

Round 2 2013

1. Deer Father [10 marks]

The following is a poem by the Peruvian poet Sisku Apu Rimac (“Sisco who talks to the spirits”). Apu Rimac wrote in both Spanish and in his native language, Quechua. Varieties of Quechua are spoken by roughly 10 million people in the Andes mountains of Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia. Like the traditional poems and song lyrics that served as Apu Rimac’s inspiration, his poetry is frequently melancholy and mournful, and common themes include yearning for a lost love and the nostalgia of urban Quechua for their mountain homelands.

We have taken the eight couplets from the Quechua version of the poem, on the right, and scrambled them into a random order. (Note: *Vicunya*, *kule*, and *puku* are kinds of animal.)

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|---|---|
| 1. For what, God,
Did you create my suffering? | A. Kule kuleq thapanpichus
Taytallayri churyawarqa |
| 2. Did you never know
What happiness is? | B. Kunan kuna waqanaypaq
Urqun qasan purinaypaq |
| 3. Maybe in the nest of the pukus
My dear mother gave birth to me. | C. Wikunyachus mamay karqa
Tarukachus taytay karqa |
| 4. Maybe in the cradle of the kules
My dear father engendered me | D. Manataqchu yacharqanki
Imaynas kawka kayta |
| 5. Like the poor puku
I endure the cold winds. | E. Imapaqmi Apu Tayta
Nyak'ariyta kamarqanki |
| 6. Or the poor kule
I cry as I suffer. | F. Puku unya hina
Chiri wayra muchunaypaq |
| 7. Perhaps my mother was a vicunya;
Perhaps my father was a deer; | G. Puku pukuq qesanpichus
Mamallayri wachawarqa |
| 8. And for these reasons I cry
while I wander through the highlands. | H. Kule unya kaqla
Nyak'arispa waqanaypaq |

Questions

1.1. Match the Quechua couplets A-H with their English translations 1-8.

1.2. How would you say the following in Quechua?

- a. poor b. suffer c. mother d. deer

1.3. What part of a word in a Quechua sentence marks the sentence as:

- a. uncertain or merely a possibility?
b. referring to the present?

1.4. What does *Apu Tayta* mean?

1. Deer father (Answer sheet)

1. Deer father (solutions and marking)

1.1: 1 point for each pair [8]

1.2: 1 point for each word [4]

1.3: 1 point for each word-part [2]

1.4: 1 point [1]

Total: 15 points