

Problem #4 (20 points). One linguist decided to write a grammar of the Teop language. First she asked her informants to translate separate sentences into their mother tongue. Here is what she got:

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| 1. You (sg.) struck me. | <i>Ean paa tasu anaa.</i> |
| 2. He ate the fish. | <i>Eove paa ani bona iana.</i> |
| 3. We struck the child. | <i>Enam paa tasu a beiko.</i> |
| 4. The man saw the bag. | <i>A otei paa tara bona kae.</i> |
| 5. The boy killed him. | <i>A visoasi paa asun bona.</i> |
| 6. I saw the food. | <i>Enaa paa tara a taba'ani.</i> |
| 7. You (pl.) heard him. | <i>Eam paa baitono e.</i> |
| 8. I gave the coconut to the man. | <i>Enaa paa hee a otei bona overe.</i> |
| 9. The woman gave the food to you (pl.). | <i>A moon paa hee ameam bona taba'ani.</i> |
| 10. I struck you (sg.) with the stone. | <i>Enaa paa tasu vuuan a vasu.</i> |
| 11. They killed the woman with the axe. | <i>Eori paa asun bona moon bona toraara.</i> |
| 12. We called the boy a sorcerer. | <i>Enam paa dao a visoasi bona oraoraa.</i> |

(a) Translate into English:

13. *Eam paa ani a overe.*
14. *Ean paa tasu a oraoraa bona kae.*
15. *Eove paa tara ameam.*

(b) Translate into Teop:

16. We gave the food to you (sg.).
17. He called me a child.
18. I killed him with it (*lit.* with him).
19. The sorcerer gave the fish to the boy.

Later the linguist recorded spontaneous speech in Teop and added some information into the grammar. Here are some extracts from the dialogues in Teop as well as their English translations. The context in which the sentences were uttered is given in brackets.

20. (What happened to the woman then?)
A moon paa tara bona oraoraa. The woman saw the sorcerer.
21. (Why wasn't there any food left?)
A taba'ani paa ani nam. We ate the food.
22. (Why did the boy cry so bitterly?)
A visoasi paa tasu a otei bona overe. The man struck the boy with the coconut.
23. (Where is the bag?)
A kae paa hee naa a beiko. I gave the bag to the child.

(c) Translate the sentences outside the brackets into Teop:

24. (Why was the sorcerer offended?) They called the sorcerer a woman.
25. (Why is this axe wet?) The boy killed the fish with the axe.

⚠ The Teop language belongs to the Austronesian family. It is spoken by approx. 5 000 people in Papua New Guinea. —*Maria Konoshenko*