

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*, *o*), 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.e., the price of the axe)	[oko òyá]	the mother's husband
[èbá àlú]	the vicinity of the city (i.e., near the city)	[aǵé elu]	the stranger's dog

Assignment 2.

the head of the tree	[orí igi]	the witch's city	[ìlá àǵé]
the house of love	[ìlé èfé]	the husband's axe	[àkó oko]