

zi	ži	yi
'it is yellow'		'it is brown'
	m <sup>i</sup> niža	m <sup>i</sup> niya
	'it is curled but can be smoothed again'	'it is shrunk permanently'
g <sup>e</sup> leza	▲ -----	g <sup>e</sup> leya
'it is ruled:    '		'it is striped:    '
		Nuya
		'it is hard and immovable (e.g. a gnarl on a tree)'
	šli	
	'thick liquid is being squeezed out'	
k'eza		k'eya
	p <sup>h</sup> ešniža	

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The words in each pair or triple are close in meaning but have the following property: as we proceed to the right in this table (and the farther from the fore-part of the mouth are pronounced the fricative consonants of the word), the higher in quantity or degree is some parameter: more sounds, darker colour, more serious damages, wider stripes.

#### Assignment 1.

- 'it has a slight bruise' and 'it is fractured' are similar to 'it is badly bruised' (šuža), but the damage is less serious in the former and more serious in the latter (suža and xuya, respectively).
- 'surface is in a scratched condition' and 'the surface is in a scraped condition' make a pair (k'eza and k'eya, respectively).
- 'it sparks' is translated by process of elimination (p<sup>h</sup>ešniža).

**Assignment 2.** 'a thin liquid is being squeezed out' is *sli*; 'it is soft and movable (e.g. an enlarged gland under the skin)' and 'it is semi-hard and movable (e.g. a cartilage)' are *nuža* and *nuža*, respectively; 'it is red hot' is p<sup>h</sup>exniya, 'it is branching into several directions' is *yata* (there is more branching than if something forks into two parts).

**Assignment 3.** 'it is brown and yellow (dark yellow, tawny)'.

#### Problem No.5

It is easy to note that the left column lists only intransitive verbs and the right column only transitive ones. If a verb in the left column means 'X', its counterpart in the right column means 'to cause X' (i.e. it expresses a so-called causative meaning). Apparently, the Chuvash verbs in each pair have the same root, but one cannot determine which of the two verbs is primary and which is derived from the primary verb using a suffix: in some pairs, the intransitive verb is shorter, and in others the other way round. If one admitted truncations, one would have to formulate rules with exceptions. Consider e.g. the verbs *čühen* and *vëren*, which have the same structure, but different behaviour: one is truncated to form the transitive verb (*čühe*), the other is constructed using a suffix (*verent*).

One may assume that the given pairs of verbs are different: in some cases, the intransitive verb is formed from the corresponding transitive one (e.g. *čühen* from *čühe*), in others, the reverse is true: the transitive verb is formed from the corresponding intransitive one (e.g. *verent* from *vëren*). Let us determine which suffixes are used in both cases:

- 1) When the intransitive verb is formed from the transitive one, the *-ăn/-ăn* suffix is used if the initial verb ends with a consonant, and the *-n* suffix is used if the initial verb ends with a vowel.
- 2) When the transitive verb is formed from the intransitive one, the *-ar/-er* suffix is used if the initial verb ends with an obstruent consonant (*ç, t, k*), or *-t* suffix if the initial verb ends with a resonant consonant (*n, r*) or a vowel (so-called dissimilation of consonants).

The choice of the vowel in the suffixes depends on the vowels of the root. If the root has back vowels (*a, ă, u, y*), then the suffix also has a back vowel (*a, ă*); if the root has front vowels (*e, ă, ü, i*), then the suffix also has a front vowel (*e, ă*). This is the so-called vowel harmony.

Finally, we have to determine when the intransitive verb is initial and the transitive verb is derived, and when the reverse is true.. However, no dependence either on the sounds of the word or on its meaning can be found. Hence, in some cases one cannot fill in the gaps univocally: e.g. *pytar* may be a form of a verb *pyt* as well as an initial verb, from which a transitive verb *pytarăn* is derived.

**Assignment.** In cases when it is impossible to re-establish the Chuvash form univocally using the material of the problem alone, both options are given, and the first one is always the real form existing in the language.

Aman	to be crippled	amant	to cripple
Aptra	to suffer	<b>aptrat</b>	to torment
Avăn	to be flexible	av	to bend
Çět	to get lost	çêter	to lose
Çit	to reach	<b>çiter</b>	to lead
čühen	<b>to be rinsed</b>	čühe	to rinse
hupăn	<b>to be closed</b>	<b>hup / hupănt</b>	to close
hurăn	to lie ( <i>e.g. on the table</i> )	hur	to lay ( <i>e.g. something on the table</i> )
kaç	to move ( <i>e.g. from one flat to another</i> )	<b>kaçar</b>	to transport
kăvakar	to become blue	kăvakart	to make blue
kuç	to migrate	kuçar	to resettle
puçtarăn	to get together	puçtar	to gather
shăn	<b>to be frozen</b>	shănt	to put on ice
taptan	to be trampled	tapta	to trample down
tupăn	to be found	tup	to find
uçăn	to be revealed	uç	to reveal
ük	<b>to fall</b>	üker	to drop
vacka	to be in a hurry	vackat	to precipitate
varalan	to be smirched	varala	to besmirch
věre	to be boiling	věret	to boil ( <i>e.g. water</i> )
věren	to learn	verent	to teach
vitěn	to be covered	vit	to cover