foot'), gìn – garment, gìn wìc – hat ('garment of head'), níg – grain, níg wàṅ – eyeball ('grain of eye'), òt cèm – restaurant ('house of eating'), wìc òt – roof ('head of house').

Assignment 2. cèm – eating, dyè – bottom.

Assignment 3. window – wàṅ òt (*lit.* 'eye of the house').

Problem 3

The Mansi numerals are formed as follows:

5	at	50	atlow
6	xōt	60	xōtlow
8	ńollow	80	ńolsāt
9	ontɔllow	90	ontɔlsāt
10+α	α-xujplow	100α	α-sāt
10(β-1)+α	(10β) norɔl α	100(β-1)+α	(100β)-n α
90+α	90 α	900+α	900 α

(In fact both the function word norɔl and the ending -n mean 'towards': 49 atlow norɔl ontɔllow is literally 'nine (on the way) towards fifty'.)

Assignment 1. atsātn at – 405, ńolsāt norɔl xōt – 76, ontɔllowsātn ontɔllowxujplow – 819.

Assignment 2. 58 – xōtlow norɔl ńollow, 80 – ńolsāt, 716 – ńollowsātn xōtxujplow.